

MBMBAM 384: Face 2 Face: TORONTO! LISTEN!

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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: Begin! [laughs]

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

[crowd cheers]

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

[crowd cheers]

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

[crowd cheers]

Travis: Just real quick, two super technical things. One, there's a clock on the stage that I think is supposed to be counting down but it's not moving.

Griffin: Here we go. Sometimes it feels like time's not moving when we're doing this show.

Travis: And two, someone's recording this right? I didn't check this beforehand, but it's fine.

Justin: We apparently are going to spend, you can't see this, we're going to keep up with the theme of things you can't also see. We are staring at two huge televisions that are just displaying our picture. The ones that were there, remember just a second ago? We're apparently going to be barreling those for just the entire—

Travis: Don't take that away! No, don't take it away because it reminds how damn handsome I am.

Justin: What a handsome boy.

Travis: Look at that hair!

Griffin: Also, I'm going to give you the audience a 100% guarantee. This is not the biggest table we've ever worked with. There is going to be *a big spill*.

Travis: Of our absolute coffee drinks.

Griffin: I have two coffee drinks. Thank you all for coming here and thank you to PodCon for having us! How was your PodCon?

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: With a response of just, a loud exclamation, how's your PodCon going?

[crowd cheers even louder]

Travis: Okay, now the nazed?

Griffin: Who's having a really shitty... [sarcastic] No!

Justin: Everybody just tell me your favorite panel right now, at the same time. One, two, three, go!

[crowd cheers incoherently]

Justin: Cool, cool, cool.

Travis: A lot of people said “yours” which I feel is a cheat. I’m really excited to be here, surrounded by creators and just realizing like, I’m gonna start so many new podcasts.

Griffin: Yeah, I’m starting a new one, a collabo. Me and Lauren Spohrer from Criminal were on a panel earlier today and we’re doing a new true crime podcast called, “Ah, Real Murder!”

Travis: It’s really good.

Griffin: And It’s just, it’s great. We aren’t going to do ‘research’ at all. My theory is that there’ve been like a trillion people that have ever been on earth, right? And so law of large numbers, someone has been murdered in every conceivable way. So I can just talk about, “There was one dude who got drowned in a bunch of horsey sauce from Arby’s” and it’s probably true!

Justin: Probably true!

Travis: I’m going start a new one with Kevin Porter from Gilmore Guys where we watch and discuss every episode of Entourage and we call it, “Ehh-tourage”.

Griffin: Is there any way I could pre-subscribe to that?

Travis: [laughs] ‘Cause here’s the thing, maybe it’s good?

Griffin: No.

Travis: It’s not, but what my book presupposes is...

Justin: My new thing’s a solo project. It’s about The Pest. It’s called, “Save the Pest for Last.” It’s a thrilling docu-drama...

Griffin: There’s a John Leguizamo movie called The Pest.

Travis: I’m sorry, Griffin. A John Leguizamo vehicle.

Justin: It drives right off a cliff.

Griffin: Right off a cliff into a shark tank, or something. And has a really buckwild intro. It's not especially funny to talk about on the stage.

Travis: And it's not funny to watch, either!

Justin: No, this is the problem. I'm glad we hit on it, I'm glad we've sort of arrived on it organically. We've been doing a lot more live shows and what we find is it's hard to sort of, city-in-city-out, keep the energy up. And we're just three boring guys.

Travis: I mean we just did Tacoma last night.

Justin: I know, which we're—

[crowd cheers]

Justin: I was led to believe Seattle was Tacoma's bitter enemy so I'm so happy that you could celebrate them. 'Cause it's hard to keep the energy. We don't have pyrotechnics or anything. So we have been sort of obsessed with this audio file we've found.

Griffin: It's not The Pest, we wouldn't do that.

Travis: It's not The Pest. Because we love you, damn it.

Justin: It's not The Pest. It's 45 minutes of Paul Stanley stage banter.

Travis: You know Paul Stanley from KISS?

Justin: From KISS?

