MBMBaM 491: Face 2 Face: Candlenights 2019

Published on December 23rd, 2019 Listen here on TheMcElroy.family

Clint McElroy: The McElroy brothers are not experts.

[audience cheering]

Clint: And their advice should never be followed! Travis claims he's a "sexpert..."

[scattered audience woos]

Clint: ... but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this podcast... eh, kinda is for kids, I guess. Just in case you babies out there know how cool you are for listening.

[audience cheering]

Clint: What's up, you cool baby!?

[audience cheers as theme music, "(It's a) Departure" by The Long Winters, plays]

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 cheers]

Travis: And I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: And I'm your sweet baby brother and 30 Under 30 media luminary, Griffin McElroy!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Now, I want to say, as a long-time Huntingtonian, first off, welcome to our city. What a joy it is to have you here. I want to tell you it is a genuine honor and a pleasure to be playing here in the beautiful and historic Keith-Albee theater.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Now, you will know the Keith-Albee from its storied history as the place from where that "It's trash!" GIF was made...

[audience cheers]

Travis: Damn, Justin! I was gonna make that exact joke!

Griffin: Well, it's fact.

Justin: Well, it's not a joke. It's history, Travis. It's a notable feature of this building that downstairs, I opened a door, and said, "It's trash!" and it became a very useful GIF for a lot of people from 2016 on.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I'm sorry for that. It's a storied theater, and a lot of great times here. Griffin, you had kind of your own adventure.

Griffin: Yeah, fun time!

Justin: Earlier today.

Griffin: Beautiful... so glad to be here, in...

Travis: Can I tell it from my point?

Griffin: Sure. I think it'll hit harder if you hear it from Travis's point of view.

Travis: So I got a—okay, this came after Griffin's wife, Rachel, said, "Where is Griffin?"

Justin: Here, she's known for other things than being Griffin's wife.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You've seen her perform in two podcasts.

Travis: What I should say is uh, Rachel's husband, Griffin, had gone missing.

[audience laughs]

Travis: And she said, "Where is my husband, Griffin?" and Justin and I simultaneously, without checking, said, "Potty." And then, five minutes later, we get a call from Griffin that says, "Hey, it's your brother [through laughter] Griffin."

Griffin: "You may know me from being Rachel's husband?"

Travis: And then he said, "I'm on the third floor. [through laughter] I'm stuck in the bathroom."

So...

Griffin: The-

Travis: First, I tried to go up that set of stairs and almost ate it onto the stage in front of you all. And then I learned you can only get to the third floor from that set of stairs, and then I reached it, and I said, "Griffin, are you locked in?"

And he said, "No, just stuck."

Griffin: The dang door got stuck. Listen, folks. Hey, it's me, Griffin McElroy. Um, it was not my finest moment, and the worst part is that I had only asked Travis to come help me out, so I heard the news ripple literally up a flight of stairs onto a completely different section of the theater.

'Cause I called Travis in the basement, and then I heard, very quickly, people on the first floor saying, "Yeah, Griffin's stuck in a bathroom."

[audience laughs]

Justin: You probably heard my peals of laughter, my absolute *delight*...

Travis: While I was still on the phone with Griffin, I looked at Justin, and said, [through laughter] "He's stuck in the bathroom."

Griffin: Yeah. It was another-

Justin: I announced—yeah, I did announce it mid-call.

Griffin: It was a good few minutes there before anyone came to fetch me from the bathroom...

Justin: And I do wanna—I do wanna point out, Griffin was not locked in.

Travis: [holding back laughter] Just stuck!

Justin: He couldn't physically open the door.

Travis: The paint—the paint of the doorframe and the door had, like, sealed the...

Griffin: Listen...

Travis: I did, to be fair, have to shoulder-check it open.

Griffin: I have—I... I have a weak body. I love this theater...

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: It does say on the signs hanging over the terlets backstage, it says, "Don't flush anything other than toilet paper to help preserve our historic plumbing."

And I wanted to respond to this bathroom sign, and say, "This is history still in the making. I could have an important chapter in the history of *this* toilet."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: This very evening...

Justin: History is a living document!

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: So as you've certainly guessed...

Travis: Griffin's fine, now!

Griffin: I spent three minutes locked in a bathroom knowing everyone backstage knew I was in there and didn't do—

Justin: Not locked. It did not locked.

Griffin: It was like a scary story.

Travis: There was an army of carolers. [laughs]

Griffin: Laughing at me!

Travis: It's at the point where three different people walked by, and as I went up, I heard a caroler say, "We might as well just keep the stairs open."

Justin: So as you've guessed by this point, it's an advice show that we do... around here. It is a genuine pleasure to have you all in Huntington. I

have met many of you at Jolly Pirate Donuts. I met you in line when I brought some of you Jolly Pirate Donuts.

[scattered audience cheering]

Justin: I met some of you when I tried, unsuccessfully, to park in the parking lot...

[scattered audience cheering]

Justin: ... um, outside the theater, and was chided by our fans so ribaldly that I chickened out of parking, and drove away.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Now, J-Man, we did get an audience question that said, "Why did Justin try to run me down in the parking lot?"

[audience laughs]

Justin: I was going very slowly, and why were you in a parking lot?

Travis: You can still kill someone slowly!

Justin: It's for cars.

Travis: And softly!

Justin: It's for cars. It's an advice show.

Pleasure to be here in the historic Keith-Albee theater.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "I am a master model builder for Legoland Discovery Center! Every day, I have dozens of parents that come through and comment on how easy and fun my job must be. While this is true for the most part, I still have the deadlines and paperwork of any other office job."

Griffin: Any other office job?

Justin: Any other... come on. This is me, Justin.

Travis: Eh, there are lawyers. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah, there's lawyers and stuff.

Travis: There are doctors.

Justin: "My question is this: how do I keep their fantastical view of the job alive while still preserving my fragile ego with the amount of real work I do?" That's from Self-Centered in Central Ohio.

Griffin: Are you here?

Audience Member: [distantly] Yeah!

Griffin: Hi!

Travis: Nice.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Do you have any... paper made of Lego bricks you could write upon?

Griffin: What would that—

Travis: Because then they would have to watch you make the paper, and then maybe a pen made out of Legos, and then you try to write, and it doesn't work...

Griffin: This is a fantastic world Travis has swept us all away into.

A subtle way to do it... is if you just left... all around Legoland, uh, just a little bit of blood from your hands.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: And you wouldn't even make a big de—I'm not saying you walk— maybe you do walk around with bandages all over your hands, and you let the parents piece it together.

Travis: Ooh, and maybe like a Lego sign that says, "It's been zero days since our last incident."

Justin: Just a bunch of headless Lego dolls scattered around the park.

Travis: Maybe just a bin of heads, [laughs] and you could be like, "Oh, those? We don't talk [through laughter] about those."

Justin: "This is what happens when I lose focus for a second!"

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Look at that Chewbacca! I spent all day on that Chewbacca; his leg fell off! Fell the heck over! Dang it!"

Travis: "And OSHA's on my—"

Justin: "OSHA's on my keister!"

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Yeah, this is a no cursing show. We're gonna do our best.

[exhales] "OSHA's on my keister!"

Travis: It has to happen, right, that someday your building collapses. Maybe not all the time, hopefully.

Griffin: No, you are going to have to sabotage some of your own creations. To prove—

Travis: But something so beautiful, like, cannot exist.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Something—you're making the Sistine Chapel. And maybe God destroys it. [laughs]

Justin: God destroys your Lego chapel, 'cause it's not—it's better than *his* chapel.

Travis: Yeah. And then you just fall to your knees, and you curse to the heavens, like you do.

