Wonderful! 87: 200 Mile Moon Journey

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hello, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is Wonderful!

Griffin: Back at it again, with the white Van—white Keds. Back at it again. Damn, Daniel! You're listening to our podcast again, Wonderful! It's a show where we talk about things we really are into, and I've gone ahead and dang spoiled—I'm talking about Damn, Daniel, ain't I?

Rachel: Is it Vans or Keds?

Griffin: Is it Keds or Vans?

Rachel: I think it's Vans, right?

Griffin: Okay, yeah. I think it is. Who's got Keds, then? What's the Keds meme? I think that grape stomp lady, she was wearing Keds. That's why I got 'em mixed up.

Rachel: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Memes are so fffricking funny, sometimes.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Peanut butter baby? Forget about it!

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: I see peanut butter baby, though, sometimes, and it makes me sad, because I think about the parent and grown-up that has to clean all that up.

Rachel: Yes, I bet that would really clog your drain if your not careful.

Griffin: And your baby's beautiful pores. We all have a good laugh at peanut

butter baby, but it's kind of terrible, what's happened to the child!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You know? And also, like, I wanted to eat some of that, you freakin'

baby!

Rachel: Oh my gosh, yes.

Griffin: We didn't even consider the waste of it.

Rachel: I mean, I did.

Griffin: Now, what if one of his friends has a nut allergy? You've basically given

yourself, like, this poisonous chitin, baby.

Rachel: Yeah, you gotta wash him a bunch of times, I bet.

Griffin: You gotta wash him, yeah! Or you probably can't send him to day care,

if it's a nut free environment!

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Peanut butter baby is the greatest criminal of our time!

Rachel: Aw, a lil' burglar.

Griffin: But he's a lil'— [laughing] yeah, scamp.

Rachel: A lil' mask on.

Griffin: lil' Jif taker.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Hey, do you have any small wonders?

Rachel: I do.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Sour cream.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Rachel: Just—I love it. I just love it so much.

Griffin: Loves that shit.

Rachel: I, um, put it on chili. Put it on a baked potato.

Griffin: Oh, yeah. You slaughtered a baked potato.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Just 'smorthered' it.

Rachel: Taco salad?

Griffin: Oh, taco salad, though!

Rachel: Yes, mm-hmm.

Griffin: You put it in, like, a sweet bread or a cake to like, give it that rich—

Rachel: Oh, yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: —that richness.

Rachel: For sure.

Griffin: Done that before.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: It took me a long time to get behind sour cream. Can I give sour cream

one note, one piece of-

Rachel: Okay, okay.

Griffin: The—the name sucks. The name sucks.

Rachel: That's true.

Griffin: "This is, uh, rotten beef. It's beef that's gone rotten—"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "—and you can eat it with your taco salad."

Rachel: Yeah, like, yogurt... Yogurt is, I think, similar in some ways, but that's like, it's own thing. Sour cream is like... Like, it should really be called, like... 'schlooper.'

Griffin: Well, that's not good either, babe. [sighs]

Rachel: Okay. Um... 'glulp?'

Griffin: I mean, a—an onomatopoetic option is always very exciting for me.

Rachel: [laughs] "Uh, yeah. I'd like three tacos, uh, and can I get 'glulp' on the

side?"

Griffin: "I want guac, and 'glulp.'"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, my small wonder is, of course, Animal Crossing New Horizons—

Rachel: Oh, Griffin...

Griffin: —announced today at E3. Bumped the date back a bit, it was supposed to come out in 2019, now it's coming out March 20—2020. 20, 20, 20, 20.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: And that means nine months, and that's a fucking long time. Uh—

Rachel: See, I didn't know it'd been bumped.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Rachel: You must be so excited to hear another one is coming, but you—you have been waiting, I guess.

Griffin: Right. They announced it, I think, at—a surprise announcement at the end of last E3, but it was just like, Tom Nook, and he was like, "What's up, motherfuckers! It's me!" And everybody's like, "Whoa, 2019, it's gonna happen!" And then nothing for like, an entire year.

Rachel: And who is Tom?

Griffin: He is the raccoon who, uh... He will sell you a house, and he's like, "Come on, move into my house!" And you're like, "Cool." You move in, you get all your stuff, and he's like, "You owe me \$50,000." So you have to get \$50,000 to pay him.

Rachel: Wait, they all have names?

Griffin: Yeah, oh yeah!

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: Yeah, there's Tom Nook, there's Gracie the fashion giraffe...

Rachel: Who's that alligator?

Griffin: God, Rachel despises that—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —that very sexy alligator.

Rachel: I saw that alligator flirting with my husband—

Griffin: You have talked about this alligator—this alligator is like, your main target of rage that our listeners know about.

Rachel: [laughs] Listen, Griffin works from home, so I don't necessarily have to worry about any workplace romance.

Griffin: It's true, except for this one alligator that I—

Rachel: Except for that alligator!

Griffin: Yeah. It's cool, man. You got like, a lil' island, and you can build whatever you want, wherever you want. You could build a bench, and just like, set it on the beach! How chill is that? It's gonna be so chill.

Rachel: That's very chill.

Griffin: It's got two players. You can play with me, and we'll just like, run around and build a beautiful home together.

Rachel: I was excited, 'cause the little video a saw had a nice clothesline in it, and I always appreciate a clothesline.

Griffin: Love that stuff.

Rachel: Nothin' more chill than a clothesline.

Griffin: Yeah. Hey, who goes first this week?

Rachel: I have no idea!

Griffin: I got all thrown off, because the episode we missed when, um, we all got such bad diarrhea...

Rachel: Yeah...

Griffin: It really threw me for a real, uh, a real 'glorp.'

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But I go first this week.

Rachel: Okay, good.

Griffin: My first thing this week is table tennis. The small tennis—

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: —that you play on a table. Some people call it ping pong!

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: But I'm gonna call it table—nah, I'm gonna switch between 'em at will, just to make this as confusing... It's the same thing. It's—there's not a difference between table tennis and ping pong.

Rachel: See, now I'm all hung up on, like, if it's a regional thing, or if it's like Scotch Tape, and that it's branded.

Griffin: I'm gonna answer that! It is—

Rachel: Oh, good, good.