Travis: He's the one with the star?

Justin: So rather than us try to keep the energy up and get everybody really excited, we thought we'd just let Paul Stanley do it.

Griffin: For 45 whole minutes. Welcome to the fucking dungeon.

Justin: It's not real Paul Stanley. He couldn't make it. But we do have this audio file.

Travis: He sends his regrets.

Justin: Just one thing you should... For the next couple of minutes you should pretend you're in Toronto.

Travis: That will really help.

Justin: It will really heighten the effect.

Griffin: Also pretend you're playing The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time and Navi is floating over your shoulder for reasons that will become instantly apparent.

Travis: Also pretend you know anything about the titles of KISS songs. So you know what he's building up to.

Justin: He's building up to some things that you're not going to be aware of where he's headed.

Griffin: So let this... Just absorb this and let this get you so psyched. This is 45 minutes of Paul Stanley, well, two minutes of Paul Stanley stage banter.

Travis: Two minutes and 45 minutes of Paul Stanley.

[Soundboard plays]

Paul Stanley: Aaaaall right! [yells] Toronto!

[crowd cheers]

Paul Stanley: Feeeels good! All right then, listen! You know we may be under clear blue skies, but you know it's getting a little cool out tonight, but

that ain't gonna stop us! 'Cause if we try hard enough we're gonna get this place... I said we gonna get this place! Hotter than hell!

[crowd awkwardly laughs]

Travis: Can we get it a little louder, please?

Paul Stanley: I wanna know if we got any people in here tonight that I could get... [Yells] High! We got any people tonight that are hiiigh?

[crowd laughs and cheers]

Paul Stanley: All right then, listen. You know. Every once in a while we like to get a little wasted, we like to take a taste of [Yells] alcohol!

[crowd laughs]

Paul Stanley: And I tell you when we get goin', we ain't gonna be drinking no Southern Comfort, no no! No, we ain't gonna be drinking no tequila! 'Cause I tell ya, when we want to get going there's only one drink that gets us mooovin'!

Justin: [laughing] There's probably a KISS song involving alcohol he's building to, I don't know which one.

Paul Stanley: I can't hear ya! I can't hear ya! Louder! All right, Toronto! Listen! You know, it wasn't too long ago we was here and I tell ya every time we come here, damn it, it just gets better and better! You people are dynamite!

Justin: [laughs]

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: That's it.

Travis: It goes on like that for another 42 minutes. And we've listened to that like five times in the last 48 hours.

Justin: [imitating Paul Stanley] Listen!

Travis: [imitating] Listen!

Justin: Toronto! We gotta get the Deku Nut! And throw it at a stuuuff.
[normally] Does anyone know what fucking alcohol song he's building to?

[someone from crowd yells back]

Justin: Old Jim? Wolf Gin?

Griffin: Old Gem?

Travis: I get drunk off old gin!

[brothers all start imitating Paul Stanley again]

Griffin: It's really gross! Listen!

Travis: I like the way the dust particles settle in it!

Justin: You gotta find the masteer swooord!

Travis: Toronto!

Justin: Toronto! Give me the triforce!

Griffin: Hey, let's do a Podcast.

[crowd laughs]

Griffin: You can't just play 45 minutes of Paul Stanley audio and call it a Podcast.

Travis: Or can you?! Hello, PodCon!

Justin: My new Podcast! So thank you to Paul Stanley.

Travis: Standom. That's what I would call it.

Griffin: Yeah, that's not bad.

Justin: It's alright.

Travis: It's not a good reaction though.

Justin: We take your questions and turn them alchemy like into wisdom. Thank you. So we're gonna do that now. These lights are so bright.

Griffin: They're very bright lights.

Justin: So bright.

Travis: Hey, let's take it down.

Justin: No, don't take it down. "I am travelling from Salt Lake to Seattle and I'm wondering how the heck I'm supposed to take my skateboard on an airplane? I have no idea, and I don't wanna leave it behind because it is my main form of transportation." That's from Skater Boy on the Salt Air.