Justin: Next thing, you build a-

Travis: And Tom Hanks comes in, and says, "Yeah."

Justin: Next thing—

Griffin: Now...

Justin: Okay. Wait, wait, wait-how-

Griffin: Was that a *Da Vinci Code*? I'm trying to think of literally any other Tom Hanks movie that it would be.

Travis: It is, but I also just assume that at this point Tom Hanks is a mouthpiece for God.

Griffin: He kinda—

Justin: And he is also at Legoland most days.

Griffin: Most times.

Travis: He loves them!

Justin: Loves it.

Travis: He loves Legos! He likes the noise, actually. That's the thing; it's not the aesthetic. It's the snap noise. It's his ASMR.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Hey, how about a Yahoo?

Justin: Yes, please.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: This one was sent in by Adrian Cowles. Are you here?

[silence]

Travis: No.

Griffin: Wait, shh. Are you here?

[silence]

Griffin: Oh, maybe not. Oh, man. I thought Adrian was supposed to be here. I may be putting Adrian on blast, and maybe Adrian doesn't wanna be put on blast.

Travis: Adrian, are you not here?

Griffin: [laughs] It's not good. Okay, anyway, Adrian Cowles is a hero to all. It's from Yahoo Answers User uh, Jamocha, who asks, "With all the milk Santa drinks, where does he go when he has to go?"

Justin: Obviously in the sleigh.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: That would be my guess, is he's got a... Santa's little helper, [kissing noise] if you know what I mean.

Griffin: I don't.

Travis: Viagra?

Justin: Not Viagra. A...

Griffin: Bucket?

Travis: Like, a cup?

Griffin: Called Santa's little helper?

Travis: A suction—like, kind of like the mask that drops out of an airplane, but for—

Justin: He's got a tube—he's got a tube in there. He's got a tube in there, and he just pees into it, and then it fills up a pouch.

Griffin: Just one? 'Cause it's a lot of milk.

[audience laughs]

Justin: It's um... a lot of pouches, and they're...

Griffin: The sleigh is most—it's 10 percent presents, 90 percent Santa pee pouches.

Travis: Griffin, have you seen that thing that you attach the spigot and it fills up a bunch of water balloons at once?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: It's like that. And then he dumps them into the ocean.

Travis: Okay. Santa has been studying with Sting, and just at the end of once a night...

Griffin: Oh, wow. Travis has just introduced a fascinating new concept into my life. Which is how long can Sting go without having to...

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: I'm just saying—

Griffin: ... drain the main vein, as they say.

Travis: Okay. If Santa had to stop every time...

Justin: [laughing] I'm just realizing that as Sting gets older, he will be able to have tantric sex without... hold on one second. Nutting.

[audience laughs]

Justin: It's on the line. For more and more time, but have to go to the bathroom more and more frequently. So he won't have to— "[English accent] Listen. I'm not gonna—you know?"

Travis: "[English accent] I don't want you to think—"

Justin: "[English accent] I don't want you to think that I'm gonna, you know. I've just gotta, you know."

Griffin: "[English accent] The other one that comes out."

Justin: "Make some of the fields of—"

Travis: "[English accent] I'm gonna keep my lapel mic on."

Justin: [laughs] "[English accent] I've gotta make some of the fields of gold, if you know..."

Griffin: [laughs] Oh, no!

Justin: "[English accent] ... what I'm saying."

Travis: "[English accent] I will not—" [normally] and then I was going to say the C word, but I think that's— "[English accent] I will not nut!"

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: "Little Gordon's got a—" yeah?

Griffin: I wanna move away from... this...

Justin: No. Impossible.

Griffin: ... region.

Justin: Impossible.

Travis: I'm just saying that if Santa had to stop...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Every—let's even say one hour, two hour, to relieve himself.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: That's a lot of time lost. I think he has to make it to the end of the night.

- Griffin: And then just...
- **Travis:** A two-hour-long...

Griffin: ... goes crazy in there.

Justin: [laughs] No. You know what, here's the only [censored beep]-ing thing that makes sense. I—

[audience shouts]

Justin: That's a thous—okay. That's—that's a quarter in the swear jar, and I'm sorry.

Travis: Also, this whole conversation, I forgot we had an ASL... ASL interpreter.

Justin: And I am sorry for that.

Travis: I am so sorry for you, and you, and us.

Justin: So anyway, the only thing that makes sense is that Santa's peeing in your house, and he's doing it while he's eating the cookies.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: It's the only time—the time lost.

Travis: That's the time-

Justin: The time lost.

Travis: Time lost is pee lost.

Griffin: It's a net neutral—

Justin: He's taking the cookies into the bathroom. He's urinating. He's eating the cookies and drinking the milk. Ouroboros, the snake eats its own tail! The cycle continues, ad infinitum!

Griffin: Unless...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Unless?

Griffin: ... Santa Claus is just always going, a little bit.

Travis: ABP!

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Just... a little bit.

Travis: That's what they don't tell you in *The Santa Clause*, the hit film.

Griffin: [laughs] "It says here that no matter what, my beard grows back all the time, 'cause I killed a man and that's my eternal punishment, and I'm always kind of peeing, sort of."

Travis: That's the thing, is he only eats and drinks one night of the year, and then pees a little bit...

Griffin: Just a little bit for the rest of the time.

Travis: ... for the next 364 days.

Justin: I have another question here...

Griffin: Please.

Justin: ... and I am sure you're all relieved to hear that. Not literally relieved.

"I am a zookeeper at a small zoo in West Virginia, humble brag. Sometimes people who come to the zoo think that some of our animals are fake: alligator, Burmese python, et cetera." Those are some animals.

"They usually ask me if they are real, 'cause they don't move around a lot. I respond with a yes, but even then, they aren't convinced. What are some ways I can absolutely convince these guests that our animals are real?" That's from Real Wild and Real Wonderful Animal Keeper. Are you here?

Audience Member: [distantly] Yeah!

Justin: Hello.

Griffin: Hello.

Travis: To be fair, some of those people also think they're dead. [laughs] So there's that.

Griffin: [laughs] Are those real, and also alive? 'Cause I'm a zoo cop.

Travis: [laughs] That is fair. I've taken—

Justin: The bad zoo man.

Travis: I've taken my three-year-old to a lot of zoos too, and most of the time, when she sees any animal, even an active animal, she's like, "Is that real?" 'Cause there are animatronics and holograms now, it's hard to know, let alone, like, an alligator who's just sitting there. If we're being honest, the alligator isn't bringing a lot to the table.

Justin: Yeah, alligators are whack.

Griffin: That's a deep fake puma. That's not a real—

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, I think the way you can get around this, especially with the alligator and especially with the Burmese python, is to open the door, and just say, "Go on in!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: Now, wait, Griffin—okay.

Griffin: Maybe it's real, maybe it isn't. [makes gun cocking sound] Are you brave enough to find out?

Justin: Okay.

Travis: It's not an escape room, Griffin!

Justin: As-

Griffin: Let's put up or shut up, if these are real or not. If they're real, you're gonna be real dead.

Travis: Hey, Griffin? You know a zookeeper is not mostly there to protect the *animals*, [laughs] right?

Justin: Listen, they are, if you ask me. Here's the other thing: how many times do you think a professional zookeeper gets to say the phrase, "Go on in, then," before they lose their job, and charges are pressed against them? Like, once, right? It's just the once.

Griffin: But how many times-

Travis: Hold on. If that had started with, "Did you sign the waiver? Go on [through laughter] in!" Because there are things where you can go in and meet penguins, and sometimes, the penguins are having a real bad day. [laughs]

Justin: But the kids will see... the kids will see!

Travis: The blood?

Justin: The kids will see the blood as the beautiful, beautiful python eats the disbelieving grandma.