Griffin: Yeah, it i—oh, okay, you spoiled it. But it is branded.

Rachel: Okay!

Griffin: Ping pong is like, a trademarked name of what table tennis can be, and it is also onomatopoetic. How fantastic. What a good word that is!

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: Like, I get where poetic sorta gets in there at the end, but then, like, the person who made the word was like, "What if we open if with, like, 'atabatabatabata?'"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, so when I was younger, we would go over to my Aunt Brenda's house from time to time. She lived in Ironton, and a bunch of other family lived there too, but we'd go over there for Thanksgiving—

Rachel: What up, Brenda?

Griffin: Brenda! And, uh, Thanksgiving and like, the minor holiday—we'd go over there for like, Fourth of July sometimes. Uh, and that was fun, because the—you know, we loved our family. We still do. And, uh, the food was always good, and they had a pool, a hot tub, and a ping pong table.

Rachel: Whoa!

Griffin: In the basement. So we would—

Rachel: A pool and a hot tub?

Griffin: Pool, hot tub, ping pong table.

Rachel: Hoo!

Griffin: So righteous. And it was really fun there, uh, and we would go over there and play. And I was never very good, because like, we weren't going there frequently enough for me to really practice.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, mm-hmm.

Griffin: Then in high school, our gym class was so wildly unregimented—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and it was very Montessori, like, just explore the space and like, chase what excites you, and what excited me was the ping pong table that they had in the storage room. Uh, and so there was like, a circuit of, of, uh, kids in my class that we would just play ping pong.

Rachel: [laughs] I'm picturing, like, a bouncer. Like Sean being like, [gruff voice] "Hey, Griffin, your turn's up!"

Griffin: I mean—yeah, kind of.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: We had only the one table, so we would... You know, we would have to share it, and, uh, usually it would be a sort of "winner gets to stay" situation.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, but I played it constantly, right? Like, the years where I had gym class, I was just always, always playing ping pong, and so i started to get, like, kind of good at it.

And, uh, I was thinking back on that, uh, because here in Austin they will have some outdoor ping pong tables at like, hip bars, although those are, in my experience, largely unplayable due to environmental factors, and also the fact that you're at a bar, and so if a ball gets lost, like, I don't wanna go chase it under a bunch of people's legs.

Uh, but it's great. It's like... What I like about it... I think I always did kind of like tennis. I played it a few times when I was younger, 'cause we grew up next to a tennis court, but gosh, there was so much running. And that's what ping pong is, is somebody was like, "Tennis is great, but could we make it smaller so you don't have to run?"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And I think that's how we racquetball as well, which I've never played, but always looks really fun.

Rachel: It does look fun.

Griffin: Um, so, the feel of a ping pong paddle.

Rachel: Ooh...

Griffin: I want everybody to just, like, close your eyes and imagine holding a ping pong paddle.

Rachel: Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin: You know how like, somebody will hold, like, a weapon of some sort and they're like—they feel powerful because of that, which is messed up. I feel that about a ping pong paddle, because of just—the weight of it feels good. The rubber, whether it's like, bumpy or smooth, that feels good. And you just, like, can't pick

one up and hold a ball in your other hand and not just like, instinctively try to start bouncing it. Like, it just feels so good.

Rachel: It feels—it's like, the exact right size.

Griffin: It's perfect.

Rachel: Like, it seems like physics must have gone into designing the exact right size and shape of that thing.

Griffin: Did you know the size of the ping pong ball has changed? Very recently there was like, a table tennis... I saw this online. I didn't take a note about it, but like, the table tennis governing organization that like, manages the world circuit or whatever, uh, wanted to make it more exciting for TV—

Rachel: Oh...

Griffin: So they like, reduced the number of points that you needed to score to win, uh, and then they changed the padding on the paddle, like the regulation paddles, so that the ball would travel faster. Uh, and they also changed to size of the ball from I think 38 millimeters to 40 millimeters, so it'd be a little bit easier to track on TV.

Rachel: [laughs] This reminds me of when they were trying to popularize hockey.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: And they put that little blue light—

Griffin: Oh, yes!

Rachel: You remember that little blue light over the puck?

Griffin: Did John Bois do a thing about...

Rachel: Oh, I don't know.

Griffin: I remember I watched, like, a sports documentary online about it, and I think his are the only sports documentaries I watch online.

Rachel: I just—I just remember this thing of like, "Oh, well, people are having trouble following the puck, so let's just put this little blue light on it on their television screen," and it didn't...

Griffin: It didn't work.

Rachel: Doesn't... That's not gonna change—

Griffin: But the techno—the technology that went into that was apparently, like, the wildest technological innovation.

Rachel: I believe it.

Griffin: Um, so, like a lot of sort of like, lazy games that I am into, ping pong started as a—it started in Victorian England, as an upper class parlor game. Uh, and I imagine it didn't get as intense with the, you know, top spins and the—the—

Rachel: Yeah...

Griffin: —you know, diving around corners that you'll see at like, the, the pro level. Um, but, uh... British military officers, uh, in India, in the 1860s or 1870s, they brought the game back with them. Uh, but like, back then they didn't have like rules, necessarily.

There wasn't like, a reg—there wasn't a governing body for the ping pong circuit, um, so a lot of the time they would just play on a big table with a row of books lined up as the—as the net. Um, and they would, you know, use a golf ball or whatever, because they exact sort of, uh, little hollow plastic ball hadn't necessarily been invented yet.

Rachel: Is the scoring like tennis?

Griffin: Ye-e-no, I don't... Uh, yes.

Rachel: 'Cause I realized that I don't think I've ever learned to rules to ping pong. It was just kind of like, you played until you didn't feel like playing anymore. [laughs]

Griffin: Well, yeah. You do P-I-N-G to decide who goes first, who—who serves

first.

Rachel: Oh, okay.

Griffin: And then—

Rachel: See, I didn't even know that.

Griffin: Yeah. And then, uh, I believe it's... I think you can only score on your serve? Or when you... No, no, no. No, you can score whenever. Uh, but every five points the, uh, server changes. That's how we always played it in high school.

Rachel: Oh. See, I did have a ping pong table, um, but... This is gonna be another sad only child story.

Griffin: Aw, man.

Rachel: Uh, and then I didn't get to play very often, 'cause it was just me.

