

MBMBaM 483: Face 2 Face: Beemen

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Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme music plays]

Griffin: There is something so bizarrely anticlimactic from just coming in from the back of the sta—from the side, we get to like, run on and we're like, "Ha ha!" When we walk in from the back, it's like, "Oh, hey guys. You're here?"

Travis: Oh, what are you all—how did you get in here?

Griffin: "Okay..."

Justin: Hello everybody, and welcome to My Brother, My Brother, and Me, an advice show for the modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

Audience: [cheering]

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

Audience: [cheering]

Griffin: I'm your sweet baby brother and 30 under 30 media luminary, Griffin McElroy.

Audience: [cheering]

Travis: Uh, just FYI, Paul really tried to convince us to let people sit behind us.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: We can all agree, that would be bad for them, right? 'Cause already, this is a pretty bland, like, visual experience.

Justin: The worst show I've ever seen, um... I once stared at the back of three guys' heads for an hour.

Griffin: Well, if the chairs, if we were sittin' on stools, and could give 'em a bit of a fanny show... what am I saying?

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Take 'em to the McElroy fanny zoo.

Travis: That is what we call it. So here's the thing... I don't know how many of you picked up during Sawbones. Thank you, Sawbones, by the way.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: We should also say, we were told to read this...

Griffin: I think it's less exciting.

Travis: [clears throat] Recorded live in Verizon Hall, on the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus!

Griffin: Woo!

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Um, so anyways, back to the bits...

Justin: We're gonna edit that in at the beginning.

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: So, uh, if you didn't pick up from Sawbones, our man Justin here is a little bit ill.

Justin: Recovering from illness! I am at the height of my powers!

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: And so, part of that is his voice is very scratchy. He's been drinking tea to try to—

Justin: It's not hot enough by the way, Paul. Good try, though.

Griffin: We gave him—we gave him a words budget backstage. Which is to say, we have so much show to do this week, uh, four shows, which for us, is a lot. And so, any bullshit you talk about backstage, you are spending precious amounts of your budget. And what did Justin open up with as soon as we got here to the venue? Well, I'm glad you asked.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: If he seems to taper off towards the end of the show, or becomes completely inaudible because his voice has completely given up the ghost, rest assured, it was worth it, because he talked to us about Gallagher for like, 15, 20 minutes?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Like, to the point where, no joke, you said, "We should open about Gallagher." And I said, "Oh, is Gallagher from Philadelphia?" And he said, "No, I've just been thinking a lot about Gallagher lately."

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: I could add some really great color here, but I won't, 'cause I've already been criticized enough.

Griffin: Words budget.

Travis: Y'know what, Justin? I will give you the next three minutes to tell us why you—this won't count towards your words budget.

Griffin: Three minutes is so much money that they paid for—

Justin: Do you realize the screeching halt this show would come to if I got three uninterrupted Gallagher minutes?

Travis: Oh, I didn't say uninterrupted.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Did you know...

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Did you know that Gallagher... you knew about Gallagher 2, right? Like, he let his brother go play small clubs as Gallagher 2. Y'know how sometimes, a human is a sequel to another human? Well, that was Gallagher 2, his brother. And I used to think it was a cash-in. But today, I learned that Gallagher sent his brother, Gallagher 2, to go perform in small clubs so Carrot Top couldn't get booked there.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: This is true.

Travis: Which is also why we started My Brother, My Brother, and Me 2, so John and Hank Green couldn't do their shows.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: Yeah. The other... the other thing that I wanted to tell you about Gallagher...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Is that there was a woman that got injured at a Gallagher show by... well—

Travis: Laughing too hard.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: You probably can guess. She got hit by some melon or some shit.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: And um, they... [laughs]

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: Fuck. Stop. Apparently, what happened at this one was, at this court case, fucking Gallagher... [breaks into laughter] Gallagher was so funny at the court case... [struggling to speak through laughter] That he wanted—[dissolves into laughter] There's so many jokes, that the judge found in favor of Gallagher, 'cause he was so fuckin' funny.

Audience: [laughing and cheering]

Justin: And the judge has a quote where it's like, "That's the most I've ever laughed in my life." That's a sad life, but okay.

Travis: As an injured woman sits in the plaintiff box like, "I clearly got hit by some melon!"

Griffin: Yes, some watermelon husk sticking out of her brain still. Justin's fucking crying.

Travis: There are tears in his eyes as he talks about Gallagher. [laughing]

Justin: The other big Gallagher injury I wanted to share with you...

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: The other woman that sued Gallagher got hurt because... [laughing] She rushed the stage and slipped on melon leavings.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Ma'am? Ma'am, are you okay? Did this go how you thought it would?

Griffin: That's why he does it. That's what—he creates a protective field of fruit caltrops to slip up his—his potential assailants.

Travis: It does make you think, he definitely didn't stop doing Sledge-O-Matic after either one of those occurrences, and there must've been times when like, his manager or lawyer or whoever had to say to him like, "Hey, you need to make an announcement..." [laughing] "You need to make an

announcement before you do it so we're not liable." And he had to say like, "That will throw off the rhythm."

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: "That would kill the bit."

Justin: Do you know that, um...

Griffin: We're nearing four minutes, now.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Do you know Gallagher appeared on The Tonight Show a bunch of times, but only when Johnny Carson was on break? [laughing] 'Cause Johnny Carson hated him so much that he would only appear—he could only get on when he had a guest host. [laughing] 'Cause Carson hated Gallagher's guts so bad.

One other thing about Gallagher...

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: Is that his last show—his last special... I'm just gonna say for now. We all can hold out hope. It came out in 2001. It's called Sledge-O-Matic Dot Com.

Griffin: Whoa!

Travis: I was taking a drink! How dare you!

Justin: That was timed. Timed specifically to that. Did I say it was in 2001?! That's so long after the internet came out, Gallagher! We're not doing those jokes anymore about dot coms and what have you! Anyway, Gallagher is not funny.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Except in the sense that he very much is. In the sense—

Griffin: In second person.

Justin: In second person, Gallagher is—

Travis: Gallagher is funny in retrospect.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Um, and so, because of Justin's illness...

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Uh, I have opted to read the question—

Justin: Got fuckin' Gallagher fever.

Travis: I have—[laughs] I have opted to read the questions this evening. And this is an advice show for the modern era.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Excuse me. *Modren* era, where we take your questions and alchemy-like, turn them into wisdom.

Justin: Turn them McElmy-like into wisdom.

Travis: Fuck. We've only done this show 483 times.

Justin: By the way, I am so sorry it took us so long to come to Philadelphia.

Griffin: It's wild.

Audience: [cheers loudly]

Justin: So sorry.

Travis: Honest to god, I thought we'd been here. All day, I kept asking people like, "We've done Philadelphia, right? We've been—we've been—" And I—it took a—I'm still not convinced we haven't been here.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Uh, okay. So, our first question... rrriddle me piss, boys!

Griffin: This is an abuse of power!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: This is like—this is like, "Don't worry, I'll cover your shift as an EMT. But first, I'm taking this injured person to Taco Bell."

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: That is a great metaphor for what is happening here! Um, so, we got a bunch of Riddle Me Piss submissions, because you all are incredible.

Griffin: Broken people.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Uh, Hunter, are you here?

Audience Member: [cheers]

Griffin: There's probably more than—okay.

Travis: Okay. Well, Hunter who submitted numerous ones, and my favorite thing, Hunter... and this is why Hunter is a true American hero.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Hunter submitted screenshots of multiple riddles that Riddles.com has since deleted.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Because Riddles.com, mind you, said, "Nah, these..."

Griffin: "Too puzzling."

Travis: So we would not have this riddle if it weren't for Hunter's bravery.

Griffin: Waiting outside the Riddles.com window for them to turn on the fresh riddles light.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: You were in there doing the work, Hunter, and I appreciate it. [clears throat] And also, I should note, there's no punctuation in this, so I'm probably going to have to read it multiple times in multiple different deliveries.

