

Wonderful! 99: Where Does the Stink Go?

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: [laughs] Hi, this is Rachel McElroy!

Griffin: Hey, this is Griffin McElroy!

Rachel: And this is Wonderful!

Griffin: You got something you wanna share with the class? You got something you wanna share with the class, Mrs. McElroy?

Rachel: You were gesturing at me as a conductor.

Griffin: Oh, is that what it was?

Rachel: To indicate when I should begin, but each gesture looked like it was going to lead to another gesture.

Griffin: You know, I wasn't—

Rachel: So I didn't know when to start.

Griffin: I wasn't thinking about it like a conductor, I was thinking about it like I was pulling the... spirit of the show we do, Wonderful, about the good shit, from the ether of the air surrounding us.

Rachel: Hmm. Sorry we missed last week, y'all.

Griffin: Sorry we missed last week. I was sick. Why did I say that? That's a lie!

Rachel: That's not true at all!

Griffin: I'm, like, so quick to lie about being sick so that I don't have to go to school, and it's a old habit, and I don't—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —I don't need to do it for Wonderful.

Rachel: [laughs] We were on vacation!

Griffin: We were at Disney World.

Rachel: [laughs] The opposite!

Griffin: I was sick of work. I was sick of y'all, and so I had to go Dis with my bud, Rachel, and my other bud, who is our son, Henry. And lots of other family buds—

Rachel: And all of your family, yeah.

Griffin: Just the entire squad went to Disney World.

Rachel: Yeah, just every bud.

Griffin: Lotta fun! Little worried about Hurricane Dorian, which, of course, was a fuckin' monstrosity, just not for Florida, necessarily, although we did have to cancel our Orlando show, which was a bummer. But otherwise, fun Disney trip! Did Star Wars, Star Wars did up, had that blue milk. It's *horrible*.

Rachel: You know, since we didn't do the Orlando show, we can make up all sorts of myths about what it was gonna be like.

Griffin: It was gonna be... wet and wild—

Rachel: So I was gonna come out on stage.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And I was going to... twirl a baton.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: That had fire on both ends.

Griffin: Yeah, and then you were gonna start the foam party, and then we would lose our deposit.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm not sure how it works. We don't book the shows. Anyway, do you have any small wonders?

Rachel: I do!

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Small wonders: vacation photos.

Griffin: They're good.

Rachel: I love it, because it's the one time you really prioritize taking photos of yourself and your family—

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Uh, and then the photos are so good, because you're all so happy to be on vacation together.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: And they're always in, like, fun places, and just lookin' at 'em... I don't know. Now I'm trying to decide how many of them I wanna print out and frame, because it seems like the majority. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, I feel like I wasn't really exposed to this until, like, our honeymoon, when we started to travel internationally, by which I mean we did it twice and then we had a baby, so that stopped happening. Uh, but it was—I was such a shutterbug, wasn't I?

Rachel: Yeah, we used to make little photo books.

Griffin: Aw, that was the jam.

Rachel: Uh, and then... and yeah, it's just the pictures are so good!

Griffin: Dis took some good ones too, tried to get us to buy 'em. There's one of Henry gettin' a kiss from Minnie Mouse that I'm quite a fan of.

Rachel: Yeah, you should get it. It's really good.

Griffin: Anyway, yeah, I wanna talk about my small wonder, Raisinets.

Rachel: Ohh!

Griffin: I was gonna do a big wonder on these, 'cause I wanted to know—we bought some as a potty training treat—

Rachel: But then you found out it was just... raisins.

Griffin: *Literally* just raisins dipped in chocolate.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I was like, "I wanna know the history of Raisinets," and I, like, googled, and I got on, you know, NexisLexis, and I found some peer reviewed research that was like, "They're raisins dipped in chocolate, dude. Like... you really want an oral history—somebody took a raisin and dipped it in some chocolate and was like, 'Mmm, that's ballin'!' And it could've happened anywhere, at any point in time, anywhere on the globe. We can't say who the first person was. It's such an obvious slam dunk."

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: But they're so good.

Rachel: They're very good.

Griffin: I'm not, like, a big chocolate candy fan in general, but, like, the texture is nice. You get that little bit of—that bit of fruity sweetness in the middle—

Rachel: You're not really a big raisin fan, either, if I remember correctly.

Griffin: Um, I—

Rachel: You like them in other things.

Griffin: I like them in other things—

Rachel: But you wouldn't eat 'em by themselves, would you?

Griffin: No, and I used to. I used to fuck up a box of Sun-Maid. Um—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But I love 'em, man. They're just nature's candy, that we made even better. We came in to nature and we fixed it.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Like we do... [through laughter] with everything.

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: All the time. Meddling, dipping it in chocolate.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Speaking of dipping it in chocolate, I go first this week, and my first thing is—and we've talked about it tangentially in small wonders from time to time, but it's time for us to put The Great British Bake Off on the table, and really, really show—

Rachel: Ohh, we've never really, like, made it a whole topic?

Griffin: We did a small wonder about, "Hey, there's new episodes," right?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: But I think we need to, like—I think we need to—

Rachel: Okay! I'm ready.

Griffin: It—[breathes heavily] it's just—it's so good. It's—damn. It satisfies... every time.

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: It's so good. And, like, we can talk about—Rachel and I love reality television, obvs, and we love reality competition shows, and, you know, that's all my jam, and it's a good one of those, but... like, there's stuff that this show does that is kind of more intangible than that, and nobody does it. Either as good as they do, or even, like, attempts to do it like they do it, and, like, that's the stuff that—

Rachel: That's true. I don't know who was involved with casting both the host and the judges and the contestants, but just, A+ all around.

Griffin: A+, well done, um... like, okay. Broad strokes. The obvious stuff, like, the idea of a baking competition show seems kind of counter-intuitive, because baking is... just a tremendously boring process.

Rachel: And usually takes, like, several hours.

Griffin: It takes forever, and it's not an obvious—like, it's not a great fit, but, like, these people are really good at it, most of the time, and it's a great skill, like, showcase, and that's awesome, and a design and art showcase, and that's awesome. And then, you know, you also get that, like, food porn itch scratched, which there really needs to be a better name for that. There *really* needs to be a better name for that phenomenon.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, and you know, the hosts—the hosts have always been great. I've always thought that the hosts, both the judges and the hosts of the show have been, like, fantastic. But in my opinion—

Rachel: Uh-oh.

Griffin: There's new episodes going up on Netflix right now. In my opinion, it's the best it's ever been right now.

Rachel: Whoaaa!

Griffin: It's the best it's ever been right now, and this—

Rachel: Now, we haven't watched all the episodes of this season. Maybe it takes a turn.

Griffin: Maybe it takes a turn, but I doubt it. Uh, I mean, I love Mary Berry, I love the other two hosts, but, uh, you got—you got Prue and Paul. Their chemistry is just off the fucking charts.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: They're both very, like—it's a funnier show now.