[laughs]

Griffin: Well, that didn't stop Forrest Gump, did it?

Rachel: You know, that's true. I never even thought about pushing it against a table.

Griffin: Um, so, uh, J. Jaques and Son Ltd, was, uh, a British, like, manufacturer. Uh, and in 1901, they trademarked the name "ping pong," um, but it was sort of called that, like, pretty widely before they had the trademark. And despite the fact that they had a trademark, because people were using the name "ping pong" to describe the game, other manufacturers were just, like, using it willy-nilly without, like, caring about it much.

Uh, and then Parker Brothers bought the rights to the name "ping pong," uh, shortly thereafter, for use in the United States. But like, again, like, people just called this fucking game "ping pong," right? And so everybody else was selling their thing as "ping pong," and then in, uh, 1920, they started, like, suing everybody. [laughs]

Rachel: Wow.

Griffin: So that there's could only be, uh, called "ping pong." And that's where the name "table tennis," uh, came from. So table tennis is actually the less common—it's not like it started as table tennis and then became ping pong. It was actually the other way around, which I thought was interesting.

Anyway, ping pong's great. Um, the focus of the best scenes in Friday Night Lights, and one day I hope we have one in our garage.

Rachel: Oh, yes.

Griffin: And just like, I can share special moments with—with my son in there,

SO.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: What's your first thing?

Rachel: My first thing is Buc-ee's.

Griffin: Buc-ee's! Yes! Can I tell you something?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: I snuck into the kitchen and ate a bunch of Buc-ee Nugs today, while you were home.

Rachel: [laughs quietly] While I was home?

Griffin: While you were home, yeah. You had gotten home. I had gotten Henry home from—

Rachel: What was I doing?

Griffin: You were hanging out with Henry, and I walked in the kitchen to get something—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And then I thought, "Mmm, a little 'snackerel' would sound pretty good right now," so I dug around in the 'snackerel' drawer, and there's a big bag of Buc-ee Nugs, and so I dipped into those and I just kept—once you pop, you cannot stop with the Buc-ee Nugs!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [loudly] Oh my God, talk about Buc-ee's!

Rachel: [laughs] Um, so every once in a while I'll sit, uh, in preparation for the show, and I'll think about things that are regional or local that other people in the country might not know about, that I could bring to the show to kind of welcome others to our world.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And like, number one on that list is Buc-ee's.

Griffin: Has to be Buc-ee's.

Rachel: Yeah...

Griffin: Buc-ee's is a thing were if you live in Texas, you know what it is and you love it, because it's not like a small thing, but it's just in Texas.

Rachel: Yes. So there's like, 40, uh, nationwide, and when I say "nationwide" I mean "Texas, Alabama, and Florida," uh, and like, 36 of them are in Texas.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: [laughs] Um, but it is a chain of convenience stores and gas stations, uh, and it's headquarters is in Lake Jackson, Texas. It opened in 1982.

Griffin: We gotta get the—we gotta make the fucking pilgrimage at some point.

Rachel: It's owned by Arch "Beaver" Alpin III.

Griffin: [incredulously] What?!

Rachel: Uh-huh. Well, that's his like—his nickname.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Rachel: It's in quotes.

Griffin: You've gotta put the quotes in there, babe, 'cause you made me think that a man is running around there called Beaver.

Rachel: I mean, Leave It to Beaver? That's probably a nickname too, huh?

Griffin: And also a fictional show!

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, and Don Wasek. Um, Alpin—sorry, Aplin—

Griffin: The Beav.

Rachel: [laughs] The Beav, formed the name Buc-ee's by combining his childhood nickname, the name of his Labrador, Buck, as well as the appeal of Ipana Toothpaste animated mascot Bucky the Beaver.

Griffin: So you didn't really combine shit, you just stole this toothpaste mascot.

Rachel: Yeah, I guess. And this—I looked this up. This was like, a toothpaste thing in the 50s, uh, that I'm not familiar with. But apparently there was a toothbrush mascot.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Toothpaste mascot, yeah.

Griffin: I mean, they got prominent teeth, I guess. Buc-ee's, by the way, is spelled B-U-C-C-E-E-S?

Rachel: Uh, B-U-C hyphen E-E apostrophe S.

Griffin: Oh, yeah. Sorry.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Sorry, everybody. I put one too many C's in there.

Rachel: It's okay. So, the one we know very well opened in 2012. It's the largest travel center in the world.

Griffin: Whoa! Holy shit!

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: I should have assumed that is true, because it's—it's so... I feel like you haven't explained what Buc-ee's, like...

Rachel: I said it's a convenience store and gas station!

Griffin: But it's—oh, but it's so much—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's—guys? Hey, guys? It's so—it's the size of a fucking IKEA. It's so big.

Rachel: It's 68,000 square feet.

Griffin: [loudly and distantly] It's so big.

Rachel: The store has 120 fueling stations, 83 toilets, 31 cash registers—

Griffin: [through gritted teeth] 83 toilets!

Rachel: —and 80 fountain drink dispensers. You could fit 22 average size 7/11s inside, or 2 average size Whole Foods. Or, if you think about a Walmart neighborhood store—

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: They are 40% smaller than this Buc-ee's.

Griffin: This Buc-ee's is so dope. It has everything. It has everything.

Rachel: Uh, they have private labeled beef jerky, novelty candy, trail mixes, granola, pralines, jarred vegetables, preserves, and salsa, and a popular brand

and product, which is a caramel and butter glaze corn puff, known as Beaver Nuggets.

Griffin: Or Buc-ee Nuggets.

Rachel: Or Buc-ee Nugs.

Griffin: Or Buc-ee Nugs, if you will.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: These things are so fricking good. Imagine the cereal Corn Pops, only, like, covered in an even crunchier, like, candy—not candy coating, but like, caramel coating. It is so, so, so good. Buc-ee Nugs.

Rachel: They're very good. You'll eat, like, one or two and you'll think like, "I don't see what the fuss is about." And then you will have eaten 37 in one minute.

Griffin: They have, like, um... Same way like kind of Cracker Barrel does it, where they will have, like, their own branded candy of every imaginal—

Rachel: Yeah, exactly.