Griffin: Oh shit. It gets worse and worse and worse and worse.

Travis: Ahem-hem-hem. I am here, but yet am not standing in your doorway. I am always here for you. What am I?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Now let me try it a different way. I am here. But yet, am not. Standing in your doorway, I am always here for you. What am I? I am here, but yet I am not standing in your doorway.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: I am always here for you. What am I?

Griffin: I want to make it clear...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: My strategy for this segment has always been to answer the riddle correctly.

Travis: Yes.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: And my path to getting there has changed dramatically, in the same way that I feel like I have my finger on the Yahoo pulse, and that I know how that collective hive mind operates, I feel like I'm getting better at understanding how Riddles.com submissions work. And it is through that lens, I want you to view my answer, which is, Jesus Christ.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: Along those lines, I've been working really hard to try to like, nail down what makes a good Riddle Me Piss.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And it is sincerity, and also complete obfuscation. Like, it has to be like, someone writ—it has to be like, if you took two numbers and added them together, what would it be? Answer: yellow. It has to be like, I really tried to make a riddle, and there is no way a human being can answer it.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: So Justin, with that in mind... would you like to hear the riddle once more?

Griffin: No, please, Justin, just say something.

Justin: No, no, the answer is... a cool breeze.

Travis: Okay. I am here, but yet am not. Standing in your doorway, I am always here for you. Obviously, it's your friend.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: And I just want to harken back to the first line there... I am here for you, but yet am not.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Unless it is, I am here for you, but yet, I'm not standing in your doorway. Which even then... what if your friend is standing in your doorway?

Griffin: Wait a minute.

Travis: Oh shit, now my riddle doesn't make sense!

Griffin: That sounds a lot like my shitty friend, Garret!

Justin: That's right.

Travis: "Hey, Garret, could you help me move?"

"I am here for you. Even though, technically, I am not."

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: So how about our first question?

Travis: Oh right.

Griffin: You don't know which app to open. Okay.

Travis: Okay. "So, a little while ago, my dad's coworker drew a paper version of him." I assume you mean your dad. "My dad's coworker drew a paper version of him. Some Flat Stanley energy. My dad loved it so much, he had it cut out and laminated, and now, he made it an Instagram."

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: Okay, I want to start first by saying, before you go any further, that drawing a picture of someone is not making a flat version of them.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: That's how all pictures work.

Travis: I would also argue that you might need to re-read Flat Stanley.

Justin: This is not what the book Flat Stanley was about.

Griffin: My dad's coworker 3D printed a fully articulated action guy.

Travis: My dad's coworker flattened him with a cork board. Okay, that is what happens in Flat Stanley, it's horrifying. "Boys, how the hell do I make my flat dad popular on social media? The trip to Las Vegas didn't work."

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: And that's from Flat Father in Philadelphia. Are you here?

Griffin: Are you here?

Audience Member: Yeah, boy!

Griffin: Alright! Hey.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Do you have... are you holding...

Justin: You're holding the flat dad.

Audience: [cheers loudly]

Travis: Please do not fall off the balcony.

Justin: Please do not die giving the flat dad to my brother!

Travis: Oh nooo!

Audience: [screaming]

Justin: The flat dad has fallen! He has been secured and retrieved!

Audience: [cheering]

Justin: We have become viral marketing for the flat dad.

Travis: Now, let me see flat dad, here. Okay.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: So, I want to say... when you posited this question to me... I thought you were going to maybe show us the most life-like thing I have ever seen.

Griffin: No.

Travis: And this is like if your dad was starring in a reboot of McGee and Me.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Alright, I just posted it on Insta, if you want to see this bad boy close up. Uh... I haven't posted on Instagram in like, six months, so this is a fun way to get back into it.

Travis: Wait, wait, hold on! You gotta tag him! What's flat dad's Insta?

Griffin: Okay. This is actually not a bad way to get it to blow up.

Travis: @TheRealFlatJohn. Everyone, go follow—we've never had a more actionable answer to a question, ever. Everyone in this room, go follow @TheRealFlatJohn.

Griffin: Okay, now let's—

Travis: Don't be fooled by fake flat Johns!

Griffin: Bullshit!

Travis: There are a lot of fake Johns out there!

Justin: Worst show I ever saw? I stared at the back of three guys' heads as they ran Instagram handles for an hour.

Griffin: As they screamed as a person sitting 30 feet away. "The real...? The real...?" Um... hey, we have no way of getting this back to you. [laughs] Unless we have a system of pulleys and buckets.

Justin: We'll figure it out.

Griffin: Okay, so, let's pretend like we didn't just summarily solve this in the best way we've ever done any question ever, so we can make jokes on it. Uh... first thing is, I can think of a looot of ways to garner an Instagram following for a thick dad.

Travis: Hmm. Yeah.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Is there any way to stuff this one with cotton in some way?

Travis: Can we make this flat dad... a little thicker?

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay, not to get too—[pause] Okay, depth-wise, sure, it's a flat dad. But if we're talking about width, this dad has... this is a dad you can hold onto.

Justin: Yeah. That's a thick dad. It's a very thick dad.

Travis: It is a thick dad.

Griffin: Okay, this—being able to see the dad paper has really taken the win—oh, I see him. Yeah.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Can we talk for a second about how—

Travis: Beautiful eyes. Kissable lips. Strong, Popeye-esque forearms!

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Forms are ridiculous. He looks like Mr. Hyde.

Travis: I do like that also, your dad's coworker put the hands in the pockets, 'cause hands are fuckin' tough to draw.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Um, I also...

Griffin: [laughing] You could see, he started to draw fingers. He was like, "Nope, nope, fuck this."

Travis: "No no no, what am I doing?"

Griffin: "These are goin' in the pants!"

Justin: I also would like to point out, uh, if you are not holding this in your hands... like a lot of you aren't...

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: It was drawn on the back of a calendar.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Which like, if I'm gonna spend a little time drawing a thick dad, I usually will go get a blank sheet of paper to start on.

Travis: What that means to me is, it started as a doodle that the coworker was like, "No, y'know what? I'm gonna invest some time in this."

Justin: "I have something here!"

Travis: "I'm gonna really nail this down!"

Justin: "This is something!"

Griffin: I just—[laughs]

Travis: I also like, there's a little water damage here that's like, the water damage happened, and my bet is, your dad saw that and said, "No no no, I gotta get this guy laminated!"

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: Never again!

Justin: Yeah, before any more harm is done, I have to laminate this flat dad!

Griffin: [laughing] Your dad loves this!

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: His—his—

Travis: How hard was it for you to talk him into sending him with you?

“Dad, I promise I'll take good care of him!”

“Ooh, I don't know...”

Griffin: His—his polo shirt collar is popped to a degree that makes it look like he's wearing like, Dracula's cowl or something.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: It looks like a travel neck pillow.

Justin: Can we... can we talk for a second? There is a very good chance, statistically speaking, that we would not read this question. Did you, at any point, worry about somebody seeing you holding a picture of your dad?

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: That you were just kind of carting around?

Travis: “Hey, does he have a picture of his flat dad with him?”

Justin: “Is that guy holding a cartoon cutout of his dad?”

Travis: “There's no other explanation!”

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: Um, well, I was about to say—

Travis: [laughs] Thank you for giving Griffin lots of giggles, if nothing else.

Griffin: [laughing] Why is that man holding a paper doll of a dude with a mouth that is basically a lips-filled hair donut?

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: And I like—listen, there's a lot of care in this doodle! There's stubble on it! There didn't need to be stubble.

Griffin: Damn, even if there was a way to get this back to you, I don't think I would.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: Oh no, you can't! The dad loves that more!

Griffin: He's my dad now.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: It does kind of look like our dad, for what it's worth.

Travis: It kind of could be our dad.