Travis: At that point isn't the airplane your main...

Griffin: [laughs] No, he's skitchin'. Skitchin' the whole way here. Please watch out for the jets, they are not conducive to skitchin'! I mean, you gotta skateboard onto the tarmac.

Justin: Absolutely.

Griffin: Up the luggage thing. Onto the wing. Transfer over the chassis of the plane.

Travis: Into jail...

Griffin: Into jail. Out of jail. Back onto the wing. Smash through the window of the airplane. The flight will be grounded. They need that window so bad.

Justin: It is important for the vacuum!

Griffin: The vacuum, I don't understand much about airplane technology but I think the vacuum is quite important.

Travis: I have seen people bring, like, really weird shit on an airplane.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Can't you just bring...

Justin: [erupts with fake laughter] Ha ha ha ha ha! That's so funny! That's a very funny thing to say, Travis! Is this your first episode of My Brother, My Brother and Me? [long pause] So...

[crowd laughs]

Justin: The hard part is TSA. 'Cause they're gonna be like, "Do you have anything dangerous?" And you're gonna be like, "I should fucking say I do. Do you have any paper you need... shredded?" And then you do a flip.

Griffin: You do a kick flip and then you shred somebody's passport with how hard your kick flip is. They say, "Do you have anything electric in there?"

"Yeah, yes. It is electrifying."

"Do you have any liquids?"

"Yes, the piss you're going to piss when you see me do my cool skateboard tricks!"

Justin: If you get, it's not conventional or cheap, but if you get your passport printed on a skateboard—

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: They are going to have to let you board with it.

Griffin: Or get your passport photo taken with your skateboard in it. So you show up and they're looking at your ticket and they're like, "This isn't you!" And you're like, "Oh, hold on."

Travis: Here's what you're going to have to do—

Griffin: You could wear it as a hat in the passport photo. And be like, "No, it's a medicinal skateboard hat. I need it for life."

Travis: You're going to have to break your skateboard down to its component parts. And disguise them as other parts of your luggage. Use the wheels on your suitcase, and put the skateboard... board. The board part on the back of the suitcase. And then put the trunks in the suitcase. Trucks? The... Axles?

Griffin: Trucks.

Justin: I don't know...

Travis: I'm pretty in touch with skateboard culture.

Justin: I don't know how the security line at the TSA works but I think one of the main things they hate is components. Like, any sort of component based thing, they're like, not wild about. Even if you promise them, "No no no, it's cool, I'm going to build a skateboard." I still don't think—

Travis: "I know how this looks!"

Justin: "I know how this looks with all these components. But it is for a skateboard."

Griffin: How about a Yahoooooo?

[crowd erupts]

Griffin: If you've never listened to our show sometimes we make fun of people on Yahoo! Answers.

Travis: No! We make fun with them!

Griffin: We make fun with them and help them out.

Justin: Are there any people, just show of hands, any people who have never listened to our show before that are here? Anybody?

[one person cheers]

Justin: Hey, alright!

Griffin: Alright!

Justin: [mimicking Paul Stanley] All right! Toronto! Every time I come to PodCon it just gets better and better!

Travis: [mimicking] You people are dynamite!

Justin: [mimicking] You people are dynamite!

Griffin: The Podcast is not usually us shrieking Paul Stanley quotes. This Yahoo! is sent in by the delivery man himself Seth Carlson, thank you.

Travis: Woo!

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: It's Yahoo! Answers user Carol who asks, "Should spaghetti be waaay shorter? I'm not talking about that macaroni. I'm not talking about that penne. I'm talking about that short spaghetti."

Travis: I really love, word choice in Yahoo is my favorite part. Because the question is not, could spaghetti be shorter but, should it?

Griffin: Ethically.

Travis: Would it be okay...

Griffin: Morally, is spaghetti too long?

Justin: I know, a lot of times I'm sucking one of those good, good noods up. And I get about—

Travis: Whoa! Wait!