Rachel: No, it's true.

Griffin: And, uh, the new hosts, Noel and Sandy—Noel I knew before from Mighty Boosh and some other stuff. They're fuckin' hysterical! Like—

Rachel: So charming.

Griffin: —it's not even just that they're charming! Like, there are bits that they do that are fuckin', like, gut-bustingly, like, very, very funny.

Rachel: No, I think it used to be that, like, the people in their roles before...

Griffin: I wish I could remember their names. Sue—

Rachel: [simultaneously] Sue.

Griffin: And...

Rachel: And the other one.

Griffin: Aw, shoot. I feel bad. They were our buddies for so long, I feel bad.

Rachel: Yeah. They, like—they saw their roles as, like, nurturers and comic relief, but in a very host-y way.

Griffin: Host-y, like—

Rachel: In a very, like, staged, host-y way.

Griffin: And they were fantastic.

Rachel: Yes, yes.

Griffin: They were fantastic, and also very, very, funny in their own rights, but it was, I don't know, a dryer..

Rachel: But now—now it's like—it's more like a place for weirdos.

Griffin: It's unrestrained in a way that I am a big fan of. Also, like, I feel like now the challenges are getting a little bit wilder.. it's like, "Build a f—a, you know, a functioning... vending machine, out of b—bread, idiot." Like—

Rachel: Yeah, it used to be like, "Alright, everybody's making pineapple upside down cakes." And then they would do it again the next season, and then they would do it the season after that. Now it's like—it's always changing, all the time!

Griffin: Yeah. They would be like, "Make some weird, uh, ancient Italian wedding bread cake that we—"

Rachel: The episode we just watched was "Make a birthday cake for you in your childhood." [laughs]

Griffin: So wild, and so good, and so fun. It's just a more fun show, and it's, like, the best it's ever been. And, like, the format is also great. You get the signature bake up front to, like set the theme, and then you get the technical challenge, which is a fuckin' horror movie, because you know how it's supposed to be done, and then you watch these, like, complete goobers just fuck it up so royally. It's like—

And watching somebody, like, "I'm gonna do an egg wash on this." And it's like, "[urgently] No, don't do an egg wash!"

Rachel: Well, and what's—[laughs] what's great about it, too, is that they will name some very obscure, ancient, you know, dessert dish. And you are waiting for them to go to that table—

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: —with the judges, so you can see what it's supposed to look like, because you don't know either. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah. Last episode we watched they did a thing called a fig roll, which is basically, like, a chonky fig newton? Hello, nurse!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Lemme at one of them bad boys! Don't even cut 'em up, lemme get one big, fat, fig tube, baby!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: So, like, all that stuff's great, and the format—it's a great reality competition show. But for me, like, the reason that I got so excited when I saw that there were new episodes goin' up weekly on the Flix, is, like, the same reason I get excited for Terrace House. And that is that this show has its aesthetic, like, *on lock*. It is so, like—it is a tender and polite show, and I don't just mean that in, like, a—like, everybody is very polite to each other. Like, the show itself and the way that it is presented and paced—

Rachel: Yeah. I will say even more than Terrace House, 'cause Terrace House throws you some curve balls sometimes, with—

Griffin: Especially the season we're watching now.

Rachel: —with the intense drama.

Griffin: Yeah. [sighs]

Rachel: But Baking Show is always soothing. It's—

Griffin: It's always... [whispering] sssso soothing.

Rachel: —it is a nice way to end the day.

Griffin: It's an audiovisual nap. Like, the cinematography is very soft, and the music, and the silence, sometimes! It's like—

Rachel: It's like our Planet Earth, you know?

Griffin: It's like our Planet Earth.

Rachel: You know how some people sit down and watch Planet Earth and just get totally engrossed?

Griffin: Uh-huh?

Rachel: I feel like that doesn't work for me, but Baking Show does.

Griffin: Baking Show does.

Rachel: I get whisked away.

Griffin: Uh, it's just so nice. The people are nice, the show itself is nice... I get emotional watching this show—

Rachel: Yes!

Griffin: —more than I do watching any other reality show! Like, I give a shit about the people performing on it. Like, from episode one. The guy who got sent home episode one I was like, "Aw, man!"

Rachel: I know! Everybody's standing around huggin' him, and they're like, all very genuinely invested in this guy, and it's week one!

Griffin: It's been week one! It's been a day. It's been 24 hours since we watched that episode and I can remember that guy's name, which is like—that doesn't *happen* on reality shows for me.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, it's just such a great, nice, just Good show. Uh, Good, capital G Good show, and it's nice and long, so you can just sink into it and just bathe in it. Ugh! Great British Bake Off. So good. And I will only use the proper British name for it. Get that Great British Baking Show—get that outta here! [through laughter] I'm authentic!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I remember this show when it was on the streets. The streets of... London. Oi!

Rachel: We used to have to walk behind a dumpster to get your episodes, and you had to knock on the door five times, and you had to say... "Sword... singer." And then they'd open the door, and that's how you got your episode.

Griffin: "[bad Cockney accent] And who's that at the door? It's Hugh Grant! He gives you some... GBBO, on the cassette tape!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "[bad Cockney accent] And then I catch a tube, with my friend, GBBO."

Rachel: [laughs quietly] It's beautiful.

Griffin: Thanks, what's your first thing? By the way, Rachel, you're flying without a net, and this is fun. This is fun for... all of us.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Tell everybody—I fell like you should tell everybody—I feel like we need to be transparent about our process.

Rachel: Well, so we've talked about this before, I think, but, uh, typically what I do is, while I am at the office... uh, during a sanctioned break—[laughs quietly]—

Griffin: [through laughter] No.

Rachel: —I type up my notes—

Griffin: *You* sanction it. [laughs] Whenever, how long.

Rachel: [laughs] I type up my notes for the episode, and I print them off on one piece of paper, and then I fold up that piece of paper, put it in my purse, come home, whip it out, time to record.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Forgot to print out—

Griffin: And then you get the piece of paper out—

Rachel: Forgot to print out my piece of paper. Luckily, I remembered by sources.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: So I just pulled them up in little windows on my phone.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: So, I—I mean, I can—

Griffin: You're like Tarzan—

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: —swinging from website vine to website vine.

Rachel: [through laughter] Mm-hmm? Yeah.

Griffin: I can't wait to see this act of—of trapezery.

Rachel: Exactly. Okay, so, my first thing is very related to our past week, and it is the kids' meal.

Griffin: The kids'—the kid's meal—

Rachel: The kids' meal.

Griffin: —in general.

Rachel: The concept of the kids' meal.

Griffin: [through laughter] The kids' meal. The meal—[wheezy laughter]

Rachel: I'm not speaking about the specific food associated with the kids' meal. I'm talking about the concept of a kids' meal.

