

Still Buffering 178: How to Back to School Fashion Update

Published August 23, 2019

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[theme music plays]

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 Teylor Smirl.

Sydnee: Well, sisters... [sing-song] we gotta go back! Back!

Raleigh: [groans]

Sydnee: [singing and snapping to the beat] Back to school again!

Raleigh: I knew this was what we were gonna talk about when we started, and I didn't think about the fact that Sydnee would be starting!

Sydnee: [singing and snapping to the beat] I gotta go! Back to school!

Taylor: This was all just a ploy, so she could do that—

Raleigh: It was.

Taylor: —how many seconds was that, Syd? Did you just void the copyright? Maybe you should never do that again, just in case.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] I think that, uh, the people—whatever's making residuals off Grease 2 at this point would only appreciate the extra promotion. Could only like—they're gonna send me an email to say "Hey, thanks for reminding people that Grease 2 exists."

Taylor: I think you've become their unofficial official spokesperson at this point.

Raleigh: I really think you have.

Sydnee: Oh, am I the brand ambassador for Grease 2?

Taylor: Absolutely.

Raleigh: That's your title.

Taylor: Absolutely. Can you—can you put that on your business card now?

Raleigh: In your Twitter bio?

Taylor: Do you have a business card? Who has a business card? Put it in your Twitter bio, that's your business card.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Hey, listen. If anybody out there is affiliated with Grease 2, the greatest movie of all time now... it has become—I'm taking it from "Better than Grease" to "Greatest movie of all time" status. If anybody out there is affiliated with Grease 2 in any way, and you need a brand ambassador...

Raleigh: She's your girl.

Sydnee: I'm willing—

Taylor: What does a... 'cause I—

Sydnee: I'm willing to offer my services for free.

Taylor: I'm trying to think of what a brand ambassador for an old movie would even do. 'Cause like, I get brand ambassadors at my job. They come in and they're like, "Hey, I just want you to try my cool product."

You just like, show up at people's houses with this like, little laptop playin' Grease 2, like, "Hello. Can I introduce you to the good word?"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [through laughter] "The good word of Grease 2?" Just door to door?

Raleigh: Sydnee's like a missionary.

Sydnee: It is. I either go door to door, or I imagine it's a very Steve Buscemi moment where I show up and I'm like, "Hey, fellow teens."

Taylor: Ah.

Sydnee: "Uh, you know—you know what I enjoy? That's a great teen film? Teens?"

Raleigh: Sydnee's gonna be like the scary guy that yells on my campus with like, signs and protesters and stuff, except she's just gonna have a big sign yelling in the middle of campus like, "Watch Grease 2! Grease 2 rocks!"

Sydnee: I'm gonna go set up a table that just says "Grease 2 is the greatest movie of all time. Change my mind."

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Taylor: Have a credit card and a t-shirt. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs loudly]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: That's—if Grease 2 would have their own credit card—like, if there was a Grease 2 branded credit card... like, not their own credit card. I don't know how they do that. They're not like a bank.

Raleigh: They're not a bank.

Sydnee: But you know—

Taylor: Well, I know... can't you get those credit cards where like, there's those things that are like, they'll put whatever image you want on a credit card, so you get, like, a picture of your favorite dog on your credit card? So maybe you could do that, but it'll just be a picture of the cast of Grease 2.

Sydnee: [laughs] Do you know how much I would love that? That's like—you can get different things on your checks.

Taylor: Oh, yeah, yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: For those people who still have a check—we have to have a checkbook for, like, two things that we have to write checks for, and ours say... what do ours say?

Raleigh: You have different sayings. One of them's like, you know, "Reach your dreams," or like, "You can succeed."

Sydnee: Something like that.

Raleigh: "Make it happen," or something, I don't know. They're all, like, inspirational messages.

Sydnee: "Achieve your dreams." Yeah.

Taylor: Nice.

Raleigh: Very good.

Sydnee: "Grease 2 is the word."

Raleigh: Grease 2 is the word. Um, anyways, before we just spent four minutes talking about Grease 2...

Sydnee: Not—four minutes well spent, and not enough!

Raleigh: Uh... it's back to school.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: That's right.

Raleigh: I moved in to my second year dorm, which is the same as my first year dorm, about five days ago. And I start classes in about another five days, so—

Sydnee: How ya feeling?

Rileigh: I'm a little nervous. Um, glad to be back in my dorm, but starting over, 'cause I changed my major, so... feel a little behind. And I just had to spend, like, \$150 on textbooks, so.

Taylor: That's about normal.

Rileigh: You know. That's fun.

Sydnee: That's actually on the low end.

Rileigh: Yeah, I was surprised. One of my books actually—I didn't intend to talk about this, but I just remembered—is a graphic novel of V for Vendetta.

Taylor: You—okay! What class are you in that you're reading V for Vendetta?

Rileigh: It's one of my English classes. It's a literary analysis class, and I needed that book and then Much Ado About Nothing, and then one textbook type book that's about understanding literature.

Taylor: Wow.

Rileigh: So, Much Ado About Nothing and V for Vendetta are the two books that we're reading this semester! [laughs]

Taylor: Interesting!

Sydnee: Also, for future reference, if it's ever stuff like that, check with me before you purchase—

Rileigh: Do you have that?

Sydnee: I'm fairly certain we own both.

Rileigh: Because—

Taylor: I was gonna say, I have V for Vendetta, and I'm sure Justin does, too.

Sydnee: Yeah, I know we have V for Vendetta, yeah.

Rileigh: Those two are, like, the books you could find on Amazon that were, like, six dollars each. Like, five or six dollars.

Sydnee: Sure, sure.

Rileigh: Not like the textbooks that ended up being, like, 50 or 60 dollars each, but those were just like, small copies that were, you know, five bucks.

Sydnee: Yeah. I know we have V for Vendetta, but we may well have both, now that I think about it. But check with me, 'cause I—

Rileigh: You have a lot of books.

Sydnee: —I don't know if you've noticed—

Rileigh: You have—I'm looking behind you right now. One of your, like, what? Seven giant bookshelves—

Sydnee: We have—we own many books.

Rileigh: —stuffed with books?

Sydnee: I don't like to get rid of books, as we've discussed.

Rileigh: You probably should at some point, though. Like, you have a lot of them.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Don't throw 'em away, just donate 'em somewhere.

Sydnee: No. No, I would never throw—the only one—like we've talked about, what do you do with a book by Donald Trump?

Rileigh: You let your child destroy it.

Sydnee: I guess.

Rileigh: Then you throw it away.

Sydnee: Yeah. And then bury it in the yard.

Taylor: I wouldn't let a child touch it, though, because what if—you know, like—

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: —it's like an unholy tome. They might become possessed by... bein' a big ol' jerk.

Sydnee: It's a horcrux.

Rileigh: Yes. [laughs]

Sydnee: That's the problem. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Exactly.

Rileigh: How long are teachers and professors going to continue using Animal Farm as a teaching tool?

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: You all had to read this book, right?

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: But it's good, though.