Travis: And then the kids will go, "I've learned a lot about humanity."

Justin: This is an educational zoo. Thank you for coming.

Travis: "I've learned about snakeanity today."

Griffin: Oh, that's one thing you can do, is you could put the fake python in the python zone, but have, like, a human outline sort of inside of the fake python? And then be like, "Go on in, then!"

Justin: That guy thought the pythons were fake. Look how *he* fared! Not good, it seems!

Griffin: How about a Yahoo?

Justin: I'd love that, Griffin. Thank you.

Griffin: A lot of people have sent in this one in. It's from an anonymous Yahoo Answers user who is, I'm going to call, uh... Torbinz, asks—Torbinz asks, "What happened if the cops are arresting someone on December 23 and it hits midnight on Christmas Eve? Will they stop as they close Christmas?"

[audience laughs]

Justin: So the premise is...

Griffin: [makes beeping noises] You're free to go! Shoot! We're all closed Christmas.

Travis: But more than—okay. If they meant every word of that intentionally, what it is saying is, "Oh, we've hit midnight, it's now the 24th, and this paperwork will take us at least 24 hours."

Justin: No. They're closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas day. Why do you want 'em to work all the time? Come on! Let them have a little time with their families.

Griffin: When are they gonna leave cookies out for Santa Claus?

Travis: That's fair!

Justin: Thank you!

Travis: You're right. You've got—oh! You did murder eight people, but I gotta get home and put that goose on the stove!

Griffin: [laughs] "It's okay, I can't murder on Christmas Eve anyway. Good night, coppers!"

Travis: "I'll be back on boxing day."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "When I'm putting all those people in boxes."

Justin: "Sorry, fellas. It's December 24th. They're Santa's problem now."

Travis: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: What I'm suggesting is this: he knows when you've been sleeping, he knows if you're awake. He knows if you did... larceny, so he's the cops now. And I'm saying, December 24th and 25th, Santa's out there, he sees everything that's happening, Santa can be cops on those days.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Santa is cops for two days.

Travis: That is why no murder has ever happened on the 24th or 25th.

Justin: I'm not saying it doesn't happen; I'm just saying they don't get toys.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Which is, I think we can all agree, the worst punishment.

Griffin: [laughs] No. Not.

Justin: The worst thing that can happen to you.

Griffin: There has to be a third list, yes? If Santa's cops for two days?

Travis: So naughty, nice, death penalty?

Griffin: Naughty...

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Nice list, naughty list...

Travis: Slay [sleigh].

Griffin: Slay's pretty good. Nice list, naughty list, *Naughty List: Special Victim's Unit*.

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs] When him and his partner, Christopher Meloni... go out. I would watch that show.

Justin: I would watch that show.

Griffin: I don't have anything else. Santa's cops for two days. That's it.

Travis: Santa's cops! That's where we're at.

Justin: Santa's cops for two days. Uh, should we move onto another question?

Travis: I have a segment!

Griffin: Oh, no!

Justin: Oh, no.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Um, so I have a segment, you might not have heard it yet. It is a newer segment.

Griffin: Oh, this one's good! Okay.

Travis: [sings] Bum, bum, bum, bum! Reach for the stars!

[scattered audience cheers]

Travis: In this segment, I am going to read some reviews from Amazon, and Justin and Griffin have to guess what the product is. Now, this... this is only two. This is only two reviews. I've got three different products here; this is a short one.

Griffin: Okay. Okay.

Travis: The—uh, this is a three-star review, out of five. The subject line is, "Short-lived."

"I love this guy, but sadly, I got him out for a second season, and he no longer works. Wish he would have lasted longer." And also, I've never mentioned this before, but one person found this helpful!

Griffin: [laughs] Okay. I'm gonna say it is a Christmas-themed Big Mouth Billy Bass.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Ssss... Christmas sprinkler.

Travis: Okay. This one *might* give it away. This is from Roderick. This is a five-star review. "For my granddaughter! She loves it! He can really twerk!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: Is it a twerking Santa, Trav?

Travis: Yes, it is a twerking Santa! Yes, it is a twerking Santa, Justin!

Griffin: That poor first person...

Justin: I know, I was—

Griffin: What is this broken, twerking Santa look—[through laughter] this poor, the low-energy...

Travis: [strained grunting]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs, cheers]

Justin: Wouldn't—wouldn't you have given anything to be in the room when this old man stares down at his Santa, and says, "Aw, the dang thing's supposed to be twerking."

Travis: "Hey, hey! Hey, watch—I'm gonna plug him in. Watch this. Aw..."

Justin: "Aw, man! I thought he'd twerk."

Griffin: "[rhythmically] You can do it, put your back into it!"

Travis: So these next two, the last two, uh, there's a theme—these are both Christmas movies.

Justin and Griffin: Okay.

Travis: This is a one-star review. With the subject line, "Heartwarming, but strange."

"If you have a taste for the strange, this is the Christmas movie for you. Bad in every way, but we were able to watch it to the end."

Justin: [bursts out laughing] Congratulations! That's great.

Griffin: Uh, I'm gonna say *Jingle All the Way 2*, starring Larry the Cable Guy?

Justin: Uh, National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation 2-

Travis: Incorrect.

Justin: *2*.

Travis: Nope.

Justin: Eddie's Island Getaway?

Travis: This subject line—one-star review, subject line, "Spartan helmets don't float!"

[audience laughs, cheers]

Travis: And the rest of it is, "And also, everything else was just hot garbage as well."

Griffin: [sighs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Do you want me to read it again?

Justin: Is it—is it, um, 300 Crazy Nights?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: That's funnier than anything I was gonna say.

Travis: Okay. This is a three-star review. The subject line is, "So dumb!"

"I've watched this to the end, because I was hoping it would get better, but it never did. I gave it three, because tween girls would probably love it."

Justin: So this is one film?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: That tween girls would probably love, and Spartan helmets don't float... and it—what was the first one? It's—

Griffin: They'd hated it, but they did watch all of it.

Travis: Yeah, "Heartwarming, but strange."

Justin: "Heartwarming, but strange."

Griffin: It's a Wonderful Life.

Justin: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation 3: That's One I Made Up.

Griffin: That's gonna be A Mermaid for Christmas.

Justin: A Mermaid for Christmas?

Travis: Okay, now this... these...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: These reviews made me so happy.

Griffin: [dejected] Alright.

Travis: Subject line: "Soft porn!" One star. "This has been advertised as a classic Christmas movie? We sat down to watch it with our teenage grandchild. I ignored the R rating, thinking it must be incorrect. It was *not*. It is a piece of trash, full of the most vile cursing I have heard."

Griffin: This is so ...

Travis: "It is full of soft porn..."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "...showing naked adults acting out copulation. I turned it off and threw it in the garbage, where it belongs."

[audience laughs]

Travis: "I am not a prude, but was much embarrassed to have played a part of it for my relatives. Amazon should move it to their adults-only section."

Griffin: Does Amazon have a pornography section?! This is a question I am genuinely asking!

Travis: Listen, before you guys guess, I just wanted to keep reading, because it goes on and on, and I love it.

Griffin: It is the Bad Santa? Is it the Bad Santa?

Travis: This is a one-star review.

Griffin: [laughs] Okay.

Travis: Subject line: "[shouting] Nudity, shocking!" Was shocked by the [through laughter] nudity.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "Inappropriate for viewing. Will need—"

Justin: [wheezing laughter]

Travis: "[through laughter] Will need to only watch the edited version on TV."

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: [laughs] "The rest of the content has a great positive message about the holidays!"

Travis: This is a one-star review. The subject line is, "One star! Should be X rated, went in the trash."