Griffin: —imaginable stripe. Like, they will have, you know, their own special lemon drops, their own special... Like, all of that stuff. They make a pecan roll that is—a pecan log, I should say, that's like a marshmallow sort of, uh, log, covered in like, sweet candy pecans with nougat. Oh my God, it's really good.

Rachel: Yeah. So, they have their own deli counter. You can get hot foods. They have their own fudge counter, uh, in the store, and, um... There was an article in Business Insider about Buc-ee's, and they called it, uh,... "The experience of going to Buc-ee's is like wandering into a mix of a Walmart, a barbecue-centric deli, and the Texas Tourism Bureau, plus a dash of the Cracker Barrel general store."

Griffin: It's unbelievably good.

Rachel: They have, like, home decor.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: They have a lot of, like, T-shirts with Buc-ee on the front.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: You can buy towels. Since—the New Braunfels one is close to the river, where a lot of people float, and so you can buy, like, flip flops and swimsuits and...

Griffin: It's also close to [singing softly] going to Schlitterbahn. Way-oh!

Rachel: Mm-hmm, yes.

Griffin: [singing softly] The hottest, coolest time in Tex— [normally] Listen.

Living in Texas can be... exhausting, sometimes.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Because of some of the things we got goin' on here. But man, you get a—you stop at Buc-ee's while you're on your way to Schlitterbahn, and you are [through gritted teeth] fucking living the life—the best life!

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: Man, it makes me angry.

Rachel: I will also say that they, uh, take care of their employees pretty well. Um, they advertise in every store the wages of their employees, and it starts at \$13-15 an hour. You get three weeks paid time off, overtime, and a 401(k)!

Griffin: Hey, all right, Buc-ee's!

Rachel: At Buc-ee's!

Griffin: Well, it ain't bad!

Rachel: Yeah! Uh, so Buc-ee's is tremendously popular in Texas, and they have had to very, uh, carefully guard their brand. Uh, in 2014 they filed a lawsuit against another convenience store called Frio Beaver. Uh, their logo also depicted a beaver in a yellow circle with a black outline.

Griffin: No!

Rachel: In 2016, they went after another Texas convenience store called Choke Canyon Bar-B-Q, which uses a logo of a grinning alligator in the middle of a yellow circle.

Griffin: Well, that one seems a little... [laughs]

Rachel: Yeah. If you put an animal in a circle—

Griffin: That one seems a little too—

Rachel: —you're in trouble.

Griffin: [laughs] Oh, Buc-ee.

Rachel: So, let me tell you about what's new in Buc-ee's.

Griffin: Oh, shit. Is there new stuff at Buc-ee's?

Rachel: In late 2018, Buc-ee's announced a deal with Tooshlights to put indicator lights in bathrooms to alert which stalls are occupied.

Griffin: [through gritted teeth] My dog!

Rachel: This is gonna start in Katy and Temple, Texas.

Griffin: Bring it to the New Braunfels one as fast as possible. We need this technology everywhere.

Rachel: They won an award in 2012 for how clean the restrooms where.

Griffin: So clean. So clean.

Rachel: So-just incredible.

Griffin: If you're driving in Texas, you see one of these things, pull over. I don't care if you just got gas.

Rachel: So, apparently not all of the Buc-ee's are... There's a very small Buc-ee's in Brazoria, Texas that only has 6 fueling stations, but the one in New Braunfels? 120.

Griffin: Wow.

Rachel: 83 toilets.

Griffin: [softly] Wow. [normally] I will say, love Buc-ee's.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Holds a very special place in my heart.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: One time I got some sugar free gummy bears from there while we were on our way to WrestleMania, and I just—I—

Rachel: Griffin...

Griffin: What?

Rachel: You cannot blame that on Buc-ee's! You ate too many!

Griffin: I ate some sugar free gummy bears on my way to WrestleMania... and I pooped out a couple vertebrae. It was so bad.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It was so bad. It was the worst. Th—I'm saying, I know. It's on me.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: [stammering] I shouldn't had—had eaten the candies that made me poop out the spine. I get it.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's on me. But they shouldn't be selling that poison.

Rachel: [laughs] Or they should sell them in packages of four.

Griffin: Packages of four discrete gummy bears. And also, the way they have on cigarettes, like, "If you're pregnant, this'll fuck you clean up, dog. I promise." We need those on these sugar free gummy bears.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: And they need to be written specifically to me.

Rachel: Why did you get sugar free gummy bears?

Griffin: 'Cause I'm trying to watch my glucose levels! But th—didn't know—it's worth—it's not worth it, those few points off my glucose, if it means I'm gonna miss the first couple matches 'cause I'm in the toilet, [laughing] screaming Bucee's name!

Rachel: [laughs] So that's Buc-ee's, ladies and gentlemen.

Griffin: Yeah. Can I steal you away?

Rachel: Yes.

[Home Improvement theme music plays, cuts off abruptly just before the end]

[snap]

Speaker One: Nice.

Griffin: Got a couple sponsorinos, here! You know what our first one is?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Oh. Well, the audience doesn't, because it's MeUndies. MeUndies is so fantastic. Uh, they have a little quote here where they say, "You probably spend about 90% of your life in underwear," and I don't know how one could possibly go about fact-checking that, but they are the underwear people, so I will take that—I'm wearing 'em right now, and I usually am.

Rachel: That's true.

Griffin: Uh, so don't you think you owe it to yourself to make sure you're wearing the softest undies in town? Well, guess what? Those are MeUndies. They are MeUndies, are the softest ones. Take it from me, a man wearing them right now.

They have that micromodal fabric that is so good. Three times softer than cotton. Got so many different styles, so many different prints. Uh, they have, uh, fly, ones with the fly in 'em, so you can—you can just part the red sea there. It's very, very convenient.

Rachel: Ooh, re—red sea...

Griffin: Terrible, terrible phrase, yeah. I bet they don't like that at all. Uh, yeah, they got the boxer brief with the fly. The—and they have really soft lounge wear.

Rachel: Oh, god. That lounge wear.

Griffin: It's nice. I haven't put on the onesie in a while. We have lounge pants and we have onesies. Uh, a lot of them now.

Rachel: Mm-hmm. Griffin got—you got some Star Wars ones...

Griffin: Yeah, those have disappeared.