Rileigh: I had to read it my freshman year of high school. And it, again, came up on a reading list for my sophomore year of college.

Taylor: But you know, I guess the thing is is, like, if you look at the state of the world, anything revolving around, like, fascism, it's like, I don't think we're getting it, so—[laughs]

Sydnee: You may as well read it again.

Rileigh: It's not for—

Taylor: Do the homework.

Rileigh: Yeah. It's not for an English class, it's for a political science class.
[laughs]

Sydnee: That's fair.

Taylor: That's specifically, like, Marxism. But, you know, still. There's some lessons there that we're still not getting.

Sydnee: Yeah. No, I think that—also, I will take Orwell over Hawthorne on a reading list any day.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah, that's fair.

Sydnee: So...

Taylor: That is true, though. You think, like—they've been writing books this whole time.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: So... what—

Rileigh: There's a lot of books out there! And like, *Animal Farm* is fine. It wasn't one of my favorites. I read it and, like, I didn't hate it, but... I don't know. It's just one of those that like... are there no other books that we can teach? 'Cause I've been taught *Animal Farm* before.

Taylor: If some like, cool teen lit writer could make like, a new allegory for like—

Rileigh: For fascism.

Taylor: —for fascism and Marxism and understanding, like, the communist era—we could just throw *1984* in there, too. Somebody could just make it star, like, two romantic teens, but one of them is inexplicably dying—but like, make it about these things, so that—

Rileigh: John Green, if you're listening—

Taylor: John Green. [through laughter] Can you please...

Sydnee: Well... I mean, if you think about it... it's funny. This is a slight diversion, but we, as a culture—and I am not the first to make this observation—we mock everything that teen girls love.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: And not only teen girls love these things, but like, that's the category it falls into, right? Like, we make fun of it like, "Oh, that's a thing a teen girl would love."

Raleigh: Well, that's the whole idea of being, like, a hipster, right? Is like, you wanna be the person that doesn't like all the mainstream things, and usually the people we see as liking the mainstream things are teenage girls.

Sydnee: Right. We make fun of everything that teenage girls like, and that's totally unfair and unfounded. So books—like, I would say the Hunger Games...

Raleigh: The Hunger Games rocks. I'm sorry.

Sydnee: No, it's great!

Raleigh: It is great.

Sydnee: And it also speaks to the same kind of ideas.

Raleigh: It does.

Taylor: That's true, actually. That's really true.

Sydnee: It does. So does—

Raleigh: Divergent.

Sydnee: —Divergent, yeah.

Raleigh: There are a lot of, like, young adult, teen novels that have come out in the past... probably, like, decade, that I think have very good messages for the

same kinds of ideas, but no teacher's ever gonna use them because they don't wanna use a YA novel in their class.

Sydnee: Right. But like, it's speaking to the same stuff that Animal Farm was talking about in some ways, and 1984 was talking about, and Brave New World. I mean, this dystopian thing... we've done a whole show on it, so I won't belabor the point, but like, it's the same stuff. It's just we don't like it 'cause also there's a teen girl and also there's a romance.

Raleigh: There's romance, yeah.

Sydnee: So we... you know, pretend the whole thing has no value, and that's not fair or true.

Raleigh: I'm just waiting for the first day of this class where we start discussing Animal Farm, and I hope there's the one kid who's like, "[incredulous] Wait... the animals are... and there's... what?! It's not just about animals?!"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: Like, I want that. The one kid who has never read Animal Farm, who's never been taught Animal Farm, who's never heard of it. [laughs]

Sydnee: I would hope that even if you don't understand, like, the historical, political commentary that's being made, you at least get that, like, they're sayin' something here. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It's just not about pigs.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: The other thing, though, that comes with back to school, other than, specifically for college students, paying—

Raleigh: Lots of money for books.

Sydnee: —a ridiculous amount of money to buy books. I mean, books are of great value, but textbooks...

Raleigh: Someone get on that. Like, really.

Sydnee: It's ridiculous.

Raleigh: My school actually did a cool thing were the previous student body president made a program that makes it so teachers have to pick, like, the most reasonably priced books for their kids, and has on the website where you can get it for cheapest.

Sydnee: You know who has a plan for that?

Raleigh: Who?

Sydnee: I won't get into that.

Raleigh: Okay.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I won't—I won't do any, uh, shameless political plugs on this show.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Again.

Raleigh: But yeah, someone really get on that. Textbooks are way too expensive, and college is expensive enough.

Sydnee: Uh, but the other thing that we have to visit this time of year is back to school fashion.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: I took Charlie back to school shopping, because she is going in—she's done a year of preschool. She has another year of preschool. The laws in West Virginia mean you can't start Kindergarten unless your fifth birthday comes before July 1st of that year.

Taylor: Okay.

Raleigh: And Charlie's birthday is after that.

Sydnee: Yes. So, she turned five in August, so she is in a four year old preschool class, even though she is five. She asked me that multiple times. "Why do I have to be in this class?"

Taylor: Aw. Well, then she's gonna be a cool older kid for the rest of her life, so that works out.

Sydnee: I told her that. I said, "Trust me, someday you may appreciate this. Or you might be mad at me. It's the state law, I have no control."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, but I took her back to school shopping, which was fun for me for about five minutes, and then she lost interest in the whole process, and so then I was just trying to guess what is cool, because she was looking at, you know, Jojo Siwa branded bows.

Raleigh: Toys, yeah.

Sydnee: And rings and nail polish for the rest of the time. And I was like, "Do you like this skirt? Is this cool?"

Taylor: Do kids start being cool in preschool? Do you still have to worry about that? I thought that was still when you were allowed to put, like, a goofy sweater on that grandma picked out. I mean, in this case grandma is mom and she picks out pretty cool stuff.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: But you know. Like, I thought kids weren't cool that—not until, like, at least second or third grade that an awareness of cool happens. Is it starting that early now?

Sydnee: I don't think—I think that it's cool in a different way. Like, it's cool if it has a superhero on it, you know?

Taylor: Okay, alright.

Sydnee: It's cool if... for her, Jojo Siwa is sort of like a superhero now, so if it is branded very specifically that way, it's cool. Anything that has to do with Paris is cool for Charlie now, so I found things that were, like—they would have something in French on them, and she was—that was cool.

Taylor: Okay.

Raleigh: Didn't she say that's what she wanted her style to be this year?

Sydnee: Yes, that was her style—I said, "What kind of thing are we going for?" And she said, "Uh, I think Paris." So...

Taylor: Okay. Well, that's—alright!

Raleigh: A look.

Sydnee: But I mean, it's cool—I don't think there is a universal cool. I think you have to find what the individual kid thinks is cool. And that's what I was trying to do, 'cause otherwise every morning when I try to get her dressed she'll go, "I don't wanna wear that..." And then I'll be like, "Why did you let me buy it?!"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: So... [laughs quietly] Uh, but I thought it was time for us to do, like, an update on back to school fashion, on fashion in general for the young—the young kids, the young generation.