Griffin: At, like, a restaurant. No, you're talking—

Rachel: Yes!

Griffin: —you—you are—

Rachel: Yes, at a restaurant!

Griffin: —okay. [breathlessly] Okay. I thought you were t—you have to understand, me, as the hearer of that sentence, you saying "I want to talk about the kids' meal. The me—the meal for childrens. Anytime a child eats, I—"

Rachel: No, no!

Griffin: Rachel, I love that shit.

Rachel: No, when I say "kids' meal," like, you know what I'm talking about, right? It's like—

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: —it's like a smaller portion meal, with foods that are more likely to be appealing for kids, and sometimes there's a toy.

Griffin: Yes, okay.

Rachel: I, uh—I really came to appreciate this now that we have a kid. I mean, when I was in my 20s, it was kind of like a way to get a smaller portion from a fast food restaurant.

Griffin: Yeah. And a co—badass toy.

Rachel: [laughs] And a toy.

Griffin: Fuck yeah.

Rachel: Uh, now I see it as a way to, typically, spend the right amount of money on something that your kid is only gonna half finish anyway.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: Yeah. So the kids' meal actually existed before fast food, which shouldn't be too surprising.

Griffin: Of course.

Rachel: But the thing I found interesting when i was doing research is that—so, they didn't come out until the 1900s, because typically when people were sitting down to eat, it was just men, and it was taverns. Like, women weren't even invited. And then—

Griffin: Well, that sucks.

Rachel: —as more time passed and women started being more present in restaurants, that meant the kids often were coming with them.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: And so one of the first places to do a kids' menu was actually Marshall Field's in Chicago. As early as 1916, they advertised their children's menu in local newspapers. So, this is, like, restaurants in department stores.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Rachel: So, the idea was that people were going shopping and then they would stop at the little restaurant in the department store, and they would have kids' meals available.

Griffin: That feels very progressive. That feels like you jumped, like, 10 steps to get to food court, you know what I mean?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, it feels like you ski—you evolved very quickly and landed on "food court."

Rachel: Well, if you think about it, department stores—I mean, it used to be, like, a whole event. You know, the way we go to theme parks now, I feel like people would go to department stores and it'd be, like, a whole day affair, and so they had to feed 'em.

Griffin: Yeah, and then you wouldn't, you know, be exposed to the plague or whatever. You'd be safe there.

Rachel: [through laughter] You'd be safe.

Griffin: You'd be safe there.

Rachel: Also, train cars had kids' menus.

Griffin: Okay. Oh, right, yeah. I mean—

Rachel: Which also makes sense.

Griffin: —you're in a train.

Rachel: And people finally realized, like, "Oh!" And part of that is because, before the 1900s, people didn't really realize that children had different dietary needs.

Griffin: [laughs] Bad.

Rachel: Which I thought was interesting.

Griffin: [through laughter] That's just bad parenting.

Rachel: Yeah. So, um... yeah, scientific studies showed that children and their growing bodies had unique needs, and so instead of, you know, just serving your kid the same thing you were eating—

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: —they would actually, you know, set aside different foods for kids. At the time it was, of course, very, like, bland food. Not like hamburgers and fries, like it is now.

Griffin: Yeah. God, we're crushing it, aren't we?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Look at all the food we have. It's badass. Hamburgers? French fries? [holding back laughter] The works, baby.

Rachel: So, I wanted to talk about, too, this idea of the kids' meal at a fast food restaurant.

Griffin: Yes, of course.

Rachel: Again, saying, like—by no way endorsing the quality or nutritional value of this food.

Griffin: I will. [pauses] Fuck yeah, I'll die on this hill.

Rachel: Okay, alright, here we go.

Griffin: Yum yum, gimme some!

Rachel: Mm-hmm?

Griffin: Whatever, dude!

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Whichever.

Rachel: Eat it every day!

Griffin: Every day I would.

Rachel: Every meal.

Griffin: Every meal I would.

Rachel: Uh, so the interesting thing—everybody thinks, you know, McDonald's was the first one. Started in 1979 with the Happy Meal.

Griffin: I don't think that.

Rachel: Oh, okay. Who do you think started the idea of a kids' menu at a fast food restaurant.

Griffin: [laughs nervously] Ummm... Hardee's.

Rachel: Actually, Burger Chef.

Griffin: That's not a restaurant!

Rachel: Yeah, so this is a thing. First kids' meal was the Fun Meal at Burger Chef in 1973.

Griffin: [snorts] Cool name.

Rachel: So, Burger Chef, back in the day, back in the, like, 60s and 70s, was, like, McDonald's number one competitor.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: So that's why when Burger Chef did it, McDonald's jumped on the boat and did it too.

Griffin: Nice.

Rachel: Um... and so when McDonald's started it, though, that was when you started to see this idea of not just, like, kid sized portions, but also the toy. Which, starting out, was just, like, a stencil, or a wristlet. [laughs]

Griffin: [mockingly] Whoa, Ronald, you shouldn't have! A stencil, my man?

"[clown voice] Draw this dinosaur!"

Thanks, bud.

Rachel: And then it wasn't really as much of a phenomenon—I mean, obviously, like, when Disney movies started becoming a thing they started doing the merchandise, but what really blew up the toy... 90s Beanie Babies.

Griffin: Yes, baby! Ohh, you know I had some of them.

Rachel: Mm-hmm. Yeah. Uh, now... not as valuable, or—

Griffin: Not as big a deal.

Rachel: —[through laughter] in demand as everyone—

Griffin: Weird how that happened.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: What's the best Happy Meal toy you ever got? 'Cause you gotta have one.

Rachel: Oh my gosh.

Griffin: You gotta have one.

Rachel: They had this thing for a while... and I don't know why I loved it so much, but it's what came to mind when you asked that... were little McDonald's food items that were transformers? So, like, a little container of fries—

Griffin: [emphatically] Yes! Yes!

Rachel: —and it would turn into little arms and feet—

Griffin: Oh my God!

Rachel: —when you fold it out?

Griffin: That must've been, like, a perennial—like, they must've used that one a long time for a while, because I definitely had *all* them bad boys.

Rachel: Yeah, I don't know why. It wasn't, like, a particularly great toy, but when you said that, that's immediately what I remembered. [laughs]

Griffin: I am a fan of the Pokeballs that had, like, the gold cards in them? I liked that a lot. The number one, though, was that—around the time that the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers movie came out, they had the little, like, Morphin things that they held, and it would, like, snap open, and it would have a little medallion, and the medallion would, like, represent one of the different dinosaurs or whatever?

Rachel: Wow.

Griffin: It was so badass. It, like, gave you a prop to make-believe pretend Power Rangers with!

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It was *so* good.

Rachel: No, and that's the thing. I think Happy Meal toys used to be pretty generic, but as soon as those Star Wars movies started coming out, all of a sudden it was like, "Oh!"