"One-star review. This is not a family Christmas movie. Would have—would not have rented this movie if I had seen the R rating. Filthy language, innuendo, not suitable to be listed as a Christmas movie. Very disappointed that I cannot get a refund. I rent a *lot* of movies."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Okay.

Travis: Okay. One more. One-star review. "Yuck!"

"Seriously, this movie is one creepy situation after another."

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: "Sleazy, unprofessional work relationships. Old men and young women. Very bizarre fake sex on a movie set. This movie does not age well."

Griffin: It's a Wonderful Life!

Justin: Do y'all know what it is? 'Cause I haven't—

[mixed audience shouting]

Travis: Justin, guess.

Justin: I don't know.

Travis: It's *Love, Actually*.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Oh...

Travis: [laughs] Yuck!

Now, I have not—oh, no. We wore out the first interpreter!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Was it all the yelling? [laughs]

Griffin: It was—yes.

Travis: The hand movements had to be bigger?

Griffin: Okay. Um...

Travis: Now, I've never seen *Love, Actually*. How close did I approximate it?

Justin: "The summer camp I work for holds an annual ravioli-eating contest among the staff. I have been—"

Griffin: I have whiplash from what Travis just did to the first thing you just said.

Justin: "I have been dubbed the ravioli champion!"

[scattered audience cheers]

Justin: "As I have won for the past five years. Due to some changes in my health, I'm okay, I just gotta eat better."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: We all do; time passes.

Justin: Yeah, but also, you're the ravioli champion, so I assume... you do, indeed, have to eat better. "I've come to the conclusion that I-"

Travis: "My one defining feature is, [laughs] I consume a lot of ravioli! Anyways, [through laughter] I have some health concerns!"

Justin: "I have come to the conclusion that I won't be able to participate next year. When I tried to tell my coworkers this, they all thought I was joking. They even got me a certificate, framed and all, to hang on my wall for my past achievements in gorging myself on pasta. Brothers, how do I resist the peer pressure to eat a ridiculous amount of ravioli and remain a champion?" That's from Stuffed in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Are you here?

Audience Member: Yeah!

Griffin: Yeah, that's a ravioli king, if I've ever heard one.

[audience cheers]

Justin: You know, the one thing I do have to say, before we begin with the great goofs and spoofs, a ravioli-eating competition?

[audience laughs]

Justin: Is this a common thing that I'm just not plugged into?

Travis: No. No, here's what I will say, 'cause I edited this question down for time. But there was a line in it where they said that there was a restaurant in the town of the summer camp that had an all-you-can-eat ravioli night?

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Huh.

Justin: That's all you need to say.

Travis: Which, in and of itself, seems like it should be shut down [holding back laughter] by the CDC.

Justin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Ravioli's not a type of food that I think I could stomach infinite of.

Travis: No.

Griffin: Ravioli's not the type of food where I eat a heaping helping, and I say, "I could eat three to four more heaping helpings of ravioli, please."

Travis: It actually seems like you could set up a weird drinking-style game, but ravioli game where you set up a chessboard with different ravioli squares. And if you land on one, the other person has to eat it, and they die.

Griffin: That's a fun game that you just invented.

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: I think... I think you have to participate.

Travis: Wait.

Griffin: Cool. [laughs]

Justin: Let me finish. You can't be ravioli champion and then just bow out and not let people take a shot at the...

Travis: Oh!

Justin: ... at the master of ravioli-

Travis: At the crown.

Justin: At the ravioli champion, right? They gotta have a shot at the crown. What you gotta do is go in and, I'm sorry, eat a tasteful amount of ravioli.

Travis: [hisses through teeth]

Justin: Just a regular, healthy portion of ravioli.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing] You know, six!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's six. You're no longer able to compete at the maximum level, and it's fair for you to bow out, but honestly...

Travis: You do have to lose.

Justin: ... I think you should have to lose.

Travis: Now, here's what I will say: bet against yourself.

Justin: Oh!

Griffin: [laughs] Okay!

Justin: Take a fall!

Travis: Yeah. Now you're the ravioli champion, there is a certificate in your cubicle, or whatever. Put a large amount of money against yourself.

Justin: Is there a danger, Travis, is there a danger...

Travis: That you won't make it into the ravioli hall of fame?

Justin: No. That they'll start eating the ravioli, and then, "Well..."

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: "I do love this wonderful stuff!"

Travis: Oh.

Justin: "And I do—"

Travis: "I'll get that ravioli madness."

Justin: "I do have the fire of competition in my belly."

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: "And I do have the plaque and all..."

Travis: That's always a risk, Justin.

Justin: "I guess I should go ahead and pound more ravioli!" I fear about—I'm worried about that.

Travis: That—listen. It might [through laughter] happen.

Justin: And then that stinks, 'cause you die of ravioli poisoning, and also, you lost your dang money!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Is the other thing, that you bet against yourself!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: You may eat what you think is a normal amount of ravioli, make it to the end, and they're like, "You won by a lot."

And you look at everybody else, like, "What's wrong with you all?! This stuff is amazing!"

Travis: That is a good question. Have you often won by two or three times [through laughter] as much as everyone else? Because it might just be, when you've eaten one more than the next person, stop!

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: I'm just now realizing I'm really hungry for ravioli.

Travis: God, I know, right?

Griffin: I really, really want some ravioli.

Travis: I could go for some ravioli!

Justin: Go for some ravioli right now.

Griffin: I need to... be the devil's advocate here, and say, don't enter the ravioli competition. Follow your instincts. You—

Travis: Griffin's right. Don't enter the ravioli competition. Let someone win, then challenge them. It's the second movie. You train someone to win. That's *Ravioli 1*. Then you're coming back for *Ravioli 2* to beat the person you trained, 'cause they got pretty cocky, and you need to show 'em what a real ravioli champ looks like.

Griffin: It's like in Rocky 2-

Travis: Ravioli 3...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... someone else eats your friend. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Yes.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: It would be like if in *Rocky 2*, Rocky's doctor was like, "Hey, your cholesterol is crazy. You can't just keep drinking eggs out of a pitcher."

Travis: All you have to do is stop eating eggs. No one's paying you to eat eggs—

Griffin: "But I'm the best egg eater!"

"That's not it, Rocky!"

Travis: "That's nothing!"

Griffin: "The movie's not about you being a good egg eater!"

"Then what's it about?"

Travis: "You can just have some celery. You burn more calories eating it."

"I wanna eat eggs!"

Griffin: "But I'm the egg—"

Travis: "Eggrian!"

Justin: Did you say "Eggrian" out loud?

Travis: I did.

Griffin: That's fun.

[audience laughs]

Justin: That's fun. [makes repetitive beeping noise]

[audience cheers]

Justin: It just came across my-

Travis: What if, just slowly, behind that hut, a doll rose up?

Justin: [makes repetitive beeping noise]

Travis: Paul, don't do it!

Justin: [makes repetitive beeping noise] Haunted Doll Watch.

[audience cheers]

Justin: If you've never listened to our program before, and in this room, this might be a possibility, uh, we like to—

Travis: How many of you just heard there was something going on in Huntington today?

Justin: You saw a huge line of people, and you were like, "Eh, screw it, I'll hop in line"?

[audience laughs]

Justin: Uh, we like to keep tabs on the paranormal being sold on the electronic bay, and uh, here's one I found today.

Travis: Oh, I'm looking at it. It's a two-and-a-half-foot-tall Santa statue... with a beach ball and a red hat...

Justin: Oh, no! No. It's not the haunted doll in the staves, this is Haunted Doll Jodie, a sad paranormal doll.