Raleigh: We looked back and realized the last time we did a fashion episode was May of 2016, so I was 15 years old, a full three years ago plus.

Sydnee: And everything has changed!

Raleigh: Everything has changed. I was in high school.

Sydnee: As fashion does.

Raleigh: Almost 19 now. Entering my last year of teendom.

Sydnee: I am told that fashion changes often. [laughs quietly] I have found myself to be unaware!

Raleigh: Sydnee is unaware, because Sydnee's fashion has remained constant since... you know. 1991.

Sydnee: Sydnee's fashion is, "Does it still fit? I'll wear it!"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: "Does it have a hole that's big enough to be seen by most people? I won't."

Raleigh: [laughs] I like how you clarified "most people."

Sydnee: Well, if it's just got a little hole...

Raleigh: Little holes are fine.

Sydnee: Some of my favorite t-shirts got ruined in one of my organic chem labs in college.

Raleigh: Nerd.

Sydnee: Uh, because I would accidentally, I guess, get acid or perhaps a very basic substance—I'm not sure which one I was getting on my t-shirt, but I know I would come home from lab and look down and go, "Why do I have these tiny little holes in my shirt?"

Raleigh: You know, no. I could totally see college Sydnee still wearing that shirt somewhere. You're like, "Oh, these? Yeah, I got these in my O Chem lab. No big deal."

Taylor: I was gonna say, so that sounds like the kids that I went to art school with that would purposefully, like, wipe paint on their jeans and then be like, "Ugh, I got paint on my jeans. I guess I'll just wear them..." And I—I could see you just sprinkling a little bit of acid. Like, "Oh no, look at that! Oh no—oh no, I Gram stained my collar..."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: "Oh, you're—you're not in O Chem? Oh, yeah. I—I'm in that, yeah. Yeah."

Sydnee: It's like how it's so cool to walk out of the hospital with, like, blood all over you—

Taylor: [screams]

Sydnee: —right?

Taylor: No!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: That's different! That's never cool.

Sydnee: I'm kidding, I'm kidding. I don't—I don't do that.

Rileigh: Is that what doctors do?

Sydnee: No. I hope not! If you are a doctor and you are doing that, stop! That's a biohazard! Take your scrubs off and put something else on!

Taylor: It doesn't really work in my line of work anyway, you know. I douse myself in vodka when I leave the bar, and everyone just thinks I'm a drunk, not a bartender!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah, that—I will say, that's true. If I think, "Wow, that person really reeks of alcohol," I don't think, "They must be a bartender!" [laughs]

Rileigh: [through laughter] Yeah!

Taylor: "They must be a super cool mixologist!"

Sydnee: Uh, but what are the cool kids wearing now, back to school? What is the fashion moment that we're having?

Raleigh: Well, it's seems—we were having a brief discussion before we started. It seems like the focus on the 90's keeps moving back in time, closer to, like, early 90's to late 80's, and maybe we're entering this weird mix of 80's and 90's fashion that's not quite all 90's but not quite 80's, either.

Sydnee: I have a question about that, 'cause I—I know that Target had a whole, like, Stranger Things inspired line of clothing?

Raleigh: Yeah. Like, you can definitely get Eleven's romper that she wears. Like, the black one with all those neon things on it. You can definitely just buy that at Target.

Sydnee: And it's not just clothes directly from Stranger Things, 'cause they have some stuff that's like, straight from the show, and then, like, branded things. Like, I got a t-shirt that says "Hawkins, Indiana." So they have some branded things, but then they also just have, like—

Raleigh: 80's inspired clothes.

Sydnee: Yeah. Like, they're very similar looks, but they're not... you wouldn't know they had anything to do with Stranger Things from looking at them, and I thought, like, "Is that—is that a fashion influence at the moment? Has Stranger Things helped take us further—like, pulled us into early 90's, late 80's?"

Raleigh: Yeah! I mean—

Sydnee: Is that part of that movement?

Raleigh: That's probably part of it, for sure. It's a very popular moment to be a part of.

Sydnee: Are people looking at those styles and saying like, "That looked good."
[snorts]

Raleigh: Well, I mean, I'm not gonna lie, I saw that romper Eleven wore and the first thing I thought was like, "Where can I... get that."

Sydnee: That's true, the romper's cool. The romper's very cool.

Raleigh: But like, that kind of style where it's, like, the brightish colors, and the—even like the shirts she was wearing, little button downs that were, like, bright blue with little squares and triangles and squiggles all over it.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Those are pretty cute. I would wear that. But I think we've taken the elements from those outfits that are, like—the outfits that are entirely 80's, we have taken the bits that are good and twisted them into some sort of, like, more fashion forward look.

Like, would I pair that t-shirt with the bright red suspenders and, you know, high-waisted, light-wash, bell-bottom—not bell-bottom, but, like, straight leg jeans? Probably not. Or, like, pair that romper with that big, plastic-looking, wide red belt that she wears? No. But you take the elements that are good and you twist 'em a little bit, make it good for the 2010's, 20-teens.

Sydnee: That's interesting. I wonder why that's caught on, especially the bright colors. 'Cause that, to me, was a big shift. When everybody was talking about, "The 90's are back, the 90's are back!" And then I look around and I see all these, like, super bright colors, and that wasn't... and this is age specific... that wasn't my 90's.

Taylor: Right.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: My 90's was after that.

Taylor: Grunge.

Sydnee: Right. My 90's was grunge. My 90's was like, skater, grunge—there was the goth stuff happening. That wasn't my look, but that was my 90's time. Colors were definitely darker and muted. If I wore, like... like, I remember the, plaid skirts that were... but I mean, still, like, darker colors. Like *Clueless*, but darker.

Raleigh: Right. Like a dark green, and a dark red, the black, yeah.

Sydnee: But I mean, I don't—I did not connect to that really, like, super bright neon color that I associated with the late 80's and the very early years of the 90's.

Taylor: Yeah. It just always makes me think of like, the palette of wild and crazy kids or Clarissa Explains it All. Like, that's late 80's, early 90's. It's geometric, bright colors, it's the max, but you wear it.

Sydnee: Yes. You are exactly right. That was a different... I mean, I was aware of that and I saw that, and I think, Tey, when you and I were younger.. at a point where we were just wearing whatever made us happy, before you start worrying about what other people think of you... ah. The heady days of youth, when you don't realize that anyone can see you. [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: And then all of a sudden you turn around and go, "Oh no, people can see me, and they're all wearing something different! Crap." And then you have to choose. Do I conform, or not?

Raleigh: Yeah. You know, I feel like the same kind of shift, except in the opposite direction, has happened in my experience as a teen, where I've been... you know, my early years as a teen were in the early 20-teens, and as we're moving into the final years of the 20-teens, except when I was younger, I remember those more muted, like, grunge, like, wearing flannels, and that was the first time I'd ever seen anyone my age wear Doc Martens, like, the black ones, the big tall ones. First time I ever got a pair of those.