Justin: I was about to say, I hope that helps, but I'm fairly certain we did.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: This one we fixed.

Griffin: Uh, we'll figure out a way to get this back to you. Don't worry.

Travis: Whoa! Flat dad's trending on Twitter!

Justin: Oh shit!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Griffin: Wait, Paul, are you—thank you, Paul.

Travis: Return that dad!

Griffin: Hold on, wait. What's the game plan here, Paul?

Paul: Uh, when this bit started, the real flat dad had 241 followers. He is up to... 477.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Yeaaaaah!

Griffin: But wait, oh my god! Oh shit! Okay, now the question has changed. Because now it's... uh oh, my dad's Instagram famous. Now what? In which I'd like to say... welcome to the jungle, motherfucker!

Justin: Yeah!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: [laughs] Next—next live show we do in Philadelphia, follow up and be like, "I fucked up so bad."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "My dad's Instagram famous."

Travis: "Hey, how do I stop my powerful influencer dad?"

Griffin: Uh, I have a Yahoo here.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: We'll be opening for flat dad next time we come into town.

Travis: [laughs] With special guest, Flat Dad!

Griffin: Uh, this one was sent in by Emma Cant. Thank you, Emma. It's Yahoo Answers user... sorry, something's gone wrong. It's because I've lost access.

Travis: To Yahoo?

Griffin: To the internet.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Not to Yahoo. They wouldn't cut me off like that.

Justin: They don't have the guts.

Travis: You're the only person who still uses it!

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, it's asked by Flat Dad, who asks, "How can I help these freakin' bees?"

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: "I... I put honey everywhere, but there's still no bees!"

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: "I'm... I'm worried."

Justin: What?

Griffin: That—okay, I'll say this. Not... exactly a laughing matter, from what I understand. From some cursory learning about bees and their import to the world.

Travis: Yes, but here's what I will say, Griffin, to that point.

Griffin: Yes?

Travis: No one said that the bees are disappearing, because no one's smearing honey everywhere. Like, we didn't—it's not like everyone, up 'til now, had been smearing honey everywhere, and then we stopped. Oh no, the bees are disappearing!

Griffin: If I could posit this, though... can't hurt.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: It could, though. Because making honey is what bees do. And if they see that there's already a bunch of honey, they might be like, "Job's done."

Griffin: "Job's done! Guess I'll die!"

Travis: Yeah.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: I'm just saying, if they moved into town like, "Wow, seems like literally they've got honey covered."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Then they might leave town... to space?

Justin: Why... would coating something in bee jizz... make bees more likely to hang out there and spend time there? What you're saying is like, for me, for humans, it would be like me walking into room, and it's covered in jizz.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: And I'm like...

Travis: Covered in jizz!

Justin: And it's covered in jizz, and I'm like, "Seems good."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "I think what I'll do is, I'll spend time... here."

Griffin: I can't believe I'm about to do this, but... devil's advocate...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: If you had a primal bee brain, and you walked into a room that was, as you've so crudely put it, covered in jizz... and then you think—

Travis: Just FYI, I don't like it when either one of my brothers says the word 'jizz.'

Justin: [laughs] We've had some thorough testing in the past 30 seconds.

Griffin: If I may, and I believe you'll enjoy this... coated it beemen...

Travis: Thank you. [laughs]

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: Yeaah!

Justin: Wait, oh my god! They're lowering a Nobel Prize from the ceiling?!

Travis: Whoaaa! Whoa, Falcor just picked up Griffin and is flying him into the streets of Philadelphia!

Justin: The Liberty Bell has un-cracked! It is whole!

Audience: [cheering]

Justin: It is filled with bee jizz.

Griffin: I wish there was a way to just take all the honey on all the store shelves off, until they have been replaced with beemen labels. Okay, anyway. I have a bee brain—

Travis: Oh, I'm sorry. Is this local beemen?

Justin: Griffin, you were about—

Travis: Since it's an allergy thing.

Justin: You were about to tell us why you'd love to be in a room full of jizz, if you want to continue.

Griffin: If I had a bee brain...

Justin: A brain, yes.

Travis: A b-brain.

Griffin: And I walk into a room coated in beemen, and then I think... I like to make beemen. And this is the room...

Travis: But that—[laughs]

Griffin: Where that is allowed to happen.

Travis: So you're saying that you, Griffin McElroy, would walk into a room full of jizz and be like, "Ah, this is a safe place for making jizz."

Griffin: If I had a bee brain!

Travis: Then you would feel comfortable making jizz where others have made jizz.

Griffin: Right.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Hey, hey, hey, hey. Y'all. This ain't my thing. I have an adult, mature brain.

Justin: If you had a bee brain, you're saying.

Travis: If you had a bee brain, you would walk into a room full of bee jizz and be like, "Ah, there's a great place for me, a bee, to make bee jizz.

Griffin: Hey. I would find an empty zone.

Travis: But what if that's the wrong place—what if that spot is the one wrong spot?

Griffin: Hey. Maybe it's all this fucking shame that's making all the bees go away.

Audience: [laughing and cheering]

Travis: Hey, y'know what? You're right. Bees, jizz wherever. That's the 2020 slogan.

Justin: Every Tuesday at TGI Fridays!

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Bees jizz wherever!

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: Try our new honey mustard! It's the only kind of mustard we've got!

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: [pause] You get it.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Okay, our next question!

Griffin: Did you forget that you read the—

Travis: I did, yes.

Griffin: You were waiting for Justin to take us away from bee jizz town.

Travis: I did. [laughing] I looked at him.

Justin: I don't have that power anymore!

Travis: I know.

Justin: You must guide us from bee jizz.

Travis: "Yesterday, I got a massage, and towards the end, the massage therapist said, "Well, you've been quiet.""

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Sucks.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I really like this next part of the sentence. "I was just trying to relax."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah! "And not make awkward small talk while getting rubbed down. What did she want from me? Should I have been making noises, indicating I was enjoying her rubs?"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: And that's from Sarah in Philadelphia. Sarah, are you here?

Audience: [scattered screams]

Justin: Sarah's legion, apparently.

Griffin: Holy shit.

Travis: Lotta Sarah fans.

Griffin: Um, I... okay. I get—I get, uh, I get massages. I go to get a massage—it doesn't have to be a boujee thing. My posture is fucking garbo, and I sit in front of a computer for a long time, so I like to go get a massage. It's a nice thing I do for myself, and I get a sore back, and I feel like I am an experienced... massage recipient. And there really still is not a great way—there are certain part—when you hit a knot on this topographical map I got goin' on back here, I want to be able to say, "That's—that is the part where it's very sore. Please continue applying pressure there." And it's tough to think of a way to do that on the fly that isn't, uhh, uncouth.

Travis: Yes.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: So I understand the need for silence. I'm usually fairly buttoned up also, because the alternative is like... [grunts]

Travis: Okay. Oh! Idea. If that ever happens to you. [grunts] Just keep going and go... [makes monkey noises]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Nothing is fixed.

Travis: Just carry it through.

Justin: You've fixed nothing.

Travis: That's true. That actually would make it more awkward, of like, "Wait, are you... ooh, Tim Allen?"

Justin: "Are you Tim The Tool Man Taylor?"

Travis: Ooh... this is true, because doing a high-pitched version of that, I don't think is much better. [makes a high pitched grunt]

Griffin: I struggle—I gen—it is—the last thing I would want to do is apply stigma to massage therapy. It's an important, valuable service to people who do it—

Travis: No, I'm applying stigma to you, Griffin McElroy's body.

Griffin: Yeah. 'Cause I just can't think of a—even me going like, "Right there's really good." That feels very bossy. Like, I know how to do my job. I don't go to Domino's and I'm like, "Yeah, make it a circle!"

Travis: What about—

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: What about this? Rub my shoulder, Griffin. Yes!

Griffin: No, god!

Justin: No!