Griffin: Aww.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Uh, currently, it's on sale for 10 dollars. I'm assuming it will not be by the time this segment has ended. Haunted Doll Jodie, a sad paranormal doll put on sale by Pretty Willow. 335 ratings, 100 percent positive feedback. This doll haunted.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: That's a—that's a guaran-tee from your friend, Justin McElroy.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Haunted Doll Jodie, sad paranormal doll. Story on Jodie: I just got her last weekend, along with many other dolls. But I have a few dolls that are getting upset that there are so many in my home now."

Travis: That will happen.

Justin: Hey, Jodie? Is it the dolls, or is it your niece, Vicky?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Are the dolls upset, or does Vicky say, "You need to clean this house, or I'm moving out"?

Travis: Oh, I thought you said—meant the dolls didn't like Vicky. [laughs]

Justin: "I have a few of the dolls getting upset there are so many in my home now. With this being said, I work with all my dolls, and many of them have many stories to tell. Expect this little doll." That's just what it says.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, that's it?

Justin: It says, "Expect this little doll."

Travis: "If you buy it, expect it!" [laughs]

Justin: "Expect it! I will deliver!"

"Jodie is near five inches tall. She is old. She was found when my son and I did a paranormal investigation on a private property that was abandoned." A private property that was abandoned...?

Travis: So you looted. [laughs]

Griffin: You robbed...

Justin: I think a private property that was abandoned is a public property, right? Uh...

Travis: I still think it's... private. [laughs] "No one was in the house when we broke in!"

Justin: Yeah, to look for haunted dolls. "Along with her, there was many other dolls that I had found. The owner said I could have the dolls."

Travis: Wait, hold on. Hold [laughs] on.

Justin: I don't believe you!

Travis: So it was a private property that was abandoned, and you said, "Hey, can we loot your house?"

And they were like, "Take whatever dolls you want!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "If you don't want me to loot, stay perfectly quiet!"

Griffin: "They told me by how asleep they were."

Justin: "The owner said that I could have the dolls. They have been there for such a long time, and he never really bothered with them. So after bringing these dolls into my home, I decided to try to work with this one

first, doing a spirit box on this doll. I can't really get clear answers from this doll... $" \end{tabular}$

Travis: Ugh!

Justin: "... other than her name is Jodie. She won't give me an age, but she says she is very sad."

Travis: Oh!

Justin: "And she was locked away too long. I don't feel she is bad, just sad."

[audience laughs]

Justin: That sounds like you apologizing for a friend that none of your other friends like.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "They're not *bad*, they're just *sad*." "So I don't have time right now to—"

Travis: "He's just hungry." [laughs]

Justin: "I don't have time right now to keep trying to get answers from her."

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "I'm busy."

Travis: "So why are you getting rid of your doll?"

"Oh, I don't have the time."

Griffin: "I just can't with Jodie anymore! Woof!"

Justin: "This doll would be great if you have time to talk to her, and maybe get the answers yourself."

Travis: "So if you work for yourself from home, adopt Jodie."

Justin: "I do feel sad when I hold her."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I must have this doll! I would love to have something to blame my sadness on!

"Griffin, why are you so sad all the time?"

I don't know, but I'm holding this doll!

Justin: "I cannot guarantee your doll will," quote, "'perform' for you. These are real individuals that lived real lives, and are worthy of respect."

Travis: None of those three things are true.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] "They may take a bit of time to warm up to you, or they may show themselves to you right away."

Travis: Or they might just be an empty doll. [laughs]

Justin: "Please do not adopt a haunted object with no intent of offering them attention, affection."

Travis: They're like a Tamagotchi, folks. You have to take care of them!

Justin: You have to take care of them. "Or communication. They're human beings." They're not, though. Even if they're ghosts, they're ghosts!

Travis: They don't need to eat or sleep or drink or anything!

Justin: "They're human beings, not party tricks or meant to just sit on a shelf!" So you want—don't expect them to do tricks, but don't *not* expect them to do tricks, either.

Griffin: [laughs] Have them do some tricks!

Justin: "An adoption to be taken seriously, particularly with children that need a motherly touch."

Travis: Wait...

Griffin: [shouting] Hoo!

Travis: Woah! Hey, big jump!

Justin: That sentence is a journey. English was not meant to convey this level of information. With just a scant few words, but suddenly, this person's entire world has been opened up too.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Come, walk in the door of those 10 words.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: And see their entire existence laid bare. "If you have any questions, feel free to ask." Oh, I have questions!

Griffin: "What was the last thing you just said all about?"

Travis: "Hey, jump back 10 words. One mo' 'gain?"

Justin: "Due to eBay rules, I must post this: [slurred mumbling] all paranormal dolls and stories are for entertainment purposes only. [normally] But I'll let you be the judge of that! If you have any questions, feel free to ask me." All caps: "I will be listing many more!"

[audience cheers]

Justin: The end. That's Haunted Doll Watch.

Travis: Do you think, when they list in the thing, like, "This is for entertainment purposes only, but I'll let you be the judge of that!" eBay, like, contacts them, like, "Hey, you can't—"

Justin: "You can't actually say, 'Psych,' at the end."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "It's, like, a rule."

Travis: "We asked you not to do—like, it's like if we said you can't sell weed, and you're like, 'This isn't weed, but it is!'"

Justin: "But it is weed!"

Travis: "You can't do th—"

Griffin: "It's not weed, but it's green, and when you burn it, it gets you high!"

Travis: Great.

Griffin: Alright. We can do audience questions. We uh, have some sent in by you all. If we can get the house lights turned on.

Travis: Now, listen. There were no seat numbers, so we have, like, names, we'll do first initial and then if there's any confusion... alright. First name—

Griffin: [laughs] We're gonna say the first initial of a first name.

Travis: No, sorry. I meant the first initial of the last name.

Justin: All Bs, rush to the stage! All Bs.

Griffin: Uh, so we have a microphone right here and right here down front, and I'm just gonna start calling some folks down. Maddy M., you have a question about your grandma. Uh, Maddy M. with a question about their grandma, come on down.

Uh, Christy H., who has a question about a speeding ticket, come on down.

[soda can pops open]

Griffin: Logan—

Audience Member: Whoo!

Griffin: Thanks. [laughs] I had that coming. Alright. Logan W. has a question about their gift for their roommate.

[soda can pops open]

Griffin: Uh, yeah, baby! Grab it and rip it!

[audience cheers]

[soda can pops open]

Griffin: Yeah, crunch one for the-

Justin: Hey, we're not going home yet! This episode's only been four hours long! Let's *go*!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: And let's also get Charlie C., who has a question about some bones. Alright.

Travis: "What's the deal with these bones?"

Griffin: Okay. We're gonna need more house lights, because weirdly, you're illuminating everything but the people standing at the microphones.

Justin: That may be all we got to work with. It's a historic theater.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Alright, friend over—

Travis: Hey, everyone, turn on your cell phone lights around—

Justin: No, don't do this thing!

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Do it. It'll be like—it'll be fun, and special holiday magic.

Travis: Yes. Okay, here we go.

Griffin: We'll start over here. Hi.

Travis: No, here's where all the cell phone light is—

Justin: Oh, my God, it's kind of working! Hello, over here!

Maddy: Hi!

Justin: Hi! If you're directly in front of the person, we probably don't need to do that. Okay. Go on.

Maddy: Okay, so my grandmother...

Griffin: Oh, sorry, what's your name?

Maddy: Oh, yeah, sorry. Hi, I'm Maddy.

Griffin: Hi, Maddy.

Maddy: She/her.

Griffin: Thank you, Maddy. Yes, if you want to give your pronouns, that would be very helpful. Thank you.