Rachel: Is it a onesie, or the pants?

Griffin: It's a pant—it's a pants, but they're gone. Did you take 'em?

Rachel: No?

Griffin: Oh, I know you like Chewbacca.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Anyway, you can get 15% off your first pair, free shipping, and a 100% satisfaction guarantee. Just go to meundies.com/wonderful. That's meundies.com/wonderful.

[pauses]

Rachel: Can I tell you about our next sponsor?

Griffin: Yiss.

Rachel: Flamingo! Is a razor company, not a bird, in this example.

Griffin: Cool. Flaming-go ahead and tell me about it!

Rachel: Ooh, that's nice.

Griffin: It's not.

Rachel: Uh, so Griffin, tell me about your hair removal routine?

Griffin: I got a haircut today, and they removed it, one little bit at a time.

Rachel: Mm-hmm. But what about the hair on your face?

Griffin: Oh, uh—yeah, so I work from home—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —so I can pretty much just drag an electric razor across it and not get too like, uh—get too into it. But when I shave my neck, it is like I'm disarming a bomb. It is very scary every time.

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, so Flamingo makes your hair removal ritual much easier.

Griffin: Okay!

Rachel: And hey, guess what? It's swim season.

Griffin: Oh my God.

Rachel: You can't hide behind those long shirts and those long pants anymore.

Griffin: I will.

Rachel: Okay, but I can't, 'cause I get real hot in the summer.

Griffin: You—you do. You run—you're like a lil' salamander.

Rachel: Mm-hmm. Whether you live in a small town or a big city, everyone wants a mini vacation. For some of us, worst case scenario is forgetting your razor. For others, it would be even worse to have a clunky shave or visible ingrown hairs. The shave set pack everything in one with a convenient pouch, so your mini vacation can go off without a hitch.

Uh, I have a Flamingo razor. It feels just very carefully designed, for my many curves.

Griffin: Hmm.

Rachel: That knee curve, or that ankle curve?

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Really gotta look out for those.

Griffin: You got some o—o—the—

Rachel: Them other curves. The Flamingo shave set is the talk of the town, these days. It's been in Vogue, Glamour, you name it. Try the Flamingo shave set this summer. It is a \$22 value for just \$16 with free shipping today, when you visit shopflamingo.com/wonderful. Shopflamingo.com/wonderful.

Griffin: One more sponsor, because we missed one when—when we were sick. ZipRecruiter. ZipRecruiter helps you, uh, find a new job, and it makes it a lot easier than it would be if you didn't use ZipRecruiter. They have, uh, like, so much great technology, just in this one app.

You just download the ZipRecruiter app, uh, you let it know what kind of jobs your looking for, what your interested in, and then it puts your profile in front of employers, and then if they like your profile, ZipRecruiter—they let you know, so that if your interested in the job, you can apply.

It's like, um... What is it. It's like a Tinder, but for—but professional.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: It's like a Tinder, but for your future.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Match with your future, at ziprecruiter.com. Uh, you can download the free, number one rated ZipRecruiter Job Search app today, and let the power of technology work for you.

Rachel: You want to hear a personal message?

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: This one is for Mitchell. It is from Sarah.

"Hey, best pal! We're finally married, hooray! I hope our first few days/weeks as married, grownup people have been, well, wonderful. I love you so very much, and I'm super excited to start the next chapter of our lives together in Pittsburgh? Iowa? Location TBD."

Griffin: Pittsburgh is not in Iowa. I'll stop you right there.

Rachel: [laughs] "Thanks for being my DM, best friend, and now legally my life buddy forever. Love, Egg."

Griffin: That is so sweet, I could faint.

Rachel: It was very sweet!

Griffin: It is really good. Egg is a great lil' pet name, and Pittsburgh is not in Iowa. I just want— I know that you weren't saying it like that, but I don't want our fans to get confused, 'cause they do sometimes.

Rachel: That's true. We're influencers, you know, and we could influence people into thinking there was a Pittsburgh, Iowa.

Griffin: Here's a message for Mike, and it's from Tarcy.

[distantly] Wait.

[normally] No. Tracy.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughing] Tracy. It's from Tracy.

Rachel: [laughs] "This one is for Meekay, and it is from Tarasi?"

Griffin: [laughs] This one's from Mike, and it's from Tracy, who says:

"Hey, hun! Can't believe we made it another year. 2018 was really rough, and I'm so happy we've stuck it out. I'm so proud of you and all you've accomplished, and Hazel, and I love you to the moon and back."

That's pretty freaking far! That's like, 200 miles.

[pauses]

How far is that, to the moon?

Rachel: I am—you would guess much closer than me.

Griffin: How far... Let's hear your guess, 'cause I said 200 miles. Probably not 200 miles.

Oh, nah. I was a little bit off. [laughs breathlessly] They're gonna—people are gonna make fun of me, baby!

Rachel: Well, here. I'll guess, and it'll make you feel better.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: 1000.

Griffin: [laughing] 238,900 miles.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] That's really far. And you know what? If I'm thinking about it—if it—if it was 200 miles away, it—

Rachel: It would not take—

Griffin: It would not be a big deal to get there.

Rachel: —it would not take very long. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs breathlessly] [gasps] Oh, Jesus.

Rachel: [sighs] Well. You know, I, um... I think NASA's gonna pass on us.

Griffin: Yeah, unfortunately.

Rachel: Um... But you know, we've got ZipRecruiter, so...

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: We'll find something else.

[gentle music playing]

Renee: Well, Alexis, we got big news.

Alexis: Uh-oh.

Renee: Season 1, done.

Alexis: It's over.

Renee: Season 2, comin' at you hot!

Alexis: Three years after [laughs] our season 1.

Renee: Three and a half. Three and a half. Technically almost four years.

Alexis: All right. All right.

Renee: And now, listen. Here at Can I Pet Your Dog?, the smash hit podcast, our seasons run for three and a half years, and then at season 2, we come at you with new, hot cohosts named you.

Alexis: Hi, I'm Alexis. [laughs]

Renee: [laughs] And we also have, uh, future of dog tech.

Alexis: Yeah.

Renee: Dog news.

Alexis: Dog news.

Renee: Celebrity guests.

Alexis: Oh, big shots.