Griffin: "Oh. Ohh, now I get it."

Rachel: "Ohh, this is—yeah, we should do this." [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: So yeah! So that's, uh, that's the kids' meal.

Griffin: The kids' meal.

Rachel: I think it's a great idea. Obviously it's been problematic—well, I read about a lot of restaurants that have stopped doing the kids' meal, like Taco Bell I guess used to have a kids' meal, and said "This is not—this does not make sense for us. This is not our audience."

Griffin: Yeah...

Rachel: You know how Taco Bell started leaning in to the, like, "Hey, you're a college kid and it's 3 AM and we're your only option?" [laughs]

Griffin: "I—you're fucked up, I'm fucked up, get in here, baby!" They are—there is a culling of the Taco Bell menu that is coming out. I was just lamenting this to Rachel. They *are* getting rid of the Doritos Locos taco.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And I don't eat fast food fucking ever now, but I like knowing that the Doritos Locos taco is there for me when I fall from grace.

Rachel: I suggested to Griffin that he go and just stockpile. Just order just the shells.

Griffin: [blows a raspberry] Just the shells?

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: I don't know that they're gonna keep.

Rachel: You'll have 75 shells. I mean... they will keep. Right? [laughs]

Griffin: They'll probably keep. Probably all that'll keep for some time.

Rachel: You could put 'em in the trunk of your car and they'd be fine.

Griffin: [laughs] Leave it out in the—the parking lot at the airport for three years.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [inhales] Oh, boy. It's not great for you, though, this food. Can I steal you away?

Rachel: Yes.

[Home Improvement theme, with every other beat removed, I think?]

Griffin: Alright, we got some sponsors for ya. We're gonna get through 'em quick. We got some bonus ones, 'cause we skipped last week.

The first one is Third Love. Rachel, take it away!

Rachel: Hey, can I tell you about Third Love, though?

Griffin: N—yas.

Rachel: So, you could do this as well, but there is a quiz available on the website. It takes about 60 seconds. You can find your perfect fit, and perfect fit is easy because they come in over 70 sizes.

Griffin: Holy shit.

Rachel: That's a lotta sizes. Uh, if you are interested in purchasing at Third Love, which I would recommend, because they're still my favorite bras, even after all this time...

Griffin: Even after all these years...

Rachel: [holding back laughter] Even after all these years together. [laughs]

Griffin: Listen. And sometimes? You fight. But you know how to fight, and that's what's important.

Rachel: Uh-huh. That's what different about these bras, as compared to other bras in the past.

Griffin: Yeah! Sometimes you gotta let 'em go, and if they come back, it's love. And you know what? They always come back.

Rachel: They do.

Griffin: Third Love bras. They're like the mask from The Mask. You throw 'em out the window of your apartment, they come right zooming back in.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Snap right onto your body.

Rachel: Go to Thirdlove.com/wonderful now to get your perfect fitting bra, and get 15% off your first purchase. That's Thirdlove.com/wonderful for 15% off today.

Griffin: You can't throw away these cursed bras. They always...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: ... always come back.

ZipRecruiter: it's time. Hiring can be rough. Hiring can be rough on all of us, especially Dillon Miskiewicz, who is a person who runs a place called Cafe Altura. They're the COO. They needed to hire a director of coffee.

This is a little short story that ZipRecruiter has provided. I'm gonna punch it up a little bit.

So, Dillon went to ZipRecruiter, posted his job, and found the best person for the role in just a few days. Then, the mercenaries... came for Dillon.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And—and his family. And everybody thought, "Uh-oh, Dillon's boned, now." But who's that come smashin' through the window? Well, that's John Wick, who is the one—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —that Dillon found, and John Wick said, "[bad Keanu Reeves impression] Um... [stammers] m—uh, I got a few, uh, bullet-ins... I got a few—I got a bullet point memo for you i—for you ding dongs."

And he shot all the bad guys.

Rachel: Wh—what does—how does this relate to Dillon?

Griffin: Right now, ZipRecruiter—

Rachel: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: —you can try it for free at our web address: [ZipRecruiter.com/wonderful](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/wonderful). That's [ZipRecruiter.com/wonderful](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/wonderful). ZipRecruiter: the smartest way to hire. They use matching technology. [wheeze-laughs]

Rachel: Can I tell you about another sponsor?

Griffin: Yeah, this one's cool!

Rachel: This one's super cool. It's Marvel Hero Tales, and it's a brand new way to experience Marvel stories while teaching children language skills. Jump into adventures as Iron Man, Spider-Man, Ms. Marvel, and even more heroes as they battle baddies, save civilians, and tackle trouble.

As kids progress through the story, they'll be co-writing their adventure by choosing what words to use and how to build their sentences, making a personalized Marvel comic book tale.

Marvel Hero Tales was designed by children's language experts, and is built from the ground up to engage kids in language education. Download today on Google Play or the app store.

Griffin: I believe I will, because we've got a flight coming up!

Rachel: Yes, and our child... loves—

Griffin: Likes them superheroes.

Rachel: Loves the superheroes.

Griffin: Loves Pider-Man. Loves the sticky web.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Loves it when Pider-Man does the sticky web.

Rachel: Loves Woman, which is what he calls Wonder Woman.

Griffin: Wonder Woman, yes. Uh, he is not a raging sexist. He is... two years old.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, got a message here for "Melissa!", and it's from "Melissa!" who says:

"Hey, Melissa! It's you. You've had a pretty rough time lately, but at least you're pretty and funny. Hopefully you didn't fall asleep before the Jumbotron as you often do, lol."

[intensely] Please don't do that. Please don't do that.

Rachel: You know—

Griffin: The sponsors find out and we don't get paid.

Rachel: You know how you could wake her up is you could do your rendition of Sweet Melissa?

Griffin: [wavery singing] Sweet Melissa-a-a-a...

Rachel: [whispering] Oh, God. I can't get enough of that.

Griffin: I know.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "Remember to be proud of yourself. Remember that you and your friends love each other very much, and remember to ask Patrick if he wants a bead animal. Owl City rules. Later skater."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I can't believe you made me say all that stuff.

Rachel: Actually, there are a lot of Rs in skater, and I feel like you didn't really pronounce it.

Griffin: No, I just—I bounced right over it.

Rachel: Can I read you the next personal message?

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: It is for Bear. It is from Pancake. You think that's Jar-Bear [Jar rhyming with Bear] or Jar-Bear [Jar pronounced like "jar"]?

Griffin: It's tough to say, but just say it.

Rachel: [laughs] "Jar-Bear [Jar pronounced like "jar"]! I hope I have told you lately how much I appreciate all that you do for Maybe and I. Thanks for being my person, hating all the same things, and helping me find the brightness in life. Remember, you deserve nice things, and self-compassion isn't selfish. Let's make the good vegan mac and cheese soon. It's been a while. Love, Pancake."