Maddy: So uh, my grandmother is in the hospital, and she like, went into the hospital three days ago. And so we were like, "Oh, no. She is not gonna be out for Christmas." Um, but my grandmother—

Travis: Turn it around. Come on—

Maddy: Yeah, I'm bringing it around.

Justin: You got this. You can do it. I believe in you.

Maddy: [laughs] My grandmother is an old, Irish woman who is um... resilient, so—shall we say.

Travis: You already said "old, Irish woman."

Maddy: Yeah. So um, she texted my cousins and I in our group chat, and asked if we could throw a Christmas rager...

Travis: [censored beep]

Maddy: ... in her hospital room.

Travis: Okay.

[audience cheers]

Maddy: Yeah.

Travis: I cursed. I'm sorry.

Maddy: It's o—I just wanna know the best way to pull this off without getting us or Grandma kicked out of the hosp—

Griffin: Kicked out of the hospital.

Travis: I don't know—wait, hold on. Can they kick people out of hospitals for that? "Hey, you are too cool! Get outta here!"

Maddy: Francis Ford is pretty wild!

Griffin: Uh, yeah. They can kick you right out a hospital, Travis. You're not granted diplomatic immunity because you're inside of a hospital.

Travis: But I—it's hard to picture the dean of the hospital coming down...

Justin: "You don't understand, hospital official. She's sick."

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: "Okay? And she wants to have a party."

[scattered audience cheers]

Justin: There we go. There's some more lights.

Griffin: Uh, yeah. Um...

Travis: You're gonna need some IV bags full of vodka.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Or gin!

Griffin: Yeah, or White Claw.

Travis: Or bloody Mary.

Griffin: Probably not the bloody Mary.

Justin: Probably not the bloody Mary.

Travis: It looks like blood!

Justin: That would be fun. You're right, that would be fun, Trav.

Griffin: You're right, Trav. That one drink-

Travis: No, don't put it in your arm. Don't put any of them in your arm!

Justin: Oh, my gosh! Listen! D—everybody, they got the hospital booties, get a little, like, rock n' roll, like, sliding, like, [sings tune], like in *Risky Business*?

Travis: That's good. How about little cups of Jell-O... shots?

Justin: Okay. That's good. I mean, listen, hospital gowns don't have backs. You're halfway to a party already. Okay?

Travis: I've been to a lot of parties. Rarely do they feature open butt cracks. Maybe I'm going to the wrong parties!

Griffin: Is there a way—and I'll just base this on some of my, like, party expertise. Is there a way that there could be a comfortable couch in an entirely different room...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: ... and a cat that you can just kind of hang out with?

Travis: Where—where maybe Mario Party is happening?

Griffin: Yeah.

Maddy: So last time she got sick, I did sneak my cat into the hospital.

Griffin: Alright! So my—would you say that my idea has been the only good one so far?

[audience laughs]

Maddy: I don't know. Those little Jell-O sh—the little Jell-O cup shots? That's a pretty good one, too.

Justin: So you're saying that we've helped.

Maddy: You guys have! Yeah!

Justin: Yay!

Maddy: Woo!

Griffin: Alright. Thank you!

Maddy: Thank you!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Hello.

Christy: Is this close enough to the mic?

Travis: If we could get some more uh, cell phone lights over here. Yeah!

Griffin: There we go!

Travis: Oh, my God.

Justin: Aw, yeah!

Travis: You all rule.

Christy: Hello! Thank you guys so much!

Travis: I like the people over *here* holding up their phones! Thank you.

Griffin: Thank you.

Justin: It's very sweet.

Griffin: Hello.

Christy: Hello. I am Christy.

Griffin: Hi, Christy.

Justin: Hi Christy.

Christy: From Columbus. So for my birthday yesterday, I got tickets to come here. I was very excited.

Justin: Aw, that's so nice!

Travis: Is the person standing with you with you?

Christy: Yes, this is my little sister. She's here for emotional support...

Sister: Sorry!

Travis: Okay, I just thought she was gonna murder you.

Christy: ... 'cause I'm just so excited right now.

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Christy: Yes.

Griffin: Well, all of the underlighting didn't help with Travis's sort of... presumption.

Christy: [laughs] Yeah, so...

Griffin: That was not a criticism of everybody's lighting job!

[audience laughs]

Travis: I saw you all reach up higher.

Christy: You guys are doing amazing, thank you so much.

Travis: "We'll get an angle!"

Justin: You're too sweet. Okay.

Christy: Yeah, so on my way here, I was really excited, and we were listening to *TAZ*, and I was just swept away.

Travis: But now you're disappointed.

[audience laughs]

Christy: No, I was just swept away by the tapestry that I didn't realize I was speeding a little bit.

Justin: Oh, no! The Adventure 'Zane' does have that effect!

Christy: [laughs] So...

Travis: What would Zane do?

Griffin: Yeah.

Christy: I got pulled over for my first time on the way here. [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, no!

Justin: Oh, no! By a West Virginia police officer?

Christy: No, by Ohio.

Travis: Woah!

[audience groans]

Griffin: That's why.

Christy: I'm sorry, I'm from Columbus.

Justin: I should've warn—hey, listen. Here's a non-joke. As you're going home tonight, don't speed in Ohio!

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You will watch the speed limit go, like, 55, 60, 55, 60, 55, 60.

Justin: There's real laws over there.

Christy: [laughs]

Justin: Over here-

Travis: Here in West Virginia, there is no law about the number of people riding in the back of a pickup truck, where in Ohio, that number is zero. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: In West Virginia, this is true, the open container law is it has to be out of the reach of the driver. [laughs]

Griffin: [through laughter] So you—you, as the driver, could just sort of play T-Rex, and just be like...

Travis: [straining noises]

Griffin: Anyway. Tragic, we should've—this—honestly, this one's on us. We should've warned you.

Travis: The first time I ever got pulled over was in Ohio, and I was-

Justin: Wait, wait, wait. What's your question?

[audience laughs]

Christy: So um, my little sister was in the car, I was freaking out, and then I was like, well—

Travis: Blame it on her.

Christy: My parents paid for the tickets to come here; how do I get them to pay for the ticket for Christmas?

[audience laughs, cheers]

Travis: So the first time I ever got a speeding ticket, and I was going 15 miles over the speed limit...

Griffin: Woah!

Christy: That's what happened today.

Sister: That was what she did.

Christy: That's what I did today.

Griffin: That's what you did today?

Travis: Yes. And the officer who pulled me over said...

Christy: I got swept by the tapestry.

Travis: "... I am going to list it as being nine miles, because if it's 10 or more, it's reckless endangerment, and you'll lose your license."

Christy: This guy was not as nice.

Griffin: They said what?

Christy: He was not as nice, and caught me doing it.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: Okay. So then I—as they were writing the ticket, I called my father, Clint McElroy. And I told him what happened, and he goes, "Can you talk him out of it all the way?"

And I said, "Dad, he like, is already being pretty nice."

And Dad said, "Come on."

[audience laughs]

Travis: And I refused to try to talk the police officer out of it, to the disappointment of my father.

Griffin: Can you get our father to guilt you in the past...

Christy: [laughs]

Griffin: No, probably not.

Travis: This is also—

Justin: Where are you from?

Christy: Columbus.

Griffin: Oh. You should've known, then.

Justin: Okay. So my advice was gonna be, "Don't go to Ohio anymore..."

Christy: I recently moved to North Carolina.

Justin: "... and you're fine."

Travis: Yeah. That's a real city.

Justin: That's a real city. You should know about cops!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Maybe talk to some police here? See if they could—'cause one time, another story about my dad, I got a ticket for expired, like, stickers on my license plate, and I had to go to city hall and talk to someone. And my dad said, in this tone of voice, "Ask them if they know who we are?"