Travis: Y'know, I realized that as I was saying it.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: Uh, what about... okay, try again. [pause] Try again.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: Do it.

Griffin: I felt like I was rubbing like, a squishy, horny robot.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: No, Travis!

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: There needs to be a bell that they give you.

Travis: Wait, one more time.

Griffin: Justin, you do this one.

Travis: Okay. Bazinga!

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: If you are the character, Dr. Bazinga from Big Bang Theory, I think that's okay.

Travis: He did it! Griffin? A bell you say? Like at Trader Joe's? No, here's the thing. That's a mistake. For a long time, I thought the bell at Trader Joe's was because it was like, "I had great service!" So one day I had great service and I rang it, and a manager came over and was like, "Do you guys

need help?" And they were like, "That—you ring the bell for a manager." And I was like, "Oh." And then I never went back.

Griffin: You thought they were like—[laughing]

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Understanding that—

Travis: I'm just saying, we live in fucking 2019! There's a better way to get a manager than an old timey ship bell!

Griffin: You're right.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: But you also know, in that case, anytime anybody rung you up, and they're like, "Ooh, soft pretzel bread. I love this." I don't know why they—I know, it's good. Every time, they're like, "I love the soft pretzel bread!" I know. You work here, and I eat it all the time. I know it's good. But then they go, "Okay, we'll see you later. [pause] See ya, have fun. Not gonna ring the bell?"

Travis: "I love you."

Griffin: "Ooh... did I mention how much I like the soft pretzel bread?"

Justin: No... no collection of sounds that we have developed as a species... appropriately conveys a sort of tasteful level of pleasure.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Right.

Justin: In a massage, completely nonsexual setting, there's nothing that's appropriate.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: That's why we've established tips. Money does that.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: After the fact.

Justin: But you could also—

Griffin: If you hand somebody money while they're massaging you, this is also a problem, Travis.

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: That was—yeah.

Griffin: Oh, that's it, you found the knot!

Justin: Wait, maybe you need some like, meaningless slogans that you just say to indicate, like... like, Trav, go ahead and rub my back. That's good. A little lower? Okay, and I'll just yell... "Oh, that's the mustard."

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: But then it's like, why did he say that?

Griffin: That's so—yeah, it's so—

Justin: It's like, it couldn't be loaded with any meaning other than, "I'm enjoying the massage. Please continue."

Travis: That's true. 'Cause I know you don't literally mean I found mustard on your body.

Justin: But if you do it and I say, "I'm enjoying the massage." I've ruined it, right? I have to have code phrases.

Travis: Yeah. "It is outta heeere!"

Justin: You need—no! Solved it! Brazilian steak house rules! "Keep rubbing there. It's the green. Stop rubbing there. I flip it over. It's the red. Boom!"

Travis: Boom!

Justin: "Don't rub there anymore." Solved it!

Travis: Boom! We are solving them left and right tonight, folks!

Audience: [clapping]

Griffin: Let's take a pa—[laughs] What are you looking at over there, Justin?

Justin: Well, it's our new segment, Griffin. I invented it for you, Philadelphia. It's a new segment.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: I would like to, by the way, posit... Sillydelphia.

Griffin: Why?

Travis: 'Cause they've been real silly and fun.

Griffin: Unposit that.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I'll reposit it later.

Griffin: No, please.

Justin: Okay, uh, Paul is gone. If anybody hears from Paul, I'd love some more tea with booze in it.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: He knows the recipe. [sings] This is the new segment! It's one that I made up. So pour yourself a cup of Minion Quotes, and drink the cup right up!

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: So this is a new segment called Minion Quotes. For the past few weeks, I've been subscribed to this page called Minion Quotes on Facebook.

Travis: Is it just a lot of like, "Banana."

Justin: No, my friend, it's not. Um... I'm gonna give you—so, this is the game with Minion Quotes, and I hope you're all gonna enjoy this. What it is, is it's a quote of sort of... it's a page full of platitudes with sort of incongruous images attached to them. And the game of Minion Quotes is, I'm gonna tell you the platitude, you're gonna tell me the cartoon character that's been attached to it. And if you get it right, I have to share it on my Facebook page...

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: Without any comment whatsoever. I'm gonna give you an easy one that does not count. "Would you go for a ride with Sam Elliott?"

Griffin: What?

Justin: Yes. "Would you go for a ride with Sam Elliott?"

Travis: So when you said 'platitudes,' what you meant is, sometimes just sentences.

Griffin: Any bullshit. Just garbage.

Justin: This is an easy one. I just wanted to mention—

Travis: Yosemite Sam.

Justin: No, it's a picture of Sam Elliott on a motorcycle. But I did want to mention that in real small letters on here, it says, "I am a woman, hear me roar."

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Don't know why. "Today, I am wearing a lovely shade of I slept like crap, so don't piss me off."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Now, boys... what cartoon character is on this image?

Travis: Ooh...

Griffin: Uhh... Miss Piggy.

Justin: Miss Piggy. Interesting. Trav?

Travis: Elmer Fudd.

Justin: Nope, that one's the Tasmanian Devil. That's Taz. That one's Taz. "You ever want to just grab someone and say, "WTF is wrong with you?""

Griffin: W...

Justin: "WTF is wrong with you?"

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: I'm gonna say Tweety Bird.

Justin: Interesting.

Griffin: Can I say Taz the Tasmanian Devil again?

Justin: It's Donkeyyy!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Fuck!

Justin: That one's Donkeyyy!

Travis: I thought I had it!

Justin: "To my family and friends nearby and far away, I want you to know that no matter what is going on, I always love you."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Wow. Wow.

Justin: I will help you with this. This is how much I'm gonna help you. It is a mascot.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Travis: Chester Cheetah.

Griffin: Ronald McDonald.

Audience: [yelling something]

Justin: What are you all saying?

Audience: [yelling something]

Justin: Britney?

Audience: [yelling something]

Justin: Brinley?

Travis: Grit—Gritty. They're saying Gritty.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: It's Mickey Mouse. It's Mickey Mouse. Why would it be anything other than Mickey Mouse?

Griffin: Don't bring your—hey, hold on!

Travis: Listen, Philadelphia only knows one mascot.

Griffin: Don't you bring your local perversions...

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: This is a clean show!

Justin: Okay. Okay. This is how—I'm gonna get fucking cocky right now, okay? This one's a dog.

Travis: A dog?

Griffin: A dog? [laughs]

Justin: I'm gonna narrow it down for you that much. It's a dog. "Can't decide if I need a hug, an XL coffee, six shots of vodka, or two weeks of sleep."

Griffin: I got it.

Justin: Okay, two of those are cool.

Travis: You go.

Griffin: Odie.

Travis: I am going to say... Droopy dog.

Justin: [pause] Fuck.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: Yes!! Yes!! Yes!! [laughs triumphantly] You cocky motherfucker! I got you! Yesss!

Griffin: Just press it.

Justin: Here, I'll let you press it.

Travis: Share now, public!

Griffin: You can also write post, "I love this."

Travis: [laughs] Oh no wait, undo and so I can just write, "Me."

Griffin: "This is me AF."

Justin: Alright, that is our new segment, Minion Quotes.

Griffin: While you all play barista over there, I will read the next Yahoo. This one was sent in by the prospector, Merit Palmer.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Again, I cannot get it to load. This is asked by Yahoo Answers user Paul. Paul, who asks... Justin, are you paying attention?

Justin: Yeah, bud.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: How long did this steep? Five minutes? Perfect. Thank you.

Travis: Hey, Paul, can I get a tea too?

Griffin: No, fuckin'...

Justin: [imitates a guitar riff] Dun dun dun dun dun.

Travis: Thank you! Thank you!

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Hey, you get one too.

Griffin: Wait, what just happened?

Travis: A tea, too.

Justin: I'm all done, thank you. [imitates a guitar riff] Dun dun dun dun dun.

Griffin: Okay, everybody here thought you were doing a Munch Squad.