Justin: No, okay.

Griffin: Ehh-yikes!

Justin: In retrospect it's not a good truncation and we've all learned a lot here tonight.

Griffin: Maybe 'dull's?

Justin: 'Dull's?

Griffin: No, just noodles.

Travis: Noodles.

Justin: Noo-noo's?

Travis: Oodles, oodles.

Justin: You know what I'll say? Spaghetti noodles. Sometimes I'm consuming a spaghetti noodle and I only get two-thirds of the way through and I'm like, "Ugh. I get it."

Griffin: You're talking, you're saying—

Travis: Take a break!

Justin: [slurps] I get that point and I'm like, eh, over it.

Griffin: You're saying we need—

Justin: What if you get full at that exact moment? I don't want the last third of this noodle.

Travis: Too much!

Justin: It's too much for me!

Griffin: You're saying way shorter is way too short? You want a master's finesse on these noodles. A keen eye taking maybe 8% of the noodle off. Just a little off.

Travis: I would like bespoke noodles. I would like someone who measures the inside of my mouth and then makes noodles accordingly.

Justin: I want someone, I want a waiter to come to my table with what appears to be a mop full of spaghettis of varying lengths. And then ask me very personal questions about my upbringing. Select the right noodle.

Griffin: Measure your mouth with a special ruler.

Travis: And then maybe come around with a golden pair of scissors that they discard immediately after using them.

Griffin: Throw it right away.

Travis: And it's just like, "That's too much noodle." And they just take care of it.

Griffin: Oh! They could cut it right in front of your mouth!

Travis: Right in front of your mouth! You're going to be like, "That's it, when!"

"Yes of course, sir."

Justin: Okay, what if they just come to the table with a bathtub full of spaghetti?! And they stand there and just like, let you keep sucking it up until you're full.

Travis: Hidden inside is a flag!

[Griffin and crowd erupts in laughter]

Travis: You're going to space camp, my friend!

Justin: Good news!

Griffin: I feel like if spaghetti was way shorter you would have fork issues? This would now become a spoon problem.

Travis: Well not only that, how unsatisfying would it be if you were to be like, [short slurp], "Aww".

Griffin: You like the, noodle hanging, the Cthulhu effect of the noodles.

Travis: There's a certain sound wave that happens as you inhale the noodle that's like [big breath in].

Griffin: Yeah. Also my vape noise.

[crowd laughs]

Travis: Is there spaghetti flavored vape?

Griffin: Yeeep!

Justin: If we're gonna make 'em shorter we should probably make 'em thicker as well.

Griffin: [laughs] Oh God! How thick are we talking? What's the diameter, Juice?

Justin: Like bake bean can size...

[crowd gasps]

Griffin: Fuck!

Justin: Spaghetti noodles that are about this long and this big around. I want it to be like... "Man, I want some spaghetti in four hours! I better start braising this."

Travis: So like, a puck of spaghetti.

Justin: Exactly! How do you want it? It only comes al dente.

Griffin: It can get very cooked. That's great, you can just lay it on its side and just take a big bite of it from the top. I like that.

Justin: You're laughing but there's a dark part of you—

Griffin: You would.

Justin: You do. There's a part of it that's like, "Put a sear on it and maybe... I don't know!"

Griffin: I'd eat a nasty noodle can!

Justin: Yeah, I'd eat a nasty can of noodle.

Griffin: Where does the sauce, go?

Travis: It's sauce flavored.

Griffin: If you put it- Oh God!

Travis: This is not a food of opulence this is a food of convenience!

Justin: It's obviously inside.

Griffin: Ohh! So a secret pocket.

Justin: If you cut it, it just sort of—

Griffin: Oh be careful now. 'Cause now we're talking about a big ravioli.

Justin: No, no, no.

Travis: Holy shit! It's all connected!

Griffin: All pastas kinda the same, yeah.

Justin: Okay, time out. Time out. Quick ravioli check if anyone's ever—

Travis: If anyone here's a ravioli you have to tell us, or it's entrapment!