Griffin: Now, that's in quotes, which makes me wonder if it was supposed to be delivered in a very specific way.

Rachel: "It's been a while!"

Griffin: Or, "[Stained impression] It's been awhile, since I've been—still remember just the way you taste."

That's a gross song, huh?

Rachel: I thought it was "kiss." I thought it was "Still remember just the way you kiss."

Griffin: Oh, I thought it was "taste."

Rachel: I mean, both are kind of gross, I guess.

Griffin: Taste is definitely grosser.

Rachel: [laughs]

[wolf howling sound effect and creepy Halloween music play]

April: Hello there ghouls and gals! It is I: April Wolfe. I'm here to take you through the twisty, sca-a-ary, heart-pounding world of genre cinema, on the exhilarating program known as... [echoing] Switchblade Sisters.

The concept is simple: I invite a female filmmaker on each week, and we discuss their favorite genre film. Listen in closely to hear past guests like the Babadook director, Jennifer Kent, Winter's Bone director, Debra Granik, and so many others, every Thursday on Maximumfun.org.

Tune in, if you dare... Mwa-ha-ha-ha—

[music sound effects suddenly cut off]

It's actually a very thought provoking show that deeply explores the craft and philosophy behind the film-making process, while also examining film through the lens of the female gaze, so, like, you should listen in.

[echoing] Switchblade Sisters...

Griffin: Can I tell you about my second thing?

Rachel: Yes, please!

Griffin: Okay. I was gonna talk about 4D, right? The 4D experience in theaters, because we just got back from Disney World, which, like, hits that shit hard. Obviously Hobbs and Shaw is very near and dear to my heart, and that was an experience I'll never forget. And it's such a, like... it's a weird thing for me to be into, 'cause it's such a pointless... endeavor? It is su—from a cinematic perspective, it is also, like, kind of a travesty, because it does nothing but detract from the movie that you are watching, I feel like.

I feel like it was tough to sometimes really hone in and get in the groove of Hobbs and Shaw, because I was being jostled so violently.

Rachel: [laughs] I mean, that's the thing. It's not like they do this in, like, The English Patient, or—or—

Griffin: Damn, that would be good though!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: What do you think that movie smells like? Probably not good!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: English Patient! Probably not the most pleasant aromas coming off that movie.

Rachel: I'm saying it's good for action movies, because you're going expecting, you know, a full body experience.

Griffin: To be—to be blasted, yeah. Um, so, anyway, I was gonna talk about 4D, but, like, that can be a complicated thing, because then you're talking about rides, you're talking about movies, there's a different context for it.

But anyway, while I was researching, I did a deep dive on Smell-O-Vision, so here we go.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That name—that name, like—it's used as a sort of broad... term, right? Like, Smell-O-Vision as the idea of having an extrasensory, not just audiovisual experience when you're watching a TV show or a movie, by getting, like, smells thrown at you, right? Like, it's a catchall term.

But, it was also, like, the patented name of a thing. Smell-hyphen-O-hyphen-Vision. Uh, and it was a short-lived, beautiful thing that I learned about today, and I want to share some of the great things that I learned.

So, uh, this idea of releasing scents in theaters was not, uh, you know, necessarily a modern idea. There is some sort—from, like, late 19th century, there's an example of some theater that was showing the Rose Bowl, like, an old, old Rose Bowl, and they piped in the scent of rose oil into the—

Rachel: Ohh!

Griffin: —into the theater, and then at actually, like, live theater productions, it was a thing to put perfume, like, spray perfume down from the ceiling at certain points in the show.

So, like, this idea kind of existed beforehand, and people were kind of dabbling in it. Walt Disney considered for Fantasia, actually, in 1940, but decided it would be kind of cost prohibitive, which was probably the right decision.

Smell-O-Vision was invented by a guy name Hans Laube, who demonstrated it at the 1939 World's Fair, at which point it was called Scent-O-Vision, and the idea is that it connected pipes to, you know, scent blasters, and the pipes would run into individual chairs, instead of just, like, pumping the room full of whatever stink you needed. That way you could have more control over when the smell started and stopped.

Rachel: Yeah, right, and they wouldn't, like, linger and mix.

Griffin: It wouldn't linger and mix. Psst! It still did. It was a bad invention.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, but, you know, you could have some control over it, so you could actually make it be part of the story, and, like, a projectionist would pull the trigger on these different stinks, and it would blast to all the different chairs.

And there were some interest at the time, but, like, none from film and TV studios to, like, actually make a movie that would utilize it, so he dropped it and moved. And then 15 years later, there was a producer named Mike Todd who was making *Around the World in Eighty Days*, a film adaptation of that, uh, and he was interested! He was like, "Oh, what if we put this Stink-O-Vision in it?"

But it never made it into that movie, but when he died, his son, who was also a film producer, his name was Mike Jr, signed up with Hans to create a movie that would use Smell-O-Vision, called: *Scent of Mystery*.

Rachel: Ooh!

Griffin: Yeah. The movie sounds fuckin' wild. It is a mystery flick about a mystery novelist who is on vacation in Spain, who is trying to thwart a plot to murder an heiress, who is played by [through laughter] an uncredited Elizabeth Taylor.

Rachel: [through laughter] Oh my gosh!

Griffin: Yeah, this movie has it all, folks! They recently remastered it. They, like, found it and restored it, I think back in 2015. I don't know if they kept the Smell-O-Vision component to it—

Rachel: I wonder if that's where she got the idea for *White Diamonds*.

Griffin: Interesting. Maybe. Maybe it was one of the multitude of scents.

Uh, the process of Smell-O-Vision changed a little bit. Where before it was like the projectionist would fire it off at certain points. Here is how it worked. Here is—I'm going to describe how a machine works, and maybe that's not the most interesting thing, but I found it interesting.

Instead of the scents being manually released, it used what he called a "smell brain—" [snort-laugh] Which is good! It used a "smell brain," which was a series of perfume containers linked in a belt, arranged in the order that they would be released. The belt was then wound around a motorized reel. As the film threaded through the movie projector, markers on it would cue the brain—

Rachel: Oh my gosh!

Griffin: —needles would pierce membranes on the containers, releasing the scents, which would then be blown by fans through the pipes to individual vents underneath the audience members' seats. The cost about fitting a theater to accommodate the system was anywhere from \$15,000 at Chicago's Cinestage Theater, to \$1 million elsewhere, which in today money is \$127,000 to about \$8 and a half million.

Rachel: Oh my gosh.

Griffin: For the Smell-O-Vision. Also, at that time, there was a full blown arms race with another company called AromaRama. AromaRama was trying to beat them to the punch. This movie came out in 1960. Scent of Mystery came out in 1960. In 1959, AromaRama got out there with their shit, which, like, blasted—was a more, uh, you know, scattershot approach that just filled the theater with different stinks. It was made by, like, a theater magnate called Walter Reed Jr, and it was—it was used—the film that used it was called Behind the Great Wall, and it was like a travelogue in China.