Like, those were very in, and now as I'm moving into my later teen years, and 2018, 2019, the bright colors and the more 80's looks are coming back, and it's like an opposite shift, like we continue to move further back in time.

Sydnee: I feel like we're embracing what I feel like, for.. it was a look, and then I feel like there was this whole period of time—and this is not me passing judgment. I feel like this is what people would've said—where we looked back at that period of fashion and said, "It was tacky."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I feel like we are moving back into that. Like, tacky is now in.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You know what I mean?

Taylor: I've always liked tacky, so I'm happy. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And I'm not even saying I necessarily think it's tacky. I feel like it is what the general consensus would have called tacky. You know? Because I am someone who has worn quote unquote "tacky" things for most of my life. [laughs] So I'm on board, but I feel like it is now becoming the center.

Raleigh: Yeah. Well, I feel like I've even watched, like, all of these fashion trends that were very 90's come back and be popular for a hot minute. Like, very briefly. I remember every clothing store I'd walk into for a while, about four or five years ago, was, like, jelly bags and jelly belts and shoes, and you could get all of these, you know, those clear, brightly colored type things again. And now I feel like you don't see those things anywhere, and it's like—we like them for a minute and we're like, "Well, no. That was probably just a bad one that we picked to bring back. Let's pick a new one."

Sydnee: Well, they're very uncomfortable, too.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: But I also—'cause I was in a Forever 21 the other day, and I noticed they had a whole—a whole section devoted to Baz Luhrmann's remake of Romeo and Juliet.

Sydnee: [gasps]

Taylor: Like, they had the shirts that the boys wear, you know? Like, the kind of Hawaiian shirts, but with like, religious imagery. They had, like, a dress. They had... like, it was a whole collection based around that.

Sydnee: Are you serious?

Taylor: Yeah, and I was a little like—I was like, "Wait, what?" Like, this specifically. Like, today. Like, last week. And it's in now? And same—there was another—there was an online website that had a whole collection, and it wasn't just inspired by Clueless. They had gone outfit by outfit and created the Clueless clothes. So it's like... I mean, is it out, or is it just like... it's very specific. Like...

Sydnee: So, I—I have to go—

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: —to Forever 21 right now.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh... you guys can finish.

Raleigh: Okay. [laughs] Go ahead.

Sydnee: Um... I need to live out my fantasy of looking like Claire Danes in Romeo and Juliet, please, now, thank you. Thank you, Forever 21.

Taylor: Well, but it's not even like—they made it, like, inspired by that kind of romantic look that that movie had. It's—just everything is branded. Like, "Romeo and Juliet."

Sydnee: [disappointed] Oh...

Taylor: Like, the dress is a picture of her in that angel outfit.

Sydnee: Oh, no. I don't want that. I want her clothes from that.

Taylor: Yeah, yeah, no! It's like, I could get the fashion that movie inspired, like, making it line up with that, 'cause that was a cool moment, I felt like, in the 90's. That sort of like, velvet and lace, romantic kind of thing. But it was always paired with like, messy hair and dark lipstick. I thought that was cool.

But no. It's just like, "I know you all want a ton of branded Romeo and Juliet merchandise, so here you go!" [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I'm still gonna check that out.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Wait. Before you get into some more specifics—

Raleigh: [sighs] Okay.

Sydnee: —I want us to cover some more specific things that have been brought back, but before we do that...

Raleigh: Let's check the group message.

Uh, sisters, this week we have... a sponsor I wanna tell everyone about, and that's Native Deodorant. Native has fewer, simpler ingredients, so you can know everything that's in their deodorant that's goin' up in your pits.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Uh, they come in a wide variety of enticing scents—

Sydnee: Axilla, please!

Raleigh: [through laughter] —for men and women. Plus, they release new, limited edition, seasonal scents. So, you know I love those fall scents. As we're getting closer to fall time, I know I was lookin' for hand soaps and candles the other day. They had all the fall ones out, so you can get some fall deodorant, too. And they also have an unscented formula, and baking soda free formula, if that's more your vibe.

Their classic deodorant scents include coconut and vanilla, lavender and rose, cucumber and mint, and eucalyptus and mint. All those sound very delightful.

Sydnee: So when you start sweatin', people can go, "[sniffs] Is that eucalyptus? And mint?"

Raleigh: And you'll say, "Why yes, it is."

Sydnee: "Why yes! Those are—those are my armpits, thank you."

Rileigh: "Those are my pits, thank you." Uh, so you can go check out those scents if any of those sound like something you'd like, or one of their seasonal ones. See what they got goin' on now that we're getting into the late end of summer.

So Teylor, if our listeners wanna check out Native Deodorant, what should they do?

Teylor: Well, you should go to Nativedeodorant.com, and if you use promo code "buffering" during checkout, you can get 20% off your first purchase! That's Nativedeodorant.com, use promo code "buffering" to get that 20% off.

Rileigh: So go check that out! Get some nice smelling—what is it? Axilla?

Sydnee: Yes.

Rileigh: Axilla.

Sydnee: Very good.

Rileigh: Thank you.

Teylor: Is that a fancy term for pits?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Teylor: Okay.

Sydnee: Just—yeah.

Rileigh: [laughs] I'm learning already. School has already started.

Sydnee: I've found that sometimes if you're trying to counsel a patient and you use the word "armpit," they look at you like, "Do you know what you're talking about?"

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: That's one of the things where they're like, "Hold on a second. There's gotta be a word you use for that, right?"

Raleigh: Is there a fancy word for your knee pit?

Sydnee: Your knee pit?

Raleigh: Like, the area behind your knee. I've always called it the knee pit.

Sydnee: Uh—

Raleigh: Like, where your knee bends.

Sydnee: —yes.

[pauses]

Raleigh: She's thinking.

Sydnee: Uh... yes. I've forgotten it.

Raleigh: Hmm.

Taylor: I—while you're saying that, I think I would be very confused if a doctor said that you have something wrong with your 'auxilla'. I would say, "What is that?"

Raleigh: "My what?"

Taylor: "Do I have that? Why is it smelly? I don't understand."

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Yes. That's your popliteal fossa.

Raleigh: Nope. Even worse.

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: I was sitting there going, "It's the fossa. It's the fo—it's the pop—popliteal—popliteal fossa."

Taylor: Okay. Well...

Sydnee: That's your knee pit.

Rileigh: Your knee pit... is what I'm gonna say.

Taylor: Yeah. I don't think you need to put deodorant there, in any case. But I guess you could.

Rileigh: You could!

Sydnee: No, don't.

Rileigh: Oh.

Sydnee: I mean, well, do. I don't care.

Rileigh: You can put deodorant wherever you want.

Sydnee: You can put deodorant anywhere. Do whatever makes you happy.

Taylor: And less smelly.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Uh, Rileigh, you were about to mention another specific fashion.

Rileigh: Yes. I was going to say, every time I walk in to Forever 21, as long as I can remember, they have a whole section of graphic tees and tanks, and every time I'm in there, there is at least one Sailor Moon variety, and one, like, Rugrats or, um... you know, like Reptar-type, old 90's cartoon. I couldn't think of—like Rocko's Modern Life or Invader Zim. Something like that. They always have something like that up there that you can get.