Justin: You know that classically the marinara is not stuffed inside the ravioli.

Griffin: Like a gusher. Like a savory marinara Gusher!

Justin: Not like that.

Travis: No that's a pizza roll.

Justin: Okay, fair.

Griffin: Why have they never made savory Gushers now that I'm thinking about it?

[crowd groans and laughs]

Griffin: Fucking cowards. All of you.

[crowd laughs]

Travis: Here's what it should be, it should be a packet of Gushers, 99% of them are sweet. One is savory.

Griffin: Gotta be careful I don't want my head to turn into a big ravioli! Like the commercials... for Gushers. So.

Justin: "Recently at my parents' house I found an old trunk full to the brim with dusty puppets." [mimicking Paul Stanley] "Hello! We're The Dusty Puppets!"

Travis: "Hello Toronto!"

Justin: "Hello Toronto!" [normally] "I also found proof that my father was involved in competitive puppetry."

[crowd gasps in astonishment]

Griffin: Okay, hold on. You find a trunk of dusty puppets. That speaks for itself.

[crosstalk]

Griffin: What is the proof that your dad used to do competitive...?

Travis: Articles! And clippings.

Griffin: The only thing I think, is a trophy for competitive puppetry.

Travis: A local team, competes with puppets.

Justin: "Yeah, this could have been something we talked about as a family before. And maybe I just forgot?"

Griffin: You would not have forgotten!

Justin: Absolutely not. "I feel like I would have remembered puppets." Yup. "Either way this cannot go unaddressed. When is the best time to bring up

that you know your father's secret past a competitive puppeteer?" And that's from "I Know About the Puppets" in Paris.

Travis: Okay, I would like to pose a scenario. Justin is the dad here, okay?

Justin: Okay.

Travis: [high pitched French accent] J'accuse Papa!

Justin: I... don't think you want to do that. His father is a strong man and he put the puppets away for a reason. I'm not ready for whatever kind of reaction he's going to have. It's like a cobra!

Travis: He competes at a professional level!

Griffin: What a puppet competition? Can we address what competitive puppetry is?

Justin: Okay, options. One. You're trying to knock off the other guys puppet.

Griffin: With your puppet?

Travis: By puppeting so hard! It is non-contact—

Justin: Non-contact competitive puppeteering.

Travis: [makes wailing noises like a puppet is falling off] And the puppet flies off!

Griffin: You scare them very bad with your good... Yeah.

Travis: Okay, option two. How long can you puppet before someone realizes it's not a real person.

[crowd laughs]

Griffin: That's it!

Travis: Start the clock! "Hi everybody!"
"Hey Steve."

"How's it going? Just another hard day—"

Justin: "Wait a minute, stop the clock. This guy's felt!"

Travis: "He's got googly eyes!"

Griffin: When Sesame Street came out nobody knew. So reviews for the first episode of Sesame Street were like, "This is the biggest bird I've ever fucking seen! It talks and everything, they found a real fucking cryptozoological monster and it looooves cookies! 10/10 stars."

Justin: "Put on PBS Darla there's a giant hairy elephant and it's talking!"

Travis: "He's in a trashcan, I don't even know what's up!"

Griffin: My one year old son loves Sesame Street though, that's probably really what it's like for him. That must be nice.

Justin: Would love to go back.

Griffin: To imagine...

Travis: To have an imagination again. Or to believe in hope and goodness.

Justin: Competitive puppeteering. Competitive puppetry of the penis? Is that anything?

Griffin: I don't want it to be a thing. Is that just like, "Ugh, yeargh! Ugh!"

Justin: Puppetry of the penis does exist, that's not from my mind's eye. It was on Showtime late at night when I was a teenager.

[crowd laughs]

Griffin: Maybe, maybe! Maybe in competitive puppetry of the penis you're using your competitor's penis.

Justin: Yes, absolutely!

Griffin: That's a short match!

Justin: "Yes! I give! Mercy, mercy!"