Uh, and he claimed that they could pump over 100 aromas into the theater in a showing, which sounds fucking horrible. I don't wanna smell 100 different smells within the span of a movie. Like—

Rachel: And I'm trying to think how they would even, like—

Griffin: Control—

Rachel: —in any given—well, no. In any given movie, how many times are there, really, to smell different things?

Griffin: A hundred different things.

Rachel: Like, I feel like, "Oh, they're at a restaurant and they're eating a pie, okay, I could smell that."

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: But then am I smelling when they get in a cab to go home, and then am I smelling when they... I don't know, get in the shower? Like, how many smells could you really find?

Griffin: Walter Reed Jr did an interview, uh, and I didn't get the quote, but he was, like, bragging about all the great stinks he had lined up for this movie. And he said stuff like, you know, different fruits and exotic foods, there would be the smell of fireworks going off at a certain sequence, and the smell of, quote, "A trapped tiger."

What's that smell like, Walt?!

Rachel: Whoaaa.

Griffin: Hey, Walt! What's that smell, dog?!

Rachel: Probably just kitty urine, right?

Griffin: Hey, Walt? Why's that smell different from a regular, un-trapped tiger, Walt? Hey, Walt! What do you know that I don't? What's in that basement, Walt? Is it a tiger, Walter?!

Rachel: That's a good point, too, because they have to make all these smells, right?

Griffin: Yes. They would have to generate all these smells. How do you extract the stink of a trapped tiger?

Rachel: Gosh.

Griffin: Gosh! Gosh. Anyway, the whole thing was a *shitshow*, the AromaRama, and that, like, actually built up a lot of bad press about Scent of Mystery before it came out, because it kind of, like, colored press reactions to it where they, like, "Oh, well this is also going to be shitty and bad."

And... it was.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It wasn't very good. Smell-O-Vision was just, like, super unreliable. It was, first of all, loud. [through laughter] It made a hissing sound every time that a smell came out? And it wasn't just that, like, uh, it took too long to reach the balcony, 'cause it's further from the smell brain—

Rachel: Oh, no...

Griffin: —and that's how, you know, smell works. Uh, in some parts of the theater, like, it was really strong, and some other places it was really, really weak, right? Like, how do you guarantee that each pipe is getting an equivalent amount of stink in it? And because it was weak in certain parts, audience members would be, like, forcibly, really loudly sniffing throughout the entire movie?

Rachel: Well, and then the bootleggers, you know—

Griffin: [through laughter] The bootleggers are bringing—uh-huh?

Rachel: —who would capture the smells in jars, and make them available at a discount.

Griffin: And also... the movie, apparently, was very shitty!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: So, like, all these things came together to make it complete debacle, and, like, no other movie ever did it, and it was a colossal failure and a huge loss leader for movie theaters in the year 1960.

Rachel: Alright, Griffin. I have to ask.

Griffin: Yes.

[pauses]

Rachel: What movie...

Griffin: Would I want the good stinks in?

Rachel: [whispering] Yes.

Griffin: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Next question.

Rachel: [disappointed tone] Oh, okay. Maybe—what's your second pick, then? Like, you can't pick a movie that's specifically all about candy.

Griffin: Okay? Huh... what about, um—

Rachel: What about, uh, Wizard of Oz?

Griffin: No...

Rachel: When she gets in those poppies?

Griffin: I don't wanna smell inside a tornado!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It collects up all the stink, and sucks it in! No thanks.

Rachel: That's fair, that's fair.

Griffin: Uh, what's yours? Do you have a—do you have a sm—a smelly movie you want?

Rachel: A smelly movie. Uh... I mean, I was gonna say Wizard of Oz, but you really talked me outta that one.

Griffin: Yeah. What in that movie smells good to you?

Rachel: I mean, just when she's—when she's in the field of poppies, and then they get to find out, you know, what Glenda smells like. [laughs] And Toto. Toto!

Griffin: You can't walk that back, baby.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You wanna smell Glenda.

Rachel: I mean, a good witch! You know, she's magical, she probably smells good, too.

Griffin: You're such a pervert.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, anyway, Smell-O-Vision crashed and failed. But, like, this idea of movies you can smell kind of did go one in the context of scratch and sniff cards.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: In 1980, John Waters, his movie Polyester—or 1982—Polyester used scratch and sniff cards. And then a more recent, probably more puritanical example is one of the Spy Kids movies used it. Uh, I think it's called, like, Smell-O-Rama or something? You just get a little scratch off card and it says, like, "Hey, scratch off number 12. What's that smell like?"

Rachel: Yeah! I was thinking—and this is probably messier, but I was thinking if I were to do an at-home version—

Griffin: Yeah?

Rachel: —little moist towelettes. [laughs]

Griffin: Ooh, that's fun. You just rub 'em all over your face and hands.

Rachel: Just, like—like, "Open—open towelette 3." [laughs]

Griffin: And now, also, you know, some 4DX experiences do use it, and Disney World uses it. Philharmagic, you get great smells.

Rachel: Yeah, Philharmagic! Oh, I love that, like, smell in Be Our Guest.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: The little, like, apple cinnamon whatever.

Griffin: Uh, Soarin' does it? We've never ridden Soarin', but it gives you, like, different nature smells. And Avatar, the Avatar ride, which Rachel and I got to ride for the first time this year, was fucking fantastic. It does it so—

Rachel: And, you know, they squirt you with water, too.

Griffin: Squirt you with water. They getcha on—from all sides. It's just—it's a fascinating thing. Smell-o—Sme—I love people who take big swings, even though at the time they must've been surrounded by people saying, "[serious tone] This

swing is bad. This is a bad idea. It's not going to work. People aren't gonna pay 8 million dollars to outfit their theater with stink tubes."

Rachel: Also, there's, like, no quality control, right? If you were to use this at all different theaters, and you, like, ship off your smell jars, like, how can you really be sure they're using them appropriately?

Griffin: Right?! Right?!

Rachel: Maybe they get the smells mixed up and it totally messes up your movie.

Griffin: You see—

Rachel: Like, this really attractive person comes on screen, and then they get out the mud smell.

Griffin: They get the cow smell.

Rachel: And you're like, "Well..."

Griffin: Cow mud.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Ew! Elizabeth Taylor smells like cow mud! I don't wanna watch any more movies with her in it. History changes.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: What's your second thing?

Rachel: My second thing is baking soda.

Griffin: Alright. You're gonna have to really... get me invested in baking soda.

Rachel: So, here's the thing with baking soda.

Griffin: [holding back laughter] Yeah?

Rachel: Lotta uses.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Rachel: Alright?

Griffin: Alright.

Rachel: Like, obviously baking. Can you name any other ones?