Justin: No! Terminator 2!

Griffin: Did anybody else here think he was about to do a Munch Squad?

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Ohh! No, we were doing a Terminator 2 bit.

Justin: Terminator 2! Dun dun dun dun dun. No, that's it.

Griffin: How does Munch Squad go? Yes, demonstrate the difference.

Justin: That one—Munch Squad's like...

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: I can hear it now.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I can hear it now in your head. I'm sorry. No.

Griffin: Now you can understand my confusion of, "Hey, this is the worst Munch Squad segue ever."

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: This was sent in by the prospector, Merit Palmer. It's asked by Yahoo Answers user Paul who asks, "Hot Pockets for plants?"

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: This should be a fuckin' Minion Quote. You ready? This first sentence. I could see this first sentence being said by like, Kermit the Frog or something like that. "I love Hot Pockets, and I love my plants."

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: "I want them to—"

Travis: Deal with it, Uncle Sam!

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah. "I want them to experience the same culinary enjoyment I get when eating a Hot Pocket. Is there a for-plant Hot Pocket equivalent? If it helps, I have a mini cactus and a succulent."

Travis: Yes, it helps!

Griffin: Of course it helps.

Travis: Yes, it helps!

Justin: Of course it helps.

Travis: If you had said like a venus fly trap, that's obvious. The answer is Hot Pockets.

Griffin: Right. [laughs]

Justin: Right.

Travis: I don't know what a Hot Pocket for an orchid would be.

Justin: Hey, did everybody just imagine what it would look like to see a venus fly trap just like, trying to swallow a Hot Pocket? [wheezes] It's very good. If you haven't imagined it yet, it's very good.

Griffin: Yeah, we can rule out small Hot Pocket.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: What... do... plants like? I've never really been 100% sure. Being in dirt.

Travis: They like not being dead.

Griffin: Yes. Uh, sunlight. Nutrients. Photosynthesis. Bugs to have sex on them sometimes. Sometimes. [pause] Sunlight. Did I say sunlight?

Travis: You also just made me think – back to bees, just for a second. Back to bee jizz. Imagine if humans could only jizz if they went and got something

from somewhere else, and then came back like, "Okay, thank god. Now I can jizz."

Griffin: Kind... kind of. Do we need to have a talk back stage about...

Justin: Sunlight.

Griffin: Sunlight.

Justin: Water.

Travis: Dirt.

Griffin: Dirt.

Justin: Dirt.

Griffin: That's it. Now we're talking plants, baby.

Travis: But none of those are necessarily...

Griffin: Easy to Hot Pockify?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You could have light. Like, go through... ice?

Travis: That's not a Hot Pocket. Hot Pockets aren't sausage through bread.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: I mean, it's metaphorical. You're gonna have to be a little more abstract, I guess, Trav.

Travis: So you want to take some sunshine, and wrap it around some water, like fuckin' the Candy Man?

Justin: Okay, hold on. What is a Hot Pocket? Hot Pocket is two things that human beings need, filling and bread.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Hot and pocket. Yes.

Justin: Yeah. So it's got filling and bread, is two things that humans need to live. So for plants, it just needs to be two things that they need to live, right?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Sure, yeah.

Justin: Here's what I'm saying. You get a big chunk of ice. And then you glom a bunch of dirt around it...

Griffin: And then you throw it away, because that doesn't—that's nothing.

Travis: That's nothing.

Justin: No no no, big chunk of ice, glom a bunch of dirt around it, put the plant into—a naked plant into that. On top of it.

Travis: Make that plant tough! Raise you a Stallone plant!

Justin: No. I'm saying, I think that would work. If you have a big chunk of ice, surround—

Travis: Wait, you think it would work how?!

Griffin: Now hold on, hold on. It's important. No, listen. Justin, I'm with you. Let me back you up. When you do this wild thing, you give them ice surrounded by dirt, you sit them down, and then you eat a Hot Pocket in front of them, so they understand how to do it.

Travis: That was the piece I was missing. We had plenty of the nature – you need a little bit of the nurture. Y'know what I mean?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It was always gonna be the roots. That was what we missed for all those years. Plants don't have mouths. I'm sorry.

Travis: Oh, shit!

Justin: The only way they could ingest—

Travis: Except a venus fly trap.

Justin: Well, yeah. Thank you. The only way they could ingest a plant Hot Pocket is with their roots, right? So you have a big clump of ice, and you cover it in dirt...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And then you put the plant in that dirt. And I think you got a plant, baby. I mean, I think that you're like... and it's in sun, obviously. The sun's not part of it.

Griffin: Can we at least put some Italian seasoning somewhere...

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: There's nothing to say that we can't put some pepperoni in the ice.

Justin: You could do fertilizer. It's like the Italian seasoning of plant food.

Travis: Yes, but now we're just saying like, give the plant what it needs. But not what it craves.

Griffin: [laughs] Not what it deserves.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: What do plants eat for fun?

Travis: Yeah, right? Yes, thank you, Justin. We're so focused on the—listen, we could have bread and water, but man does not live by bread and water alone, right? We need filling.

Justin: Not what that means, but go on.

Griffin: They need cheese and Italian seasoning in there!

Travis: Yeah. [laughs] So I'm saying, what's the thing that plants, like—

Justin: A tender, crusty, flaky, funky crust.

Travis: Right. So what about just dirt in a Hot Pocket?

Justin: I'm saying, the dirt—

Travis: [sings] Dirt Pocket!

Justin: I'm saying, Dirt Pocket is good. It's the easier—

Travis: You plant the plant in the Hot Pocket itself.

Justin: Mine is easier than watering, because the water's in there already. You just have to wait for it to melt.

Travis: Oh, sorry, I didn't clarify. The crust is very moist.

Justin: Oh.

Griffin: Okay. This has gotten gross, so I'm gonna take a step back and say, how do we encase light? Can we just give a glow stick to a Hot Pocket?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: What does a Hot Pocket want? How can we—we're so worried about what we get out of this. What does a Hot Pocket—no, Griffin, I agree with you!

Justin: Griffin has decided to talk about how we give a Hot Pocket to a Hot Pocket.

Travis: How do we give a Hot Pocket one last experience on earth before it is consumed?

Justin: [laughs] Is it fair...

Travis: How do we make it worth it for the Hot Pocket?

Justin: Griffin's right!

Griffin: [laughing] Here's what I'll say.

Justin: Is it fair that a Hot Pocket should never get to eat a Hot Pocket?

Travis: No, that is cruel!

Justin: It's cruel!

Travis: We need to give the Hot Pocket the Hot Pocket experience so it understands why it must be consumed by us!

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: It's only fair. Two Hot Pockets come in a box for a reason!

Travis: Yes!

Audience: [laughing]

[theme music plays]

Griffin: Hey everybody, this is Griffin McElroy. Thanks for listening to MBMBaM. Hope you're enjoying it. Uh, we usually don't put up two live episodes in a row, but we all are sick, and we all were super sick last week, and just could not get a good recording time where one of us wasn't, y'know, floating on that 'Quil, or y'know, had a voice that sounded like we'd been eating, um, y'know, sand burgers. Or whatever. And so, this is a live episode that we did in Philadelphia.

Quick programming note – we lost about 20 minutes of our audio, and so, we had to cut some stuff out of the middle of the show. And when we come back from the ad, uh, for like 15 seconds or so, it sounds kind of weird, but then we right the ship, and... well, Paul righted the ship. So just want to give you a heads up.

And also, I want to give you a heads up about Dylan Moskowitz. Because Dylan Moskowitz is a COO of Café Altera, and there was this time where Dylan was having a rough time. Rough time in Dylan's life, because Dylan needed a director of coffee for Café Altera, and just looked everywhere. Looked all up and down the street. Went into the big business building, looked around, asked around... nobody. No dice. Looked in the couch cushions. Could not find a director of coffee.