Taylor: I have such mixed feelings about this. I mean, one, I think it's great, but, like... I saw an advertisement and it was, like, a Black Moon Clan shirt from, like, Hot Topic, and it looked old—like, aged and old, but it was like, The Black Moon Family. I'm like, "That's so cool!"

And all I can think is like—Syd, you're gonna get this reference. Rileigh, I don't think you will, because it's for The Last Unicorn. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: But you know when the old lady meets the unicorn and she's like, "Where were you when I was young? Where were you when I was a maiden?" [through laughter] That's—that's what I feel!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Whenever I see that stuff! Like, "Oh, this is nice now."

Sydnee: That's very true.

Taylor: I can't really justify having a closet of Sailor Moon shirts now!

Sydnee: Well, I—

Raleigh: Well...

Sydnee: —you know?

Raleigh: Is that what reboots are for? Is that why they reboot TV shows, like in—you can get their TV shirts, or their... TV shirts. Their t-shirts, and wear them again?"

Taylor: I mean, maybe? Like, it's just, you know...

Sydnee: Sure!

Taylor: Like, they're gonna get the old people to buy the merchandise that they didn't get to buy when they were young people and they're not really gonna have a use for, but they're gonna buy it anyway. Or they're gonna buy it for their kids forcibly. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: No, that's true. Tey, I don't think there's anything wrong with it. I mean, as somebody who... I have a Magic School Bus t-shirt with the Frizz on it that I absolutely love, and I have a Nancy Drew t-shirt that I just got that's one of my favorites, so I mean, I don't think there's anything wrong with that.

Rileigh: I mean, I have a t-shirt that, uh, definitely says "Clueless" on the front, like the logo for Clueless in a little pink bubble, and then just has a big picture of Alicia Silverstone on the back.

Sydnee: Yeah. I have a Bunnacula t-shirt.

Taylor: Oh, that's cool!

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah, I love it.

Taylor: How would you find that?

Sydnee: That, uh... Out of Print.

Rileigh: That book t-shirt place? Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. That does all the book t-shirts.

Taylor: Nice.

Sydnee: This isn't, like, a plug for them. They just—if you like book t-shirts, they have lots of them.

Rileigh: Yeah. But I don't know. I feel like as I'm noticing more fashion, it's moving towards... every time I show you something and I'm like, "Isn't this 90's?" You're like, "Well... that was before my 90's. Like, early 90's."

Sydnee: Well, I think the biggest for me has been, like, the fanny pack. The fanny pack has made this giant comeback—

Taylor: Yeah, it has!

Sydnee: —or I like, uh—I know other parts of the world, they call it a bum bag.

Taylor: Hmm!

Rileigh: A bum bag?!

Sydnee: A bum bag.

Raleigh: I'm gonna start calling it that!

Sydnee: Yep. Fanny pack or a bum bag, whatever you prefer. The bum bag has made a big comeback, and it's funny because everyone's saying, "Oh, it's so 90's," and it's not that people didn't use them in the 90's, of course they did. Of course they did. But the only time I used a fanny pack was when I went to an amusement park.

I didn't wear one to like, school or the mall or out with my friends. I didn't wear—I mean, it was a very functional, like, it's useful because a purse... you have to—I mean, like, they're not good for carrying on a roller coaster, but a fanny pack is, and so I took it when we went to King's Island.

And like, that was the only use it had. And I don't remember it being a widespread thing, like, at school. I can't—I mean, there were probably a couple people in my early years who had 'em, but like... people weren't just wearing these everywhere.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: See, a lot of the young servers, like, early 20 year old servers that I work with, will wear them as they wait tables now. Like, that's a cool thing to do. And I am just waiting to walk into, like, the trendy Manhattan restaurant where that's the uniform. [through laughter] Like, they all wear crop tops and fanny packs to wait your table!

Sydnee: Now, I have seen people wearing the fanny pack over their shoulder—

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: —and I would argue two things. One: excuse me? Whether you call it a fanny pack or a bum bag—

Raleigh: That is neither your fanny or your bum.

Sydnee: It is very clearly meant to be worn close—close to the buttocks.

Taylor: It has to be butt-adjacent, yes.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Uh, and two: it defeats the purpose! Then just get a purse!

Rileigh: Well, they have—in some cases I have seen, they have started making fanny pack type bags. Like, the bag is a similar shape, but it is made to be a cross body.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: So it's made to go, like, across your chest, like, over one shoulder and down under the other.

Sydnee: Uh-huh?

Rileigh: So you can wear it like either—

Sydnee: Like a bandolero kind of thing.

Rileigh: Yeah. Either like, around your back, like a little tiny cross body backpack, or in the front. The front is more of a fashion statement. But they're a little bit bigger. They're not as small as a fanny pack, and they're made for that sort of wear.

Sydnee: Uh-huh. Because it's very convenient, when I want my ID or my money, to just... right there—

Rileigh: Well, is the point of any of it—

Sydnee: —in front of my—in front of my breasts.

Rileigh: —is the point of any of this fashion convenience? Or is it all just how it looks?

Sydnee: Well, see, it is for me, so I guess I'm on the wrong side of this.

Rileigh: I think a lot of fashion, while I always am down for things being convenient and comfortable, I think a lot of what's popular is always... it's uncomfortable and it's not convenient, but does it look good?

Like we were just talking about jelly shoes. Were they every convenient or comfortable?

Taylor: No.

Raleigh: No.

Sydnee: No.

Raleigh: But did people wear them? Yes.

Sydnee: You know, if—designers, if you would just give everyone pockets... it would solve a lot of this.

Raleigh: Every article of clothing needs pockets.

Sydnee: Every gender, every person needs a pocket. Please just give us all pockets. Like, real ones. Not the fake ones that I can only fit the tips of my fingers in.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Real pockets, please.

Taylor: I'm always very confused by the pockets that come sewn closed. Have you ever experienced that?

Sydnee: Yeah!

Raleigh: Like, what's the point of that?

Taylor: I think it's just so it stays, like, neat until somebody buys it? Like, I think you're supposed to—I always break the sewing open.

Sydnee: Yes, you are. Uh, I think.

Raleigh: Oh, you are? Oh...

Taylor: Yeah. I think—I mean, if there's a pocket there—

Rileigh: Whoops.

Taylor: —I'm gonna access it. It's not like, "Oh, there was—

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: —that pocket has been sealed for the ages!"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Aw, man.

Taylor: [through laughter] "Do not break the seal! There's a pocket demon!"

Sydnee: "We don't open that pocket." No, I think—

Rileigh: I've always left 'em sewn shut

Sydnee: —now, be careful, though, 'cause sometimes they're just false fashion pockets.

Rileigh: Yeah, like there isn't actually a pocket there. It's just like, you'd cut it open and it'd just be a hole in your pants, now.