Renee: We'll not let them talk about their resume.

Alexis: Nope, only the dogs.

Renee: Only the dogs. I mean, if ever you were gonna get into Can I Pet Your

Dog?...

Alexis: Now's the time.

Renee: Get in here!

Alexis: Every Tuesday.

Renee: At MaximumFun.org.

Griffin: Hey, can I talk about my second thing?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Fig Newtons.

Rachel: Whoa!

Griffin: Whoa! I'm comin' at you from all sides today!

Rachel: I didn't know you were that big of a fan.

Griffin: I wasn't. Let me—let me get this out of the way right now. Used to not like these things. Used to not be a big fan of—

Rachel: Well, because if you think of it as a cookie—

Griffin: If you think of it as a cookie...

Rachel: —you're kind of headin' down the wrong track.

Griffin: Well... Maybe, right?

Rachel: And I think that's why they had their whole "fruit and cake" campaign.

Griffin: Right. They did have that, and that was a f—I would say a missed opportunity for them, because I think if they had just said, "This is the good cookie," then people would have gone for it. Or if they had labeled as a "fig biscuit—"

Rachel: Ooh, I like that!

Griffin: —I think then we may have been getting a little bit closer to where we need to get.

Rachel: Oh, hey, can that be my pet name for you?

Griffin: Yeah, I believe that it should be. Uh, is a new source of joy in my life, because Henry is like, obsessed with them. Henry is obsessed with the like, Fig Newton concept more than the brand. We mostly get him these... Oh, by the way, we have like, three left. We have got to get to Costco and get some more.

Rachel: We do! Yes, yes, yes.

Griffin: Because if I don't give him one of these in the car ride home from school every day, he's—he will—he will shank me in the neck while I'm driving. Um—

Rachel: [laughs] Can—can you do your impression of him, saying it?

Griffin: Uh, [gruff voice] "Fee-ba!"

Rachel: So great.

Griffin: [gruff voice] "Fee-ba!" [normally] Which is fig—fig bar. Uh, but anyway, uh, like all of Henry's favorite food, I do end up eating a lot of it. Um...

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: Just when he turns it away, or is not looking.

Rachel: 'Cause sometimes he'll just eat one, and there's two in a pouch.

Griffin: There's two in a pouch, thank you, Fig Newtons! Um, so like, if I was in a cookie mood growing up, I'd reach for a Chips Ahoy. I'd reach for an Oreo. Um, but Fig Newtons, they occupy such a unique sort of flavor space that like, these days I just cannot get enough of.

Flavor? Is great. It's fruity and it's mellow and it's like... You know, it's—it's got the sweet and doughy and crumbly sort of stuff going on there. It has a lot of stuff going on for it that I'm very excited about in the flavor department, but like...

The thing I'm gaga about: that mouthfeel. The mouthfeel of eating a Fig Newton is so... It is a toothy—it is—it is just a, a toothsome cookie.

Rachel: Have you ever just eaten a fig?

Griffin: I've never just eaten a fig, now that I'm thinking about it. I don't—

Rachel: I feel like I have in a salad.

Griffin: I don't—m-yeah, maybe.

Rachel: It's such a unique flavor.

Griffin: Yeah. I've eaten, um, dates. That's—that's probably not—I don't know what a fig is, I guess, if I'm—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —if—gun to my head, I don't know how far away the moon is or what a fig is, even.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, they... I w—they're not like... They feel filling, right? I feel like they feel more filling than a regular cookie. Like, if I got filled up on Oreo's, then I would have an upset tummy. But you eat two Fig Newtons and I feel like, 'Mmm. It's a cookie that's a meal, also."

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: You know what I mean? And they come in like a cool, like, holster. It's not a traditional package. They come in like, a rifle magazine of Fig Newtons. They are like, perfectly mouth shaped. Uh, Fig Newtons are just very, very good, and I eat them pretty much every day now, which is probably not... ideal.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um... So, back in the olden days, in like, the—the 19th century, um, a lot of health pro—before, like, doctors were... You know, doctors were doin' their best. But they thought, like, pretty much all diseases were, uh—could be attributed to like, digestive issues, so they recommended a diet that contained healthy portions of, uh, fruits and biscuits, which is so dope.

Doctors were like, "Y'all, what do you got goin' on? Aw, man, gout? Gotta eat some cookies, man. I'm tellin' you, you gotta—take it from me, a doctor, you gotta eat cookies."

Rachel: That's interesting.

Griffin: So fig rolls sort of became a thing around this time, and it was just like, a homemade recipe that people would just like whip up. Um, and in 1891, a baker living in Philadelphia whose name was Charles Roser invented a machine that could just jam fig paste up into, uh, pastry dough. Um, and so it started to become, like, a little bit more automated.

Uh, there's a company in Massachusetts that's called the Kennedy Biscuit Company that bought the patent on that, uh, fruit jamming technology—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —uh, and started to mass produce them. And so that company is based in Massachusetts. The name Fig Newton actually comes from, uh, the nearby town of Newton, Massachusetts—

Rachel: Oh...

Griffin: —nearby to where the, uh, uh... I forget the actual town that the company existed in, but Newton, Massachusetts. A lot of people think it has something to do with Sir Isaac Newton. It does not. It is named for this town.

Uh, another thing I didn't realize is that the Kennedy Biscuit Company, uh, would soon merge with the New York Biscuit Company, uh, and they—these two, like, mondo businesses, they would come together to form the National Biscuit Company, which is... Nabisco.

Rachel: Oh, I thought you were gonna say NBC. [laughs]

Griffin: We can't release this episode.

Rachel: [laughs louder]

Griffin: We can't release this episode.

Rachel: The...

Griffin: I can't wait for the next and final season of The Good Place to come from the National Biscuit Company.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's so good.

Rachel: [laughs] [out of breath] I'm sorry. Nabisco. [laughs]

Griffin: So anyway, they are—today, they are Nabisco's third best-selling cookie.

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: The first one's gotta be Oreo. I don't—I guess the s—the second one has to be like, Oreo—

Rachel: I didn't think Fig Newtons were that popular.

Griffin: I mean, it's their third best-selling cookie, right? It's not like they're uh... You know, they came in third place for this one company.

Rachel: Well, I guess I don't know how many cookies they have, but it seems probably a lot.