So Dylan went to Zip Recruiter, posted his job, and found the best person for the role in just a few days. How? Well, glad you asked. Zip Recruiter's technology finds people with the right experience and invites them to apply for your job. It says, "Hey, I know a cool party, and it's happening at Café Altera, and it's being thrown by Dylan, and Dylan has everything you'd need at a party. Fuckin' Bugles. Juice. A job."

And so, the director of coffee came and was like, "Yep, here I am." And Dylan was so happy, as four out of five employers are when they post on Zip Recruiter and get a quality candidate within the first day. So right now, try Zip Recruiter for free at our web address, ZipRecruiter.com/MyBrother. That's ZipRecruiter.com/MyBrother. Zip Recruiter: The smartest way to hire.

Quick update – we are doing a Candelights show this year! Yay! We're doing it in Huntington, as we always do it. Invite everybody to come to our home town, and enjoy, uh, all of the hospitalities therein. I'm talking about Ritter Park. Uh, I'm talking about the movie theater downtown. I'm talking about, uh, I think there's still a Max and Irma's down there. You can see the sights, sounds, and smells of the My Brother, My Brother, and Me TV show. Walk the Marshall Campus, I think. Maybe. You're probably allowed to do. They'll probably be on winter break. But that may be trespassing, so check on that one.

Anyway, our show this year is a little bit different. We are doing it in Huntington, but we have a new venue. We're doing it at Keith Albee, which is this big, beautiful theater in downtown Huntington. We're so stoked to be doing it there. It is a much bigger venue than years past, so the exciting thing is that it will probably not sell out in like 15 seconds, which is cool. Uh, this—there are some things that are gonna be different.

First of all, it's gonna be on a Saturday. It's gonna be on December 21st. Uh, and it's gonna be sort of a pseudo-matinee. The show is at four PM. We're doing that so folks can get in and then get out and have time to spend in Huntington, and y'know, not have to travel late, late, late at night. So the show's gonna be at four. We're gonna have some, y'know, McElroy openers.

Probably get you out of there around seven or so to go hit up some tasty food spots.

Uh, and yeah. The other thing at Keith Albee is, it's general admission. So just keep that in mind whenever you're planning your travel to get in. Uh, and yeah, I think that's it. Oh, right, tickets. If you want to get tickets, they're gonna go on sale this week. Friday, November 8th at 12:00PM Eastern time. We will have links where you can do that on our social media channels. You can also find them at McElroy.family. Uh, so yeah. That's Candlenights. We hope you come out.

Oh! Right, this year also, all the proceeds are gonna be going to benefit Harmony House, which is a great organization in Huntington that helps to provide permanent housing and different sort of support services to homeless folks living in Huntington. So, uh, we're really excited to be working with them this year, and uh, just excited for the show. It's always such a fun holiday treat, and uh, yeah. Hope to see you all there.

Again, tickets go on sale this Friday. Or, I'm sorry. That's next Friday, November 8th. I fucked that up. It's next Friday, November 8th, at 12:00pm Eastern time. So uh, hope to see ya there. Grab them tix, and uh, yeah, that's it. Enjoy the rest of the episode. Bye.

[music plays]

Amy: Hello, this is Amy Mann.

Ted: And I'm Ted Leo.

Amy: And we have a podcast called the Art of Process.

Ted: We've been lucky enough over the past year to talk to some of our friends and acquaintances from across the creative spectrum to find out how they actually work.

Amy: And so, I have to write material that makes sense, and makes people laugh. I also have to think about what I'm saying to people.

Speaker 1: If I kick your ass, I'll make you famous.

Speaker 2: The fight to get LGBTQ representation in the show.

Speaker 3: We weirdly don't know as many musicians as you would expect.

Speaker 4: I really just became a political speech writer by accident.

Speaker 5: I'm realizing that I have accidentally pulled my pants down.

Ted: Listen and subscribe at MaximumFun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

Speaker 6: It's like if the guinea pig was complicit in helping the scientist.

Griffin: Hello.

Hannah: Hi.

Griffin: Who are you?

Hannah: My name is Hannah.

Griffin: Hi, Hannah.

Hannah: Hi! Um, so, my question is, I recently found out that my apartment has mice. And um... [laughs] I called—[laughs] I uh...

Griffin: [laughs]

Hannah: We got in contact with my landlord.

Travis: I love—man, Philadelphia, you have a good time with anything, huh? We got mice. Oh, how fun!

Hannah: [laughing]

Travis: What a quirky, fun time!

Hannah: I got in contact with my landlord, and they called an exterminator, and the exterminator put out like, glue traps, which are really nasty and inhumane.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Hannah: So I got rid of those, and I bought some live traps on Amazon.

Griffin: Okay.

Hannah: And the problem is—

Griffin: I'm a barbarian who doesn't know what that means.

Hannah: So they're like mouse traps, and they keep the mouse alive, and then you let it go.

Griffin: Okay!

Travis: To bother someone else.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Hannah: Well, my strategy has been, there's like a very, very large park near my apartment that like, is not near anyone's house.

Travis: That's good, the mouse will totally survive there. They're definitely well-suited for this.

Griffin: As long as you set down hawk traps at the park, you should be...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: And then you move the hawks into your house.

Hannah: Oh no. [laughing]

Justin: When you—I want to hear this question, for sure. When you called the landlord to say, "There are mice in here," what did you think was going to happen next, as a result of that conversation?

Hannah: I don't know, a less... gross one.

Justin: Okay, that's fair.

Travis: Like the landlord might say, "Let me talk to them. Can you put them on the phone?"

Griffin: And then you hear... [sings a tune]

Travis: Follow me, boys!

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Okay, so...

Hannah: So my question is, I um... my strategy so far has been to carry the mouse trap, which is made of clear, green plastic, down the street to the park. And how can I continue to do this and not have to kill mice with my bare hands?

Travis: Whoa! No one was saying that!

Justin: Whoa! No one urged that!

Griffin: Holy shit.

Travis: At no point in this conversation did this come up!

Hannah: No! But if you use like, snap traps, sometimes it doesn't kill them, and you—

Travis: That's not your bare hands, though! Okay, okay. I'll stop telling you. I'm so sorry.

Justin: So you get them on the glue trap—

Hannah: No no no, no glue trap. I got rid of those.

Griffin: No, you have a magic box.

Hannah: I have a little plastic box. The mouse is clearly visible in the plastic box. And so, I'm walking down the street with a mouse in a box.

Griffin: Right.

Hannah: And how can I do this without becoming my neighborhood mouse lady?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: 'Cause we've all got one. Um, my advice would be, if you try to like, hide it, right? If you try to be secret, everyone's gonna be like, "Ooh, what's going on?" Whereas, if you just walk down the street with it like, on your—"Look at this! I've got a mouse in a box!" Everyone's like, "Oh yeah. We've all been there."

Justin: The problem is, you need to make an example of this mouse. When you're walking it to the park, just be like, "Other mice, look at this idiot."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Look at this dumb shit that I caught. You will be next. My house is not cool for you. You will be in the box. You will look like an idiot to your friends."

Griffin: Get a bunch of people in monastic dress to walk behind you in a line yelling 'shame.' That'll get the job done.

Travis: And maybe like, a drummer to play like a dramatic, like... [imitates a dramatic drum beat]

Griffin: Hold on. I have to ask. Has anyone ever seen you release one of your many mice into this public space?

Hannah: Um, no one has seen me release the mouse, but they have definitely seen me carrying it down—

Griffin: Sure, sure, sure. I'm more interested in the strategy you, uh, execute to make sure nobody sees you just...

Justin: [laughs]

Hannah: I—I go to where no one else is.

Griffin: That's even worse!

Hannah: [laughs]

Griffin: Because one of these times, someone's gonna find you in the empty creek bed under the bridge like, "Ree hee hee hee!"