Sydnee: And then you'd just be grabbing your leg or whatever—grabbing your butt or whatever. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Well that—that doesn't happen so much with pants. Usually it's like, blazers will have the sewn pockets. You can look and see, there's clearly a pocket there. Like, you can feel it in the lining. It's just... it's just for—only the brave gets those pockets! Those are for brave people pockets.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Brave people with a pocketknife.

Sydnee: Slacks do too, sometimes. Especially the back pockets of slacks. You can break open the threading and they're real pockets. Sometimes they're not, though. Sometimes they're—anyway, the false pocket should go, forever. That should go away and never come back.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: If you think someone needs the look of a pocket, they probably just need a pocket!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I'm for like, internal pockets. I wish more clothes featured that. I have like, one vest that I got, and it has, like, inside, in the lining, there's a pocket! So it's like—it's got pockets on the outside, sure, but I have a secret pocket! So if like, I ever needed to hide some super secret, like, jump drive or something, I don't know, [whispers] it's in my secret pocket!"

Sydnee: Just, uh—just shop at a magician clothing store.

Raleigh: There you go.

Taylor: [laughs] Oh! Maybe I did. Maybe that's why I have that. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I will say, that's my favorite feature of yoga pants and leggings, is they always have this tiny, tiny pocket that's either at the very back where the tag is, or at the very front where the corner is, so it's just big enough for like, a car key or something, because now that I have a fob instead of a key, I can just put it in there, and then I go to unlock my car and I have nothing in my hands and I grab the handle and it magically unlocks, and everyone's like, "Whoa, how'd you do that?"

I'm like, "Yeah, I'm magic."

Sydnee: Well, I will say that like—

Raleigh: "It's in my tiny pocket."

Sydnee: —the work pants—people who make, like, what are considered dress pants, you know, for wearing to work or professional situations—need to get on

board with the pockets, because I have replaced the vast majority of those with just various colors of denim. Like, various jeans. And like, people don't know that they're not—I've found that most employers are like, unaware that I am wearing jeans to work now, as long as they're not blue. [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs] Yeah.

Sydnee: And so I wear those, 'cause they have pockets, and I need pockets, 'cause I'm a human with items that I like to carry. Uh, so give us all pockets.

What else about fashion, though? Back to school. What are the other—so we've determined fanny packs are in, bright colors are in—

Rileigh: I have found a lot—now places have all their fall clothes out that you can get, so it's all long sleeved, more sweater-type stuff, I've been stocking up on some of that before it gets too cold, and I've found a lot of, like, Henleys—

Sydnee: Oh, that Henley.

Rileigh: —that have, like, three or four buttons at the top, or a quarter zip that has just a little bit of a zipper at the top, and it's like a comfortable sweatshirt with a collar.

Sydnee: This is so—this is so—now, this is my time. This is like—although, this is more like middle school for me, but the Henleys with the jeans, you tuck the Henley into the jeans, you wear some big ol' thick socks that—

Rileigh: [through laughter] *Big ol' thick socks!*

Sydnee: Big ol' thick socks that are the same color as the Henley, and hiking boots, and you're got yourself a look.

Rileigh: Is that a look?

Taylor: Yup.

Sydnee: Crimp that hair. Pull a piece up with a scrunchie. Big ol' chunky bangs over my big ol' chunky eyebrows.

Rileigh: Now, scrunchies are definitely still out—still in.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Always.

Sydnee: That was a look. Uh, I saw—you told me that bike shorts were back.

Raleigh: Yes. This is a trend I have not gotten into, just because, uh, I think the thought of having shorts that are that... tight, makes me uncomfy.

Sydnee: You just wear a giant shirt, is the key.

Raleigh: Yeah, that's the look, I think, is that people wear these big, giant, oversized shirts, and then bike shorts that are, like, slightly longer than shorts, but—I think all the articles I've been reading have been calling them, like, baby leggings. Like, they're leggings, but—

Taylor: [quietly] Baby leggings!

Raleigh: —they're just short. Like, right above your knee. But I mean, they sound comfortable, because, like, your legs aren't gonna rub together.

Sydnee: No, they're very comfy. I mean, it was a DJ Tanner look, I would say.

Taylor: Yeah, yeah.

Sydnee: Wouldn't you say, Tey? That was a very—

Taylor: That and a big t-shirt.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. And especially—you get the big t-shirt, and then—what you're at risk for, with the big t-shirt and the bike shorts, is the, uh, the illusion that you are not wearing pants.

Raleigh: Not wearing pants.

Taylor: Right.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: That was frequently a problem, I guess—I mean, unless you don't care, I guess.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: But for me, I wanted people to know I was wearing pants. To feel comfortable—[laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: —that I was, in fact, wearing pants. And so then, that's where the scrunchie comes into effect.

Raleigh: To tie up your shirt.

Sydnee: To tie up your shirt.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Hmm. Yeah, yeah. I agree with that.

Raleigh: My thought with the big, oversized t-shirt—and I usually just go with like, a pair of athletic shorts—is that if it looks like I'm not wearing pants, if someone really wants to question me, I'll show them that I am, indeed, wearing pants, and be like, "Hey, look. There's shorts under here."

But like, if they don't, I just—I want you to assume that, since I am in public, I would wear pants.

Sydnee: What is the situation where someone would question you?

Raleigh: Well, like the pants police. They come up and they're like, "Hey, you're not wearing pants in public. I'm giving you a pants citation."

Sydnee: "[deep voice] Scuse me, ma'am?"

Raleigh: "You need to go put them on." I'll be like, "Hey, s—s—officer—"

Taylor: I—hmm.

Raleigh: "—here you go!"

Taylor: I've never asked someone, of course, but I've definitely had those considerations where I'm like, looking at somebody out in public like, "I mean, of course they're wearing pants. But what if they weren't? I—but no, they have to be! But what if they weren't? But they—they are, right? But it looks like they're not!" [laughs]

Raleigh: I mean, like, t-shirt dresses are a thing, so what if I was just wearing a t-shirt dress! It's a big, long t-shirt.

Sydnee: A t-shirt dress, though—and I mean, I think do whatever you want, but like, generally speaking, t-shirt dresses, which I've seen are also back in and were also very popular—especially like, the stripey ones. That was such a moment.

Taylor: Yeah, I remember those.

Sydnee: The stripey—yeah, stripey t-shirt dress.

Raleigh: T-shirt dresses are so comfortable, because it's just like wearing a big, long t-shirt, except it's acceptable to not wear pants underneath.

Sydnee: Well, they're a little more fitted.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Mm...

Sydnee: Typically.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, they're cut more like a dress I should say. Like, not fitted necessarily—I mean, they can be really tight, but they're not necessarily, like—a t-shirt—like a big t-shirt over big pants or bike shorts—

Raleigh: It has no shape or form.

Sydnee: —it just—yeah, it's just a t-shirt.

Raleigh: That's true.

Sydnee: But yeah, the t-shirt dresses were usually like, cut more like a dress is cut. And I would say, like, if you're wearing a long t-shirt, an oversized t-shirt that is as long as the t-shirt dress, that's probably too big. You've gone too far.