Griffin: Well, they sell more than a billion bars a year.

Rachel: Hoo!

Griffin: So I'd say it's fairly popular. Um, and recently they've been sort of like, evolving, right? They have different flavors now. It's not necessarily just, uh, fig. You know, they have like, an apple cinnamon one, and a raspberry one. They also make a whole grain bar. The—the one that we buy at, uh, at Costco, is like, a whole grain sort of crust, and that's good, too.

Um, and something I didn't realize, and this may—it blew my mind. It rocked me to my core today. It's like a full blown Mandela effect thing.

Rachel: Ooh!

Griffin: Um... They're not called Fig Newtons. They're just called Newtons.

Rachel: No...

Griffin: They're just called Newtons now. They changed the name in like, 2012, so for about 7 years now, they've just been called Newtons, and nobody realized it.

Rachel: Why—why? Why? It—because they want the freedom to move outside the fig?

Griffin: I found a Huffington Post article.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: Uh... "Jeff Hilton, co-founder of an advertising agency called Integrated Marketing Group told the New York Times that people associate figs, like prunes, with old people, which isn't exactly a selling point. Hence, Nabisco's introduction of other fruit fillings, and the eventual drop of "Fig" in the name."

Figs are not hot. Figs are not sexy.

Rachel: See, now I wanna look on YouTube and see if there's like, cool skateboarders with backwards hats, like, asking each other for Newtons.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It sounds illicit when you put it like that.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I think that this is a discriminatory and shameful decision on their part,

but also, I don't know what a fig is or looks like.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: So if we're talking about brand appeal, you're name of your cookie could not be "Mystery Food, Town in Massachusetts." It's a wild—I get it now. I kind of get it now.

Rachel: [skater dude voice] "Yo, what's up, bro? You got any extra Newts?"

Griffin: [laughs quietly]

Rachel: Is what they would say in the commercial.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah-yeah.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Uh, and then they would be like, chatting online later and they'd be like, "Hey man, send—send me Newts."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "Please send Newts." Anyway, whatever you call 'em, Fig Newtons, Newtons, Newts, whatever, they own bones. These are good cookies.

Rachel: They are very good cookies!

Griffin: What's your second thing?

Rachel: [pauses]

My second thing is a trip to The Poetry Corner!

Griffin: All right!

Rachel: [imitating a jazzy bassline]

Griffin: [singing] "All that she wants..."

Rachel: [laughs] Was that what I was singing?

Griffin: No, but... I tried to think of lyrics.

Rachel: Uh-huh?

Griffin: And you know what freakin' happened? That all I could think about was

the Ace of Bass song—

Rachel: Ace of Bass.

Griffin: —All That She Wants is Another Baby.

Rachel: You could change it to another poem?

Griffin: You're right, let me do that again.

Rachel: Okay. All right. [imitating jazzy bassline]

Griffin: [singing] "All that she wants is an—" [normally] Did you wanna get more

bass in there?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: 'Cause you did like, one note, and I didn't know if you wanted to do it

under my...

Rachel: Uh—no, I'm gonna let you solo this one.

Griffin: Okay. [singing] "All that she wants is another baby—" Dang it! I just—

Rachel: Nope! [laughs]

Griffin: I—the original song's so good!

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, the poet I am bringing to the corner today—

Griffin: [sing-song] Ooh, I hope it's someone I know!

Rachel: [sing-song] You will not!

Griffin: [laughs]

Rachel: [laughs] It's Naomi Shihab Nai.

Griffin: I don't know.

Rachel: Yeah. Born in 1952. Uh, her father is Palestinian. Her mom is American.

She grew up in St. Louis.

Griffin: All right!

Rachel: Uh, and then moved to Jerusalem. Uh, when she was 15 years old, I believe. Uh, and she eventually came back to the States and now lives in San Antonio. She moved to San Antonio, uh, to go to college. She went to Trinity University, and she is now a professor at Texas State.

Griffin: Okay, what's her thing? What's her deal?

Rachel: What's her thing? Well, so, she has written 18 novels, short stories, and poetry books. Uh, she's worked as an editor, an anthologist, a songwriter, and she also spent 15 years traveling across Texas as a visiting writer with the Texas Commission on the Arts—

Griffin: Hell yeah.

Rachel: —in Inner City Schools or Rural Communities. Um, she is like many of my favorite poets, in that she writes very much about the everyday.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Um, her poetry is very accessible, and she's totally fine with that. There's like, no part of her that, you know, feels like, sheepish about that. Um, she started trying to publish her work at age 7.

Griffin: Awesome.

Rachel: I watched this interview with her in 2012 where she talked about how, um... Like, she had a librarian at her local library that kind of helped walk her through the process of sending out work to be published and like, told her all about like, the self-addressed stamped envelope, and so her mom had no idea and started getting these letters in the mail—

Griffin: [laughs quietly]

Rachel: —with her handwriting, written to herself. She like, thought her child was insane.

Griffin: Oh my God.

Rachel: [laughs] Um, but apparently she started publishing when she was kid. Like, she just has always been very dedicated to poetry. And she—you know, she writes a lot about her experience, you know, being Palestinian and being in Jerusalem as a young person, but, uh, she also writes about stuff that, you know, anybody could experience. And so, I wanted to read a little bit from her poem that's called Famous.

Griffin: Let 'er rip.

Rachel: "The river is famous to the fish.

The loud voice is famous to silence, which knew it would inherit the earth before anybody said so.

The cat sleeping on the fence is famous to the birds, watching him from the birdhouse.

The tear is famous, briefly, to the cheek.

The idea you carry close to your bosom is famous to your bosom.

The boot is famous to the earth, more famous than the dress shoe, which is famous only to floors.

The bent photograph is famous to the one who carries it, and not at all famous to the one who is pictured.

I want to be famous to shuffling men who smile while crossing streets, sticky children in grocery lines, famous as the one who smiled back.

I want to be famous in the way a pulley is famous or a buttonhole, not because it did anything spectacular, but because it never forgot what it could do."

Griffin: That's really good!