Travis: Are you worried at all that by making a show of this, you're encouraging like a Danny Ocean-esque mouse who's like, "I'm gonna be the one who survives! I'm gonna get in there, I'm gonna beat the system!" And you'll have like, the ultimate mouse in your home. That's what I would worry about.

Hannah: I am now.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: When you carry a mouse with your hands... how do you—Griffin's leaving. Oh, he's telling Paul something.

Travis: They're gonna bring out the mouse.

Justin: He's afraid of mices.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And there's a mouse for everyone!

Justin: When you're holding a mouse in your hand, how do you not just die? I can't imagine anything worse than that, and you're just holding it? [makes a disgusted sound] How do you do it?

Hannah: I have gloves on.

Justin: Perfect, thank you.

Travis: Wait, you have gloves on, *and* it's in an acrylic home?

Hannah: Um, it's like a... a cylinder.

Griffin: Why does it have to be see-through, though?

Hannah: I don't know! [laughing]

Justin: So you know if you caught a mouse. What would be worse than taking an opaque container to the park and being like, "Go free!"

Travis: "Oh shit, it was just a borborel[?]"

Justin: It was my pretend mouse. I look like an asshole. I'm going home. Anyway... I'm sorry I gathered so many people to watch the dramatic release.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: In hindsight, I should've done this in private.

Travis: By the way, so Teresa bought this thing for our cat that's like, hey, keep your cat entertained! Feed them through... and it's little plastic fake mouse, that you fill with food, and then you hide them so that the cat can find them and hunt. And so Travis can get the shit scared out of him. The number of times I stepped on these things and screamed... it's countless.

Griffin: Okay. I have a good answer. The first good answer. Hold the box out in front of you, and sprint down the street yelling, "Get the fuck out of the way!!"

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: That's about the only normal sort of reaction to holding a mouse box I can think of. Does that help?

Hannah: Very much, thank you.

Griffin: Thank you.

Travis: Thank you.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Rise!

Griffin: Rise, Lazarus! Approach the microphone!

Justin: Come foorth!

Griffin: Hello.

Speaker 1: Hi guys. How are you?

Griffin: Good, how are you?

Justin: How are you?

Speaker 1: Awesome, I'm really happy to be here with all these amazing people.

Griffin: Aww.

Speaker 1: So, I'm—

Griffin: Oh, who are you?

Stephanie: Oh, I'm so sorry! My name is Stephanie.

Griffin: Hi Stephanie. You have a question about... scary things.

Stephanie: I do. Yeah. This is a really good one. Yeah. So I—

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: Whoa! I love that.

Griffin: “Yo, I'm Stephanie. This is my new fucking mix tape! Prepare!”

Audience: [laughing]

Stephanie: [laughing] No, I mean, it's honestly something that's been happening for years, and honestly, my dad's been doing this since I was little, and unfortunately, my fiancé has actually gotten like—

Travis: You have to tell us what it is, 'cause it sounds so bad if you lead into it that way.

Stephanie: [laughs] Okay, so—

Griffin: Every night on Halloween, we play a game where one of us hides and has to escape murder! It's... okay.

Stephanie: So, this is anytime of the year, honestly. So um, my dad will actually buy these huge masks. He's actually bought like, stage masks. He's into theatrical things. He's also into those little cheap ones that you can buy from CVS. Like, the giant, like, y'know, crying baby faces, if you've ever seen those.

Griffin: Okay.

Stephanie: So, my fiancé, whom—

Justin: When Stephanie got to 'my dad likes to buy these huge...' Stop. Right there. Was your brain just like, "I don't know... I don't know... usually I'm pretty good at predictive thought, but I actually have no idea what the next word is gonna be. Oh, it's masks!"

Travis: It's something Steph's dad has gotten the fiancé into, and I'm terrified.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Okay, Stephanie. Stephanie, lots of masks.

Stephanie: So my fiancé of nine years, which is crazy... he gets scared.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Stephanie: [laughs]

Justin: So good.

Stephanie: No no no, we've been dating for like—

Travis: Hey, Steph? Future reference – you didn't have to stay that.

Stephanie: That long. [laughing]

Justin: It's good.

Stephanie: No, it's honestly like we're married anyway.

Travis: We weren't gonna look into it.

Griffin: Hey, Stephanie, can I say? You were right. This question kicks ass.

Justin: [laughing]

Stephanie: [laughing] No no no...

Audience: [laughing]

Stephanie: Okay. So, my dad will just literally at any moment possible, he will scare my fiancé with these masks. He will be outside, like, unloading the car, and my dad will come around the corner as a huge baby, and he screams. He freaks out. He's here, by the way.

Travis: Your dad?

Stephanie: I actually want to mention that—[laughs] No, no no, my fiancé. Sorry.

Travis: Oh, thank god.

Justin: Oh, hey.

Stephanie: And I actually wanted to mention that he is also the like, y'know, Danny Cline, who has the Elton John songs that you sang a very long time ago.

Travis: Yes.

Stephanie: So, he's uh...

Travis: Hello.

Justin: Hi.

Travis: Yes, I see you waving.

Stephanie: Anyway, yes. There he is. [laughs] But yeah, so um, and he's also, uh—he recently got a wicked witch mask, and um, I just want to support him, because I really can't stop my dad, or like, y'know, change who he is, or his quirks. But how do I support my fiancé in this interesting situation?

Travis: Y'know, listen... um, my dad's got quirks.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: My dad stood in front of you all dressed in nonsense clothes, and it was fun. It was great. That was fun. That's a quirk. What my dad doesn't do is scare Teresa all the time. [laughing]

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: That is something, I would argue, actionably, a way to support your fiancé is to say, "Hey dad, cut that shit right the fuck out."

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I would like to say, I appreciate that you made a joke about how long you've been engaged for nine years, and that it's crazy, but then, asked us about your dad scaring your fiancé with masks. Because you know exactly the level of problem that we are equipped to help with.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: You know exactly where our pay grade is, and what we should be brought on board to sort of address.

Travis: It's like if you showed us like a pro baseball team, and we're like, "Well, we couldn't face them." And said, "Oh, no no no, you're selling hot dogs in the stand." And we're like, "Oh, thank god."

Justin: "Perfect, okay, good."

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Is the scares your dad is generating more of a slow burn, Hereditary-style, or are they more spooky, jump out the box scares?

Stephanie: No, it's quite quick. He just likes to come down the stairs, and he will be reading his phone, and just all of a sudden, he's right there, and he's like, "Ahh!" Y'know, he just yells.

Travis: Nine years, you're not ready?

Stephanie: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Stephanie: Yeah, thank you. I agree, right? Like, I've come to be acclimated to this kind of thing.

Justin: I just wish someone would do that for me. It just sounds like a lot of fun, y'know?

Stephanie: It is!

Justin: I think your dad must really like your fiancé. Can I say this? To put that kind of energy into another human being, no matter what the like... the verb is, to scare, to comfort, whatever.

Griffin: No! [laughs]

Justin: To put that kind of energy into the fiancé I think is so nice. Now there's just a genuine level of caring about the fiancé.

Travis: I don't think Stephanie would be here if the question was, "Yeah, my dad won't stop comforting my fiancé." [laughs]

Stephanie: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: My dad—my dad buys these comfort masks at CVS!

Travis: He just makes my fiancé feel so nice and happy all the time!

Justin: You don't think "my dad won't stop comforting my fiancé" is a My Brother, My Brother, and Me level question? Because I feel like there's an amount of time the comforting could continue.

Travis: Now, Stephanie, I think I heard you say this. Does your dad also scare you?

Stephanie: Uh, yeah, but I'm honestly used to it.

Justin: That's right.

Travis: You're used to it! Right? But this is not like, a thing that your dad only does to your fiancé.

Stephanie: Um...

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Oh no, I thought I knew where I was going with this!

Griffin: Um, okay. Stick with me.

Stephanie: Okay.