Griffin: [southern accent] Volcanoes.

[pauses]

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: Fantastic volcanoes.

Rachel: What about, like, practical uses?

Griffin: Uh, making a volcano is an extremely practical use. And it was also what all of our listeners were thinking of as the second application of baking soda.

Rachel: [laughs] Here's the thing.

Griffin: Yeah?

Rachel: You know how it's in deodorant now sometimes, and in toothpaste sometimes, and in kitty litter sometimes?

Griffin: Yeah, what's the deal with it?

Rachel: It is really great at both cleaning and masking odors.

Griffin: Don't let this free in Scent of Mystery. People'd be like, "I'm missing all the clues!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "All I can smell is the baking soda, it sucked up all the stink jars!"

Rachel: Uh, baking soda is sodium bicarbonate. It's a chemical compound that is composed of sodium... and bicarbonate. [laughs]

Griffin: Huh! Is there maybe two carbons in there?

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah, there's several carbons. Uh, it's crystalline, but often appears as a fine powder. It is a slightly salty alkaline taste.

Griffin: It's baking soda.

Rachel: Yeah. That's baking soda. Here's the thing: so many uses for this thing.

Griffin: Okay, babe. [laughs]

Rachel: [laughs] I wanted to share some of 'em with you. Some of 'em I have personally enjoyed. Some of 'em I didn't even know about!

Griffin: [distantly] Dazzle me.

Rachel: Treat heartburn.

Griffin: You want me to just eat baking soda?

Rachel: So, you can't use too much, because it can damage. Um—

Griffin: So—[laughs] what's—

Rachel: —but if you dissolve a teaspoon of baking soda in a glass of cold water, it can address some of the issues of acid reflux.

Griffin: I mean, that's basically what Alka-Seltzer is, yes?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Uh, mouthwash.

Griffin: Eh...

Rachel: Freshen your breath and provide antibacterial and antimicrobial properties.

Griffin: There are so many ways to do that that don't involve putting baking soda in my human, only mouth that I get on earth.

Rachel: Soothe canker sores.

Griffin: Now that, I'm into.

Rachel: Uh, so what you do is you make a baking soda mouthwash. [laughs]

Griffin: Now...

Rachel: [laughs] This remind—remember when Henry had some kind of rash, and they recommended we give him a bath with baking soda?

Griffin: Yes!

Rachel: You remember that?

Griffin: He had a very, very gnarly rash.

Rachel: Mm-hmm. Uh, you can whiten your teeth, which is why it's in a lot of toothpaste. It has a mild abrasive property, which can break down some of the bacteria, you know, that can stain your teeth. Deodorant, as I mentioned.

Uh, may improve exercise performance. This one I didn't know about.

Griffin: [distantly] Okay...

Rachel: [laughs] During high intensity exercise, your muscle cells start producing lactic acid.

Griffin: Right...

Rachel: Uh, baking soda has a high pH, which may help delay fatigue, allowing you to exercise at your peak for longer.

Griffin: Now, hold on. Lactic acid, from what I've always understood, is your body's way of saying, like, "Yo, fucking chill. You need to chill. Your muscles are about to explode."

Rachel: It's—lactic acid is responsible for the burning feeling you get when you exercise.

Griffin: Right, right. It's hurt—it's your body actively hurting you because your body doesn't wanna be doing what it's doing anymore.

Rachel: This is what I love, though. Okay, so this is a study they cite. They say, "One study found that people who took baking soda exercised for an average of four and a half minutes longer." [laughs]

Griffin: [mockingly] Whoaaa! [normally] I mean, it's an average, so I imagine quite a bit. There's probably some big outliers there, you know, somebody who's like, "I've just run 30 miles! I'm full of wild baking soda energy!"

Rachel: Uh, so here's the thing about fridge odors.

Griffin: Ugh! The worst.

Rachel: I—and this not recommended, although I don't know if it's a marketing scheme of the baking soda company. But you know how they tell you to, like, put a box in there and then change it, like, every two months or something?

Griffin: That's wild.

Rachel: Yeah, I never do that. I put a box in there and I leave it there forever.

Griffin: Same. Same with my car. They say change the oil. I'm like, "Pfft. It's oil, man."

Rachel: Uh, so here's—I'm not sure on the science on this, but apparently baking soda interacts with the odor particles to eliminate them rather than just masking their smell, so—

Griffin: This sounds like an excuse I would make up when trying to sound like a scientist—

Rachel: [through laughter] Odor particles...

Griffin: "[NPR voice] Oh, it catches the— it catches the, uh, the stink bits, out of the air. The stink nanites."

Rachel: "[NPR voice] Every smell is composed of 75 stink bits."

Griffin: Hmm.

Rachel: "[NPR voice] Uh, baking soda eliminates 72."

Griffin: "[NPR voice] So, that's not very many stink bits, is it, Rachel? Ha ha ha."

Rachel: [laughs] Whiten your laundry, clean your kitchen, eliminate garbage odor, remove carpet stains—

Griffin: Save your marriage.

Rachel: [holding back laughter] Clean your bathroom... clean fruits and veggies. This was a kind of exciting—

Griffin: [snorts and laughs loudly]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I mean, if you rub anything against fruits and veggies hard enough, it's gonna clean it up.

Rachel: So, this is in relation to pesticides, so people recommend peeling fruit, obviously, as the best way to remove pesticide, but you can soak fruits and vegetables in baking soda, and it can remove pesticides without you having to peel them.

Griffin: I'm just not gonna do that. Making pretzels. Making pretzels.

Rachel: [simultaneously] Making pretzels, yes. Making pretzels.

Griffin: You gotta—you do an alkaline bath, and that's how you get the good, firm—and bagels. These two breads are so great.

Rachel: Mm-hmm!

Griffin: Thank you baking—baby, you've done it.

Rachel: Right?

Griffin: You've won me over. Baking soda is a wonderful thing.

Rachel: So I don't need to talk about how it polishes silverware?

Griffin: No, no.

Rachel: Uh, it eliminates rust...

Griffin: No.

Rachel: It... kills weeds.

Griffin: Well... okay.

Rachel: [holding back laughter] Deodorizes shoes. [laughs]

Griffin: Okay. Basically, it deodorizes.

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah! I think that's the thing.

Griffin: We don't have to go through every...

Rachel: It cleans and it deodorizes.

Griffin: Yeah!

Rachel: Um—

Griffin: It soothes, cleans, deodorizes, alkalizes, makes shit—bread rise...

Rachel: If you've ever combined it with vinegar, n—for non-volcano purposes—

Griffin: [simultaneously] For a volcano—no.

Rachel: No. To, like, clean a stain off the carpet. It works really well.

Griffin: Yeah, you pour it down the sink when you have a bad stink down there, and it eats up the odor.

Rachel: A lot of people will purchase these expensive, harmful chemicals, that actually destroy some of the things that you're trying to, you know, clean.