Raleigh: Too big! Okay.

Sydnee: That oversized t-shirt has gone too far!

Raleigh: It's like Charlie wearing, like, one of our t-shirts, where it's just to the floor.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: That's too long.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: Then you look like a toddler.

Sydnee: Then you need a big plastic belt.

Taylor: Well, or you could wear it with pants. Like, I've seen that, where it's like, people wear like, a long t-shirt that goes to like, below their knee, but then they've got some clear pant on under that.

Raleigh: [quietly] Clear pant?

Taylor: That's too much shirt for me, personally, but if that's your thing, go for it.

Raleigh: Yeah. That's a lot of shirt.

Taylor: Just a waste of fabric.

Sydnee: When are the t-shirt clips gonna come back? The little plastic clips that you just pull? It's like a belt buckle, but you just pull your t-shirt corner through it. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: This is something I did not remember until you showed 'em to me, and even then I don't think I ever saw anyone use them—

Sydnee: In the wild?

Rileigh: Yeah. I had just like—

Sydnee: I had a heart shaped one.

Rileigh: —vaguely remember them.

Taylor: I do not—

Sydnee: Tey, you know what I'm—

Taylor: I know what you're talking about, but that is one thing that I do not think should come back. 'Cause there is no, like, cute, aesthetic way to have a weird, like, droopy lump of fabric hanging off your hip.

[pauses]

Sydnee: I liked 'em.

Taylor: Yeah, well—[laughs quietly]

Rileigh: So Sydnee's like...

[pauses]

Taylor: Syd, if you wanna bring it back, that's cool, but I don't think it should come back. I think there are certain things—I think that's what each generation has been doing with the 80's and 90's. Where each decade it's like, we bring 'em back, but we leave a little bit of the bad stuff behind!

[pauses]

Sydnee: I—I miss the t-shirt clip days.

Rileigh: I mean, it was definitely a look, but I would say that it's more convenient to keep a hair tie around your wrist and tie it up than it is to have a hair clip—

Sydnee: What about the look where you take your shirt in the middle and pull it through—

Taylor: Nooo.

Rileigh: No.

Sydnee: No. Like, through the top.

Rileigh: No.

Sydnee: I was demonstrating. I should describe. You pull it through the top of your shirt—

Rileigh: Like, pull the bottom through the middle top of your neck.

Sydnee: Yeah, and pull it down, and then it's like a... bikini-esque—

Rileigh: They just make shirts like that now.

Sydnee: Ah, okay.

Taylor: No, there was always one or two, like, really confident girls that could pull that off and just be like, "I don't understand that. That alchemy that you just did to make that shirt, but it doesn't work on me! [through laughter] When I—"

Sydnee: No me.

Taylor: "—when I do it, I just look like I don't know how to put clothes on!"

Sydnee: [laughs] Yeah. I could never pull that off. I was always too anxious to do that.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: What about stirrup pants?

Rileigh: What are those?

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] So, stirrup pants were like, the v—here's what you did. In the summer, you wore an oversized t-shirt with bike shorts. And then as it got colder, you traded in the bike shorts for stirrup pants to wear with your oversized t-shirt. They're like a precursor to leggings, except at the bottom they have a little piece of fabric that goes under your foot...

Rileigh: Oh, oh, oh. Okay.

Sydnee: ... to hold 'em in place.

Rileigh: They make leggings like that.

Sydnee: Ahh.

Rileigh: But my thought process has always been, they're for exercise or something. I don't know. I definitely—

Sydnee: These were just for fashion, back in the day.

Rileigh: I definitely accidentally bought a pair of leggings once, thinking they were just leggings, and then put them on and was like, "What is this little... strap? I guess it goes around my heel?"

Sydnee: It's the stirrup.

Rileigh: Yeah. And then I realized I did that, and now I don't wear them. But they definitely make those now, just in like, the bottom of yoga pants.

Sydnee: I remember being so jealous of some of my friends who had like, some of the cutest stirrup pants, and like—

Rileigh: The cutest stirrup pants!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: What is the shoe look for that? What do you wear so you can show off the stirrup—

Sydnee: Oh, you don't show off the stirrup.

Raleigh: — but not cover it up.

Taylor: Yeah, that's the thing. You can't see the stirrup. You're wearing it in, like, a tennis shoe.

Raleigh: So it just looks like you're wearing pants that go to your feet—

Sydnee: All the way. [laughs]

Raleigh: —all the way! [laughs] It just looks like you're wearing pants that have socks attached.

Taylor: Yes.

Raleigh: You're wearing tights.

Sydnee: Yes. You're just wearing tights.

Taylor: I don't know why that was a look. I don't know. I don't think I ever—

Raleigh: I guess-I was gonna say, I guess that's a look.

Taylor: I maybe was like, forced into them when I was too young to choose, but that was never my thing. I don't wanna feel, like, constricted. I don't want that connection forged between my shoes and my pants.

Raleigh: The one time I wore them, I remember just getting like, a little red line across the bottom of my foot where the stirrup went across the bottom of my foot.

Sydnee: When are bodysuits coming back? Are those back?

Taylor: They're back.

Raleigh: Oh, bodysuits have been back, yeah.

Sydnee: Really? Oh, I didn't now.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, with the snaps at the crotch?

Raleigh: Yeah. I've seen a lot of them where—the ones are just like, leotards. Like, you know, solid, made to look like a tank top but you strap it at the bottom so you can tuck it in easily. But then there are ones where it's like a really nice, like, blousy type shirt at the top, and then it just looks like it has a little pair of underwear attached to the bottom, because either it's ruching or lace at the top or whatever, and then it's just like, solid material of the same color that goes to snap in the crotch, that goes under your pants so you can tuck it in. 'Cause tucking things in has been the popular thing.

Sydnee: Yeah, I knew that was in.

Raleigh: Tucking all your shirts in has been the thing. I feel like if I see people—if they're not wearing a shirt that's more cropped, so it's not shorter, and they're not intentionally wearing, like, a big, oversized t-shirt, then they've probably tucked it in. or at least have a little, like, french tuck.

Taylor: I have to ask, though, is it necessary—because to me, it seems like a sin to tuck in a shirt and not either wear a belt or suspenders, something! And I don't know why, 'cause obviously your pants stay up just fine with a shirt tucked into them, but it seems wrong to wear a shirt tucked in without some sort of device to...

Raleigh: Keep the pants—

Taylor: ... keep the pants up. I don't know. I don't know why that's—

Raleigh: Yeah. I mean, I like my belts. I have just one brown belt and one black belt, and those are all the belts I have, but I like to wear those with my jeans whenever I tuck something in, or like, my skirt or my shorts. But I don't think that's like, a universal thing, 'cause I've said that to friends before, like, asked them if they had one I could borrow, and they're like, "I don't own a belt. What are you talking about? I don't wear belts."

Sydnee: I don't own any belts.

Raleigh: Yeah. Mom doesn't own a belt, you don't own a belt—I tried to ask mom to borrow one once and she was like, "I don't—why would you—I don't have a belt."