Griffin: You're gonna have to break things off. But! Then—listen! No, listen! There's a turn. Listen, there's a turn. I promise, there's a prestige.

Justin: Hang with him.

Griffin: A week later, you're like, "I want you to meet my new significant other, Krav Maga expert..." Whoever. And they're gonna do Krav Maga on your dad once.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Let me ask you a question, and a lot of us tend to idolize our parents and think of them as being very, very powerful and strong.

Justin: Krav Maga proof.

Griffin: But if—[laughs] Someone does Krav Maga... if someone does Krav Maga to your dad once... is there any danger of long-term dad breakage?

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Anyway...

Stephanie: Probably, yeah.

Griffin: It's a risk we're gonna have to take. You're obviously gonna have to dump this Krav Maga loser, and get back with the hero up there, and then I think your dad will then maybe be so confused from the brain damage he's received from the—

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: Maybe that hap—maybe he gets Krav 'Magraw'd, and then your—and then the first fiancé comes in, beats up Krav Maga dude, and then everyone's—and then the dad's like, "Now I'm scared of you."

Griffin: Right? And then maybe... Danny, plug your ears for this one. I'll wait. Okay. And maybe you don't tell Danny about this plan, so it fixes both problems, 'cause it lights a fire under...

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Does that—does that help? Be honest.

Stephanie: Yes, thank you very much.

Justin: It helps? You're welcome.

Griffin: We had one more. Over here, yes.

Justin: Rise.

Griffin: Hello.

Rebecca: Hi.

Griffin: Hi.

Rebecca: I'm Rebecca.

Griffin: Hi Rebecca. Rebecca, you had a question about a horse.

Rebecca: I did.

Griffin: A horse transaction.

Rebecca: Yes. Uh, my step mom sold her horse, and I'm wondering if it's still chill for me to like, go see the horse.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: 'Chill' is a funny word to use there... because that would imply that if you did this, the new owner would, without question, get it.

Justin: Yeah. What I like about...

Rebecca: Yeah! [laughs]

Justin: If you have to ask, "Would it be chill if..." It's probably no, right? Because... that's not what 'chill' is. Chill is kind of like what we all kind of accept as fine. And there's obviously a little bit of room here in the twilight between chill and not chill, with horse visiting.

Travis: I don't even know if it's legal. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. It's um... somebody else bought it, y'know? It's kind of... theirs now.

Travis: If I sold my car to someone and Griffin was like, "Oh, I loved that car. Can I still go sit in it?"

Griffin: Yeah, because a horse is an emotionless machine, you fuckin' animal.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, because a—because a Pontiac Grand Am can love more than any—

Travis: No, I will say—

Justin: It can be free.

Travis: I have real world experience with this. We adopted Lilly, and now, like a year and a half later—

Justin: That's Travis' horse.

Travis: Basically. It is my 50 pound dog. Um, I still get texts from like, the rescue group that will just randomly, like, one, use the name that she does not go by anymore, which upsets me. I know. She's Lilly now. But two, they'll be like, "How is she?" [laughs] Or worse, they'll say, "Could you send a picture of her happy?" And I'm like—

Griffin: With the newspaper in the background.

Travis: Yeah, right? I'm like...

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: But then they also did invite me to a dog wedding, and so, that kind of brought the whole thing back around.

Griffin: Okay, everything has it's—there's tradeoffs for everything. I have to ask... have you already done—is it too late?

Rebecca: No. It's not too late.

Griffin: No.

Rebecca: But it's in—does it make a difference if it's like, in a public place? Like, the horse—

Travis: Like if the horse meets you halfway?

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: Like if you meet the horse in Centralia, Pennsylvania?

Rebecca: No, like—the horse—like, the horse's house, but it's like, a bunch of horses live there.

Justin: The horse's house?

Rebecca: The like—what is it called?

Justin: Back up for a second.

Griffin: A horse house?!

Rebecca: The paddock! The paddock.

Justin: I'm learning a lot. Back up. It's a horse—

Rebecca: So the paddock is in a park. So I could like, go to the park and walk through the paddock and be like—

Griffin: Ohh, okay. So it—

Travis: I don't know if you remember me, Jeremy... [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: So it's in a public—okay, I think I understand the gist of the question a little bit more. It's not like you're like, kicking in somebody's like, garage door and like, "What's up? That's mine."

Travis: Don't keep a horse in a garage.

Griffin: This is a public—it's not the worst place to keep them.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: This is a paddock that you could ostensibly just be at. And it's just like, "Oh, this looks like a good horse. [whispers] Here's some letters that I wrote you."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: I haven't seen the film War Horse, but is this kind of what happens in it? Like, I know you're not my horse anymore, you're a war horse now.

Griffin: You're the war's horse, now.

Travis: But we can still hang out, right?

Griffin: "Hey, can I come see my horse, the army?"

"No."

Justin: [laughs] "He belongs to war."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "What do you—when there's another war, you can see him in the papers. The newspaper about waaar."

Griffin: "Grandpa's Medicine? Is that you? I didn't recognize you since all your legs are guns now."

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: "Let's get you out of here." Bang bang bang bang!
"Get back in your pen, Grandpa's Medicine!" [horse noise] This movie—why didn't we see War Horse?!

Travis: This rules!

Justin: [laughing] This movie kicks ass!

Griffin: [laughing] Wait a minute, there's a guy inside of War Horse driving him! Bang bang bang. "You've shown me love for the first time, too." Bang bang bang!

Justin: [laughing] "Take that, Hitler!"

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: "Now you gotta go fight that kaiju, War Horse!"

Justin: I hesitate to ask, but does that help?

Rebecca: Yes.

Griffin: Thank you.

Justin: Excellent.

Travis: Thank you.

Griffin: Thank you everybody. If we could bring the house lights down.

Justin: Okay. They're still here.

Travis: Please bring down those lights.

Justin: Please, I'm getting so nervous. Make them go away, please.

Travis: I'm so afraid.

Justin: It's just me and my broth—oh, goodbye!

Travis: Stop waving!

Justin: Brigadoooon... okay. Uh, thank you so much for joining us for our podcast.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Um, I promise you that we will not wait ten years to come to Philadelphia again. You've been so fun. Thank you.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Thank you to Verizon Hall on the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus where this show was recorded, uh, for having us. It's a beautiful venue. I cannot believe we were allowed to play here. Thank you very much.

Travis: Uh, also, thank you to Carey Pietsch, who designed the poster.

Griffin: Oh my god, this poster's so good.

Audience: [cheering]

Travis: Um, thank you to you all. Thank you to Sawbones for our opening.

Griffin: Yes.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Thank you to uh, Amanda, and thank you to our father, and thank you to Paul for uh, for all of the work you all do.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And thanks to—

Travis: Oh, and thank you to Sam! Sam helps arrange the shows.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: We wouldn't be able to do these without Sam. Thank you very much.

Griffin: Thank you to John Roderick and the Long Winters for the use of our theme song, (It's a) Departure, off the album Putting the Days to Bed.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, we have to head up to New York tomorrow to do an unfathomable number of shows up there, so we're not gonna be hanging out after the show. But, I will say this... I don't have anything to say about that. But we really do appreciate you, and I promise, we won't wait very long to come back here, and we're sorry that we did in the first place, and y'all are amazing.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Now, every week on My Brother, My Brother, and Me, Griffin reads a Yahoo that we talk about when we're off the air. And then we come back the next week and try to answer it. Uh, Griffin, have you prepared a final—

Griffin: Rrreally think about this one.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: It was sent in by Bronson. Thank you to Bronson. It's uh, again, it's not going to load. So I'm gonna say it was asked by... Johnson, who asks... [whispers] And really think about it. "If you have a tattoo, and you make a clone of yourself, would the clone also have the tattoo?"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Fuck!

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I am Travis McElroy?

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: This has been My Brother, My Brother, and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips!

Audience: [cheers]

[theme music plays]

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