Rachel: Isn't that nice? It's like—she's written a lot of stuff for young adults, uh, and received a lot of recognition for it, and I just... I feel like there's something very, uh, global about her poetry, but like, so minute, too. And she said she wrote that so when she was going into schools, and she'd like, be a visiting artist. The kids would be like, "Miss, are you famous?" Uh—

Griffin: [laughs]

Rachel: [laughs] And she realized, they would pay more attention to her if she said "Yes."

Griffin: "Yes, I am. Extremely famous."

Rachel: And so she—she just used this poem as a way of saying that, you know, whatever your eye falls on is famous to you, and to kind of get you to pay more attention in your real world. Uh, and I—I pulled that from a 2012 interview she did.

But I—she's just a big advocate for poetry being accessible. Uh, she said that everybody's kind of born with that poetic spirit, and it's only as you get older that a lot of people lose it. She quoted some famous poet, and now I don't remember who it was, because I had never heard of him.

But people always ask the question of like, "When did you start writing poetry?" And she said, you know, to paraphrase this man. He responded, "When did you stop?"

Griffin: Mmm, yeah.

Rachel: You know? Because that—in some ways, that's the more appropriate question. Everybody kind of grows up with this curiosity and this playfulness with language and this way of looking at the world that's very creative, and then at then at some point they just kind of pull back from it, and she makes the point that like, poets just stay—stay tapped into that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: So, uh—yeah. So, I wanted to share her. She's really well published, but not especially well-known.

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, you would think, law of large numbers, as many books as she's put out I—yeah. Uh, cool. Thank you.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Thank you for shar—I always feel weird thanking you at the end of—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —it's the only bit that I thank you for, you know what I mean? Like, when you—

Rachel: Yeah, you didn't thank me for Buc-ee's, although your spirit did thank me, I think.

Griffin: I'm—I have a grateful spirit for... I guess Buc-ee's existence.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Uh, hey, can I tell you what our friends at home are excited about?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Uh, Jim says, "My small wonder is the sound of high heels on a hard floor. I usually wear sneakers to work, but whenever I do wear heels, that click clack sound never fails to make me feel like a boss."

Uh, I like—I have a pair of dress shoes I never wear, because why do I need them, that I did wear [snobby voice] out to the theatre. [normally] And, uh—

Rachel: Oh yeah!

Griffin: That sound—

Rachel: That should have been our small wonder this week! I guess it was kind of too big to be a small wonder.

Griffin: Yeah, it was a pretty big wonder.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh—

Rachel: We got—we got to go see Hamilton.

Griffin: We got to see Hamilton, yeah.

Rachel: With—

Griffin: Lin took us out to dinner.

Rachel: With Lin.

Griffin: He took us to the show. It was real nice.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, thank you, Lin. It was very sweet. Uh, he told us he falls asleep to the show, which I think now we have subliminal control—

Rachel: Oh...

Griffin: —over his mind.

Rachel: [whispering] Hey, hey, hey!

Griffin: [whispering] Lin!

Rachel: [whispering] Why don't you go write a play about—about Alf? [whispering close to the microphone] Why don't you do the Alf play?

Griffin: [whispering close to the microphone] It's time for you to write the Alf play, Lin.

Rachel: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: [whispering close to the microphone] When you wake up... you're gonna put pen to paper on the Alf play.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Here's one...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: ...from Channing, who says, "I love when there's a big gentle dip in the road so that when you're driving at a normal speed over it, you get a tiny roller coaster ride in your car."

Yes.

Rachel: Yes! Oh, gosh.

Griffin: Route 10, I believe it was, in Huntington, going out into Ohio. Justin and Sydnee used to have a house out there.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: It was like, their starter home in the area. And that road was so wild. It was really dangerous. It was a very dangerous route, uh, but it was hilly and curvy and just like, every time you drove down it, it felt like you were... I don't know. Like, in a video game set in San Francisco.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Just like, going over the hills and soaring for 10 seconds. Uh, and one more. This is more of an update than a submission, uh, and the update says, "It was Dave and Busters. Only three people saw, though, so we're good."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "Sincerely, OI' Nipslip Kelly."

Rachel: [laughs breathlessly] Oh, thank you, Kelly.

Griffin: So... dope. Thank you, Kelly. You're—

Rachel: Thank you for that update.

Griffin: You're my hero.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, and thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song Money Won't Pay. You can find a link to that in the episode description. Uh, we have a bunch of stuff at mcelroy.family, other shows, other videos.

Uh, tickets to shows. We just announced a new TAZ show in San Diego during Comic Con, and one in D.C., I believe? Yes. Uh, before our like, Northeast tour. Uh, so yeah, come—come out and see us.

Rachel and I are also gonna be guests on Jordan, Jesse, Go! Uh, here in Austin on what, the 29th of June?

Rachel: I believe so, yeah.

Griffin: It's somewhere around there. You can also find details for that, uh, on our website, and at maximumfun.org, which has great shows like...

Rachel: Great shows like Can I Pet Your Dog?

Griffin: Yeah, and Stop Podcasting Yourself.

Rachel: And Greatest Generation.

Griffin: And Story Break.

Rachel: Bubble.

Griffin: And so many more, all at maximumfun.org. And... What el—I mean,

what else?

[theme music begins playing in the background]

[popping noises? Imitating horse trotting?]

[horse whinnying distantly]

Griffin: [abruptly] Bye! [laughs]

Rachel: [laughs]

[theme music plays]

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[dramatic music plays]

Justin: We're the hosts of My Brother, My Brother, and Me, and now, nearly 10 years into our podcast, the secret can be revealed. All the clues are in place, and the world's greatest treasure hunt can now begin.

Griffin: Embedded in each episode of My Brother, My Brother, and Me is a microclue that will lead you to 14 precious gemstones, all around this big, beautiful, blue world of ours.

Travis: So start combing through the episodes. Uh, let's say, starting at episode 101 on.

Griffin: Yeah, the early episodes are pretty problematic, so there's no clues [laughing] in those episodes.

Travis: No. No, not at all.

Griffin: The better ones, the good ones? Clues, ahoy.

Justin: Listen to every episode repeatedly in sequence. Laugh if you must, but mainly get all the great clues. My Brother, My Brother, and Me. It's an advice show, kind of, but a treasure hunt, mainly. Anywhere you find podcasts or treasure maps, My Brother, My Brother and Me. The hunt is on!