[audience groans]

Justin: He didn't mean podcast luminaries, to be fair.

Travis: No. And I did—and they did, and it was fine.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Wait, it worked?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Aw, that's what's wrong with America!

Travis: ... So maybe, try that?

Justin: Has your dad been on radio for 40 years? Is that an option?

Christy: No, but he has a really deep voice.

Travis: If not, you can tell him he was. They don't know. It's radio.

Griffin: Listen.

Christy: Yes.

Griffin: Are... your... parents... cool?

Christy: Pretty much cool, yeah.

Griffin: Do they listen to the show?

Christy: No, but they know of you guys, 'cause I listen to you a lot.

Travis: What are their names?

Griffin: No, stop.

Christy: Not gonna do that.

Travis: Not last names. First names. What do you call them?

Christy: Mom and Dad, but they go by Mark and Dorine.

Griffin: Hey, Mom and Dad.

Travis: Hey, Mom and Dad. It's me, Travis. You know, if you think—how old are you?

Christy: Nineteen.

Travis: Nineteen. If you think about it, what's 2.5 dollars a year? Or—no. 25 dollars a year. How much was the ticket?

Christy: A hundred and thirty-five.

Justin: Ohohoho!

Travis: Hey, that's not that bad!

Griffin: It's-

Christy: I was really shocked. I thought it was gonna be 300, 'cause I've never been pulled over before.

Travis: Okay. Look in their—hey, Mom and Dad? Look in their eyes. That's your baby.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Stop it.

Travis: No. No. Stick with me on this. That's your baby. Are you gonna really make them sweat 135 dollars? That's like one StubHub ticket to a *My Brother, My Brother and Me* show. That's nothing.

Christy: I just feel bad. Like, 'cause my parents paid for this, and...

Travis: They've paid for everything until now.

Justin: I'll Venmo you.

Travis: I have a three-year-old. Can I tell you how much more money than that I spend?

Justin: Hey, listen, I'll Venmo you. Just email me; I'll Venmo you the ticket money. It's fine. Next question! I fixed it!

[audience cheers]

Christy: Thank you guys.

Justin: Email me. I'll Venmo you!

[audience cheers]

Christy: Happy Candlenights.

Justin: Justin@MBMBaM.com. Email me; I'll Venmo you. Only you, though. I cannot—

Travis: Justin@TeenGoogle.com.

Justin: Justin@TeenGoogle.com. Hello, how can I help?

Charlie: Hello!

Justin: Wait, did that help? Wait, I know it did!

Christy: Absolutely. Thank you.

Justin: This is so beautiful. Hello.

Charlie: Hi. I'm Charlie.

Justin: Hi, Charlie.

Griffin: That's a great name. Can you angle the microphone up, just a little bit?

Charlie: Yeah. Sorry.

Griffin: That's fine.

Charlie: [laughs] It's okay.

Travis: Jesus?

Griffin: Shh.

Charlie: And apologies in advance if like, something doesn't make sense. I just got back from wisdom teeth surgery, so... [laughs]

Travis: Woah! Hey, everyone! Grab the armrests! Go on.

Charlie: Okay. Um, so I live on—in—on a farm, and my stepmom hikes a lot. And she's gotten this hobby of collecting bones.

Griffin: Oh, a bone collector!

Charlie: Yeah. [laughs] Um...

Travis: Like the documentary.

Charlie: Yeah. They're pretty much everywhere in our house. Like, um, our house is decorated in 'em. They're scattered throughout the yard, 'cause our dogs get them too. Um...

Griffin: It's a family affair!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Are you... here to turn her in?

[audience laughs]

Charlie: Um, maybe. Um... I... there's also piles of them on the front porch. Um...

Griffin: Bone piles!

Charlie: [laughs] Yeah. Yeah! Um, and um...

Travis: As one might see in *Castlevania*.

Charlie: Yeah. Um, they've been there for about three years now. I asked her once why, and she said she was bleaching them, but I feel like after three years, they should be bleached. Um...

Griffin: Hey, and also? That's not... a good... answer... for... why you have... bones. That's as if somebody said—

Travis: The only reason to say why I have bones, "So I can stand up and move my arms and eat food."

Griffin: [laughs]

Charlie: Um, but I mean, basically, my question is, how can I get her to take the bones off the porch at least?

Travis: Well, here's the good news: if you steal them, what's she gonna do?

Charlie: [laughs]

Travis: Call the police? Good luck with that call!

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "Hey, is this the police? Someone stole my bones!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: You should make a—you should make a bone pit, but work real hard on it, and paint it and stuff with good colors, and...

Travis: Put that on YouTube.

Justin: ... put up a fun sign, and be like, "I spent all day making you a bone pit. You're not gonna move them to the bone pit? I made this for you." And then it's kind of a guilt thing. That works on—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: That works on me, usually.

Travis: And maybe start signs, like, 50 miles out, like, "Don't miss the bone pit!"

Justin: "Don't miss the bone pit! It's a tourist attraction; I made it!"

Travis: What else is she saving them for, if not for people to see them? Because if she doesn't want people to see them, she killed those things.

Charlie: Well, I would assume she does want people to see them, 'cause they're all over our house, and she's not exactly hiding them on the porch. They're just in piles next to the door.

Travis: And no one's coming. You have to get the word out.

Charlie: Okay. Okay.

Griffin: If—if in The Texas Chainsaw Massacre...

Travis: The documentary.

Griffin: ... the documentary, if the teens had rolled up to the house and there had been an affable guy who was like, "Look at all my great bones!"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't think the bones would be very scary.

Travis: True.

Griffin: I think we're all putting a lot of stigma on these bones.

[audience laughs]

Justin: So what Griffin is saying is, it's not a problem at all. Apparently, it's not a problem?

Travis: The problem is branding.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: So maybe if you got on board with it— [laughs]

Griffin: If you—

Travis: Maybe the problem's with *you*. [laughs]

[audience laughs, scattered cheers]

Griffin: If you petition... the department of transportation to put up an official sign on the highway advertising The Bone Zone...

[audience laughs, cheers]

Griffin: Now, it's fun. Now, it's a moneymaker! Hello!

Justin: Does that help?

Charlie: Yes, it does, thank you.

Justin: Thank you so much.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: I need—I need my fireflies.

Justin: We're gonna help you extremely quickly, because we're running out of time.

Logan: Okay. Hi. Um, hi.

Travis: That is a great shirt.

Logan: [laughs] Thank you.

Travis: You're welcome.

Justin: Good speed, Trav.

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

Travis: Hey, that shirt is great. You deserve it.

Logan: I appreciate it a lot. Um, I'm Logan. She/her.

Justin: Hello.

Logan: So I like getting gifts that I know that people are gonna use, and that people can, like, use over time and stuff, so would it be, like, entirely too inappropriate to get my roommate um, cleaning supplies for Christmas?

Griffin: Yesss!

Travis: There... mmm. Logan...

Justin: Wait, wait, wait, wait. Ten seconds. Why is it a good idea to do this thing?

Logan: Because I feel like it could save a lot of time. You know, busy people...

Travis: For you...?

Justin: Hey, Logan, is there any sort of... little bit of like, a kind of... slight hint of... maybe you could use these around the house?

Logan: Well, anyone could!

Travis: Logaaan!

Justin: Okay. Yeah. Okay.

Travis: Logaaan!

Justin: But is anybody gonna be like—are these maybe, like, shade brand—like, you're kind of throwing a little bit of sha—

Logan: So I was thinking of, like, those like, lit—I don't know if you—okay, so those litterboxes that I've seen online for years that are like, there's like a top layer that you can like, sift it out...

Travis: Yeah. 'Cause they don't do it now.