Travis: "Alright, and we're ready to sta— I'm done!"

Justin: "I'm done, I'm out!"

Griffin: How about another Yahoo! I have another—

Travis: Wait, hold on. I think I know what competitive puppetry is.

Griffin: Oh, good.

Travis: Two puppeteers, the same puppet. And they take turns, and it's like, "No, that was— "

[crosstalk]

Griffin: Oh, I thought you meant two hands, one puppet. And I'm not gonna make the cheap joke that sounds like Two Hands, One Puppet. 'Cause that's below us and it's the fuckin' year 2017 A.D., the year of our Lord on the Gregorian calendar. Stop it! This is from the delivery man Seth Carlson again, thank you Seth. It's Yahoo! Answers user TheDSGuy who asks, "Is a jelly donut a donut?"

Travis: Now listen, if you think you know where this question, you think you know where this is going.

Griffin: "I mentioned The Donut Man to my Sunday school teacher. So he played his guitar and sang a song. 'Life without Jesus is like a donut because there's a hole in the middle of your heart.' Everyone loves this jam."

Justin: You guys know that one, right?

Griffin: "I said, 'What about donuts without holes?' He played and sang the same song but with different lyrics. 'A donut without a hole is not a donut.' So I said, 'What about a jelly donut?' He sang the same song with the lyrics, 'A jelly donut is not a donut.' So is he right? Is a jelly donut not a donut? Is a donut without a hole not a donut? Is a life without Jesus like a donut? Is there a hole in the middle of your heart? Jesus wants to fill that hole."

Travis: My favorite mental picture of this is the progression of the Sunday school teacher's face. He plays the first song, "But what about a donut without a donut hole?"

Griffin: "Well, that's ridiculous."

Travis: Okay, second song. And then third, "What about jelly donuts?"

"Jelly donut is not a donut!"

Justin: This Sunday school teacher looked in the mirror that morning before class and said to himself, "I am out of things I know about Jesus."

[everyone laughs]

Justin: "I have a Sunday school class today and I've taught them all the cool things that I learned about Jesus. All his wanderings and his ways, I have taught them all. I should try to vamp, I hope somebody asks a question that allows me to vamp off of it."

Travis: But here's the thing, if you tell a six year old that life without Jesus is like a donut, how's that six year old not like, "Sweet"?

Griffin: "Awesome!"

Travis: "Fucking sick bro, I love donuts!"

Griffin: "Donuts are awesome!"

Justin: If I remember correctly the song is literally like, "It's good for a little while, but then..."

Travis: Then you hit the center where there's no more donut?

Griffin: That is not how donuts work! I have never eaten a donut and been like, "Nom, nom. Hey! Where'd it go?!"

Justin: "What the hell?"

Griffin: "Why did you do this to me Jesus?! There's no donut in the middle of the donut!"

Justin: Do you think that anybody tried to tell that cat like, "I know you think you have something with this track but, that sounds pretty rad. I don't think we should necessarily want to compare these two things."

Travis: Also, long johns are donuts. They don't have holes.

Griffin: Is a danish a donut?

Travis: No, it's a danish, stupid.

[crowd laughs]

Justin: Now, wait!

Travis: Is a jelly donut just a danish?

Griffin: A jelly donut is just a closed over danish that hasn't been circumcised.

[all laugh]

Justin: Oookay!

Griffin: Well, think about it!

Justin: I'd rather not.

Travis: No, I get it!

Griffin: You burst that jelly donut and now we're in danish territory! We're in Denmark! Justin has moved the mic—

Justin: Chugga, chugga ch-chugga.

[crowd erupts as Munch Squad starts]

Travis: Now hold on, the people who raised their hands just looked around the room so confused.

Justin: Ch-ch-ch-chugga, Ch-chugga! [Justin goes on with guitar chugs and mimicking Led Zeppelin's 'Immigrant Song']

Travis: "I come from the land of the ice and the snow!"

Griffin: This is a very, very litigious band.