Griffin: Not sweet, gentle baking soda!

Rachel: Baking soda just—you know, it just shakes it up a little bit.

Griffin: Yeah, it shimmies. Ooh!

Rachel: It gets in there, it just shimmies around. Says, like, "I'll take care of those particles!"

Griffin: Now you're making me think of baking soda as being kind of a little s— [holding back laughter] sexy dancer. Kind of a little sexy dancer, like, "[high pitched voice] Oh, hello, stinky shoes! [dancing noises???"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "[quiet sing-song???" What do ya think of this? I'm shakin' up! Gonna clean ya up! Gonna get the stink! Gimme all the stink!"

Rachel: [thoughtfully] But where does the stink go?

Griffin: [loudly, through laughter] But where does—now we're getting into... the *real* truth of the question.

Rachel: The research suggests that it eliminates the stink.

Griffin: No. It—stink—

Rachel: But this is—this—

Griffin: —[through laughter] stink can't be created or destroyed!

Rachel: Exactly! Exactly, it must go somewhere.

Griffin: Where does the stink go, scientists?

Rachel: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Huh? Where does—wh—

Rachel: Nobody knows.

Griffin: —where's all that stink goin' there, Neil Degrasse Tyson?

Rachel: [quietly] Nobody knows.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: When I was doing this research, it reminded me that sweat doesn't actually stink. It's the bacteria that makes it stink, and that's why baking soda can reduce the smell, because—

Griffin: It kills the bacteria.

Rachel: It—yeah, something like that.

Griffin: Cool.

Rachel: [laughs] But it's just, like—it reminds you, like, you naturally don't smell bad. It's how dirty your body is. [laughs]

Griffin: That's nice to think about.

Rachel: [through laughter] It's nice to think about!

Griffin: It's not me. It's everything else on the planet.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, can I tell you about our friends at home, what they're into?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Got a couple here. Megan says:

"I think Pez dispensers are Wonderful! I love the idea of having a little container guy that stands on its own, the sole purpose of which is making an already pretty good candy more fun to eat. I don't know how common it is to keep the dispensers, but when I was little, I kept a Yoda one for, like, a year."

I had this exact Pez dispenser, it did give me lots of fun candy memories, and I love the Yoda Pez! I know you're a *big* fan of Pez.

Rachel: Yeah. You really wanna talk about Pez with me? [laughs]

Griffin: [emphatically] You love the Pez.

Rachel: I used to receive a Pez dispenser on holidays. My grandmother would purchase, like, you know, a Halloween witch, or a little Santa Claus, or an Easter Bunny, and all of a sudden I had, like, five or six, and my dad kind of jumped on that and was like, "You know... there are more out there that aren't for holidays."

And so all of a sudden I had all the Simpson's Pez dispensers.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Uh, and then I had, like, a Pez dispenser themed salt shaker, and a Pez dispenser themed lunch box. And then my dad suddenly had a guy at work that was, like, connecting him to Pez materials? [laughs]

Griffin: Whoa, shit.

Rachel: [through laughter] It went deep.

Griffin: You had a lot of Pez, it sounds like.

Rachel: Key chain... yeah. I never liked the candy. The candy—

Griffin: The candy's great!

Rachel: No... no...

Griffin: Aw, man. I would—

Rachel: It's like chalk that's kind of sweet.

Griffin: It would be hard for me. I would get these at the Cracker Barrel whenever we stopped at them, because it was like, if we were going on a family vacation, driving to either Florida or the Carolinas to go to the beach for summer vacation, we would have to stop at Cracker Barrel at some point. I would get the

Pez, it would be really hard for me to not just, like, unwrap the candy bricks, and not just pop 'em right into my mouth. Cut out the—cut out the middle Yoda.

Rachel: Did you have a flavor you liked?

Griffin: Uhh, pink. [pauses] The pink ones.

Rachel: They made a lemon one, which was very good.

Griffin: Yeah, ooh, yeah. They're all great. Grape?

Rachel: Pink is strawberry, usually.

Griffin: Anyway, second one here is from Maryanne, who says:

"Something I think is Wonderful is having leftovers for lunch that someone made for you the night before! I packed some chicken parm that my partner and I made last night, and it was a delight to eat something homemade at the office, especially something simple, tasty, and made with love."

Rachel: Oh, that is nice!

Griffin: Aww.

Rachel: I always get excited when I have that opportunity.

Griffin: Yeah. I feel like, uh... I don't know, I feel like you... the stuff you make lends itself more to leftovers than the stuff I make.

Rachel: Yes, yes.

Griffin: 'Cause I get in there with the sous vide, and I don't wanna, you know, do... do bonus salmon or whatever.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: But you'll make a big thing of pasta, and that'll keep us goin' for a long while.

Rachel: Yeah, pasta or chili.

Griffin: Chili! Oh, you haven't made chili—ooh, it's almost fall!

Rachel: Yeah, I've been waitin'.

Griffin: Ooh, it's almost chili season, baby!

Rachel: I've been waitin' for the chili—

Griffin: Open up—throw open those windows!

Rachel: —chili weather.

Griffin: Let the beans stink out.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Thanks 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. And thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. Go check out all the shows on the network. Shows like Mission to Zyxx, and—

Rachel: Switchblade Sisters.

Griffin: —and Story Break, and...

Rachel: And Friendly Fire!

Griffin: And go to Mcelroy.family, if you wanna see more stuff that we make.

Rachel: Lotta merch.

Griffin: Lotta merch! Lotta opportunities for growth, for you and I.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And, uh... I think that's it! So... time to...

Rachel: Until next time.

Griffin: Wipe off the makeup... and hang up our hats and fancy tuxedos. It's time—lemme slip outta these tap shoes. Turn the house lights on, Gary!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I wanna talk to the people. We've had a lot of fun here today.

Rachel: How is this gonna end?

Griffin: But you know what's not fun?

Rachel: [through laughter] Uh-huh? Drugs.

Griffin: When—drugs. When your dogs use them.

[theme music begins in the background]

When your dogs get addicted—listen, folks. Nine out of nine dogs are addicted to some kinda drugs out there. It's a problem... and they shouldn't be driving.

Rachel: [laughs]

[theme music plays]

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[music plays]

Janet: Hey! I'm Janet Varney. And like many of you, some more recent than others, I used to be a teenager. In fact, just about all of my friends were too, including wonderful women like Alison Brie.

Alison: I'm dead center on the balance beam. And this is like, a big gym. All the kids' parents are there watching. I have to stop, like when you have to pee so bad and you can't even move, and then I just go.

Janet: Oh, no! [laughs]

Alison: I just pee right in the middle of the high balance beam.

Janet: So join me every week on the JV Club podcast, where I speak with complicated, funny, messy humans as we reminisce about our adolescences and how they led us to becoming who we are. Find it every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[music plays]