Sydnee: They were a thing back in the 90's. Like, I had a ton of belts, especially the big, chunky brown belts with, like, the big rivets in 'em.

Taylor: Oh, yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. I had a ton of those. Actually, I lied. I do have a belt that I bought 'cause it goes with my Princess Bride costume that I wear.

Raleigh: Of course.

Sydnee: That is the only belt I own. But I—my pants fallin' down isn't a problem.

Taylor: I don't think it's—

Sydnee: I—I am shaped in such a way that this will not—

Raleigh: Yeah, I've never—

Sydnee: —this will not become an issue. [laughs]

Raleigh: —I've never used them to actually keep my pants up. I have never had the problem with pants falling down, but I just think it, like—I don't know. For some reason I feel like if I have the whole top of my pants exposed because I have something tucked into it, it's not just because I have a cropped shirt that raises up a little bit, I feel like I need something there, or else it looks just weird.

Sydnee: Decorative.

Raleigh: It's decorative.

Taylor: Yeah, it's—

Raleigh: It definitely is.

Taylor: —yeah, I thought that was a fashion faux pas to tuck in a shirt and not wear a belt.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I don't know. I definitely have done the french tuck, though, which I think solves that problem.

Rileigh: French tuck is good.

Sydnee: Yeah. Thank you, Tan.

Rileigh: Yeah. Thanks, Tan.

Sydnee: For introducing me to the french tuck.

Rileigh: I use that a lot. I showed that one to dad. He had one, like, t-shirt that he—

Sydnee: Did dad do a french tuck?

Rileigh: He has one t-shirt that he likes to wear whenever he's with Charlie, because it's pink, but it's not, like, a work shirt. It's just a t-shirt, and it was a little bit long for him, so he'd just been wearing it long over his pants.

Sydnee: I noticed that. It looks strange.

Rileigh: And I was like, "Hey, that looks strange." And he said, "Well, should I tuck it in?" And I was like, "Well, I don't think it'd look better tucked in."

Sydnee: No...

Rileigh: "Here, let me show you this!" And you showed him a little french tuck, and now every time I see him wear that shirt he does the french tuck on his own. Now dad knows how to do a french tuck.

Sydnee: You did a little mini Queer Eye for dad.

Rileigh: A little mini Queer Eye for dad. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Nice.

Sydnee: Uh, is that it? Have we completed the fashion update?

Rileigh: Yeah, I think we pretty much did.

Sydnee: So, the early 90's are coming back. Perhaps the 80's have crept in.

Rileigh: Should I share pictures?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: I'll share pictures on Twitter of all the back to school clothes I got for my new school year.

Sydnee: Oh, and you also—last thing, you said long floral skirts are back, right?

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Oh my gosh.

Rileigh: Like, uh, I don't know about the full—

Sydnee: I had so many long floral skirts!

Rileigh: —like, maxi skirt, but a mid-y skirt that comes, like, right to the middle of your calf, that's definitely—yeah. That's a thing.

Taylor: Can you clarify for me, though, Rileigh—'cause I'm only exposed to people in your age range that are in, like, Brooklyn, so that might be a bit of a specific fashion, but I see a lot of like, the septum piercings, colored hair, brightly colored makeup, that kind of stuff that to me was always like, stuff that put you as alternative. Is that also stuff that's just like, everybody does now?

Rileigh: Yeah. I mean, like, I wouldn't—I would definitely say here, where I am, it is not the majority of people, but I definitely know a good amount of people that aren't necessarily, like, you know, trying to identify as alternative or out-of-the-norm, that just have, like, a septum piercing or dye their hair silver or blue or pink, or like, have tattoos. It's just like, a thing.

Taylor: Hm, alright.

Sydnee: Okay.

Rileigh: I would say here, it's not, you know, as popular, but definitely more popular than just every few people.

Sydnee: Well, I'm gonna go find my old long floral skirts—

Raleigh: Good.

Sydnee: —wear 'em with my Birkenstocks—

Raleigh: There you go!

Sydnee: —'cause those are in.

Raleigh: I'm wearing mine right now. I wear mine, like, every day.

Sydnee: And I usually would wear, like, a little tank top and a cardigan.

Raleigh: That sounds like an outfit I would wear right now. Like, a long floral skirt and a tucked in bodysuit tank top—

Sydnee: That's awesome.

Raleigh: —with a short little light cardigan.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: I would definitely wear that right now.

Sydnee: Fashion a la Sandra Bullock in Practical Magic is back, and I am all about it.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: So, this has been—

Sydnee: Okay.

Taylor: Alright.

Raleigh: —your 2019 back to school fashion update. [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, thank you, sisters. Thank you, Raleigh, for informing Taylor and I as to what—although, Taylor, I feel like you always know what's hip anyway. You live in Brooklyn.

Taylor: Yeah...

Sydnee: You're at the epicenter of hip-ness.

Taylor: I guess so. I realized as we talk about, like—I've never really hit on any of these styling points in any generation. I don't—I neither follow or do the opposite. I just do something on my own. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Well, and I would say, listeners, do your own thing that makes you happy.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: If these 90's styles returning bring you joy, as they do me, please embrace them, and if they don't... I mean, you know. Carry on as you were. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: No problem! As always, you should do your own thing, as long as you're not, like, harming anyone else with your fashion, which I can't imagine how you would be, but—

Raleigh: Yeah, that seems hard, but...

Sydnee: Yeah. But that's the general rule, here. As long as you're not hurting anybody else, who cares? Do your own thing.

Raleigh: Exactly.

Sydnee: Thank you to the Maximum Fun Network of podcasts for letting us be a part of this wonderful family of shows. You should check out Maximumfun.org for a lot of wonderful podcasts you would enjoy. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. You can tweet at us @stillbuff, and thank you to The Novellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Raleigh: This has been Still Buffering: a sisters' 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.

Sydnee: [singing quietly] Gotta go back... back...

Raleigh: [groans]

Taylor: Okay, stop the recording. Stop it.

Raleigh: No, stop it! Just stop!

[theme music plays]

Speaker One: Listen, I'm a hotshot Hollywood movie producer. You have until I finish my glass of Kombucha to pitch me your idea. Go.

[slurping noises]

Ify: Alright! It's called Who Shot Ya? A movie podcast that isn't just a bunch of straight white dudes. I'm Ify Nwadiwe, the new host of the show, and a certified BBN.

Speaker One: BBN?

Ify: Buff black nerd!

Alonso: I'm Alonso Duralde, an elderly gay, and legit film critic who wrote a book on Christmas movies!

Drea: I'm Drea Clark, a loud white lady from Minnesota!

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Alonso: It's like Guess Who's Coming to Dinner meets Cruising!

Ify: And if it helps seal the deal, I can flex my muscles while we record each episode.

Speaker One: I'm sorry. This is a podcast? I'm a movie producer! How did you get in here?

Drea: Ify, quick! Start flexing!

Ify: Bicep! Lats! Chest!

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[music plays]

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