Logan: ... and then, just like, toss it. And it saves time.

Justin: They don't do it, do they? Logan, they don't do it, do they? They don't clean it out very much, do they?

Logan: [pause] ... I prefer not to-

Justin: Logaaan.

Griffin: Logaaan! [pause] Logan!

Travis: Okay. That answers so much. Thank you so much, Logan. Thank you.

Justin: Logan, um, just-

Travis: Do it.

Justin: Just do it.

[audience laughs]

Justin: I mean, once-

Travis: It'll be weird for a while, but they might appreciate it.

Justin: Once you give him the greatest gift, which is a story!

Travis: Of why they moved out.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Does that help?

Logan: It does. Thank you.

Justin: Alright. Thank you so much.

Okay. You can lower the house lights again.

Travis: Thank you. Thank you so much.

Justin: Oh, that's brighter.

Griffin: The other way.

Justin: Turn the kno—grab the knob.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Okay. So I have uh, this is so cool. I'm really excited. So tonight's event is a benefit—this is—the sad part of the show is what I'm gonna tell you.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I lost money on this show 'cause I bought this sweater.

Justin: And it seemed like a good idea, but then there's so many of you here that it started to feel a little bit like hubris. The good part of that, though, is that tonight's event is a fundraiser for Harmony House, which seeks to help non-sheltered people in our community. Are there any reps from Harmony House here? Any Harmony House folks here in the audience?

[audience cheers]

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Hey...

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: So I've got some good news for y'all. Uh, actually, Harmony House folks, if you want to stand up just so everybody can give you another round of applause 'cause you do amazing work?

[audience cheers]

Justin: Okay. So. Um, we have friends at a company called MeUndies and I know that underwear is always a need for y'all. Our good friends at MeUndies have donated 200 pairs of underwear. They have sent to—well, it's in a box at my house, but when Sydnee comes to work, I'll have her bring it. But thank you so much to MeUndies. That's super cool of them. If we could get another round of applause for MeUndies, that's great.

[audience cheers]

Justin: So here's the even more exciting news. The folks here have bought tickets. They have bought posters. They've got fired by my father-in-law.

Griffin: A service I received for free.

Justin: They donated—and not counting what everyone is going to go out and spend on posters and what-have-you after this, we are going to be able to donate to Harmony House 430,355 dollars.

[audience cheers]

Justin: So th—so that is cool.

Travis: And here's the thing that I cannot stress enough: when we say we, we mean *we*.

Justin: Yeah. All of us-

Travis: It is through you all that this is done, and this is what, our seventh, eighth...

Justin: 100th.

Travis: Yeah, we've done a lot of Candlenights, and every year, whether it's through the Candlenights show or MBMBaM Angels or whatever, you all have continuously blown us away by your generosity and your willingness to support our home town and the people here who need help. And I don't have words for it.

Justin: Thank you so much.

Travis: It is amazing to me...

Justin: Give yourselves another big round of applause.

Travis: Thank you.

[audience applauds, cheers]

Justin: We can lower the lights now. That's great. Harmony House, you all do amazing work. Thank you so much for everything you do. We're about ready to wrap up, yes?

Griffin: Yes. Thank you—

Travis: We also wanna say, real quick, we couldn't do this show without Paul Sabourin... um...

Justin: Oh, yes. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[audience cheers]

Justin: You can all go ahead and take the house lights out. It's extremely distracting now.

Travis: Uh, Amanda, who all put this show together. All the Smirls. Everyone who um...

Justin: Yes. Wait, thank you to the heart Choose Joy Players. They sang for us. The ushers, the carolers. Uh, Levi Kelley, Michael Meadows and Joe

Eddins helped make the stage amazing. All the performers in the *Sawbones* show, thank you so much to all of you.

Travis: Wonderful!...

Justin: Thanks to Dwight Slappe, who immediately after his role was complete, went to the bar across the street to watch the Bills game.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Dwight, our champ...

Travis: And let us hear it for *Still Buffering*.

Justin: *Still Buffering*!

Griffin: Woo!

Justin: Let's hear it for Wonderful!

Travis: Let's hear it for the Keith-Albee.

Griffin: The Keith-Albee.

Justin: The amazing, beautiful venue.

Griffin: Historic.

Travis: The city of Huntington.

Justin: Another big round of applause, 'cause she works so hard, my mother-in-law, Mary Smirl, made uh, this... all this happen. She's amazing.

[audience cheers]

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. And also, I guess, Jimmy Buffett. Because we've...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: There's been quite a bit.

Travis: And also want a huge round of applause for our dad, Clint McElroy.

Griffin: Woo!

Justin: Clint McElroy, ladies and gentlemen!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Alright, it's time to wrap up.

[guitar starts strumming]

Justin: Everybody, come on up to the microphones! Please don't be shy. We're all family here.

Griffin: Nobody's moving. Let's just start playing the song!

Charlie McElroy: [laughing] Hi.

[guitar strumming in background]

Justin: Just give me, like a...

Griffin and Travis: One, two, three, four!

Justin: [singing] Nibbling on sponge cake...

[speaking] Everybody!

All: [singing] Watching the sun bake, all of those tourists covered with oil. Strumming my six-string on my front porch swing. Smell those shrimp, they're beginning to boil.

Sydnee McElroy: Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble!

Justin: Everybody!

All: [singing] Wasting away again in Margaritaville. Searching for my lost shaker of salt.

Griffin: Salt!

All: Salt! Salt!

[singing] Some people claim that there's a woman to blame, but I know it's nobody's fault.

Griffin: [simultaneously] It's my own dang fault.

Justin, take a verse!

Justin: [singing] I don't know the reason, I stayed here all season. [speaking] What's the next—Sydnee!

Sydnee: [singing] Nothing but this brand-new tattoo.

All: [singing] But it's a real beauty, a Mexican cutie.

Sydnee: [singing simultaneously] A Huntington cutie!

All: [singing] How it got here, I haven't a clue. Wasting away again in Margaritaville. Searching for my lost shaker of salt.

Audience: Salt, salt, salt!

All: [singing] Some people claim that there's a woman to blame. But I know, it's my own dang fault.

Griffin: Third verse, I guess.

Travis: Here we go.

Clint: [singing] Blew out my flip-flop.

Griffin: There we go!

Clint and Paul: [singing] Stepped on a pop top.

Justin: Please give it, Paul Sabourin!

Clint and Paul: [singing] Cut my heel, had to cruise on back home.

Justin: Work it, Paul, you know these words!

Clint and Paul: That frozen concoction that helps me hang on.

Sydnee: Hang on! Hang on! Hang on!

Griffin: You all know the chorus. Sing the chorus!

All: [singing] Wasting away again in Margaritaville. Searching for my lost shaker of salt.

Salt! Salt! Salt!

Some people claim that there's a woman to blame, but I know it's my own damn fault.

Griffin: One more chorus, I think.

Justin: Yeah, one more. Everybody, let me hear ya!

All: [singing] Wasting away again in Margaritaville.

Justin: Griffin, drop out the guitar. Let's just hear it.

[guitar strumming stops]

All: [singing] Searching for my lost shaker of salt.

Justin: [clapping] Salt! Salt! Salt!

All: [singing] Some people claim that there's a woman to blame, but I know it's my own dang fault.

Justin: Everybody, thank you so much for coming to Candlenights 2019!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Drive home safely!

Charlie: Thank you!

Justin: And kiss your dad square on the lips!

Charlie: Bye!

Justin: Say bye-bye!

Charlie: Bye-bye!

Justin: Wave bye-bye!

Charlie: Bye-bye!

[theme music, "(It's a) Departure" by The Long Winters, plays and ends]

[audience cheers]