[Justin continues]

Justin: [yells] I wanna munch!

Crowd: Squad!!

Justin: I want. To. Munch!

Crowd: Squad!!

Justin: Hey everybody welcome to Munch Squad, it's a Podcast within a Podcast. We're so honored to be at PodCon when the McElroy brothers got the invite we didn't know if we would also be on the list but we begged and pleaded our way in and we're so excited to be with you to share this.

Griffin: Oh, God. I can see not very well Justin's iPad from this side of the table, I just saw sort of a brown, sort of mass, that maybe is sort of...

Justin: Don't give it away.

Griffin: Okay!

Justin: Big news everyone! Cinnabon, against God, it doesn't say that, that's me editorializing.

Travis: S-I-N-abon.

Justin: Thank you. Cinnabon is stuffing a cinnamon roll inside a cookie!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Wait! There's no space inside a cookie?

Griffin: Unless this cookie is the fucking Tardis I do not understand how this feat is possible.

Justin: It's putting a cinna-ma-bun... Cinnamon roll.

Travis: Wait, what?

Griffin: A cinna-ma-bun!

Justin: Cinna-a-ma-bun!

Travis: A cinna-a-ma-bun!

Justin: A cinna-a-ma-bun, inside a cookie! They're taking a cookie and putting a fucking cinnamon roll inside it.

Travis: That should be the end of the press release!

Justin: My favorite thing about Munch Squad is, sometimes, in order to justify, I'll just say it, their sin... They come up with a fake situation that they're solving? Like, "No, you see, it's not a sin against Jesus? It's um,

we're solving a problem." And the fake problem they've invented for this delight—

Travis: Not enough diabetes!

Justin: Yeah, right. Is one of my favorites so far. The days of deciding between a fresh warm cookie and an ooey-goey Cinnabon cinnamon roll are no more!

Griffin: These are different day, periods? That you eat these foods?

Travis: Also, who made both of them at the same time?! Who was like, looking at the oven, like—

Griffin: "Aw we fucked up! We did two bakings!"

Justin: "In honor of National Cookie Day, Cinnabon will," I mean, desecrate the idea of a cookie. They'll slit its throat in front of its family. "Cinnabon will offer the most ingenious treat to date, the Cookiebon bite. This item takes the beloved chocolate chip cookie to another level."

Griffin: Bad!

Travis: Bad!

Justin: "By baking a bon-bite", imagine the... pretend you're the person creating this and see if your brain doesn't try to stop you. It probably will. "It takes the bon-bite, the bite sized version of Cinnabons world famous cinnamon roll inside a chocolate chip cookie."

Travis: Where?

Griffin: Where?

Travis: Where?

Justin: "It will only be available for a limited time." As will the people who consume it, ironically.

[all erupt in laughter]

Justin: “There’s no better way to celebrate national cookie day then with the quintessential combination of cookies and milk.” Stop acting like you’re fucking honoring the cookie when you’re remixing it and shitting on it!

Griffin: There’s no better way to celebrate your last national cookie day...

Justin: “To provide guests with the ultimate dunking experience— “

Griffin: Who dunks a fucking cinnamon roll?!

Justin: They partnered with Fairlife to provide a free 8oz. bottle of milk. Your last one. “For every cookie bite purchased on December 4th.”

Travis: And we put cookies in it, fuck off!

Justin: Fuck off. “The nutrient rich ultra-filtered milk is lactose free and contains 50% more protein, 30% more calcium and 50% less sugar than regular milk.”

Griffin: Do not care about the nutrients in the milk of the nightmare bomb that I’m shoving down my hate gullet!!

Travis: That’s the worst misdirect I’ve ever heard.

Justin: But the milk is so wicked good for you, y’all! Seriously!

Travis: The milk’s totally gonna cover for the sugar mess!

Justin: The milk’s like, “Nah, it’s fine. He’s with me.”

[crowd laughs]

Griffin: The bad cookie will hide in the milk in your tummy.

Justin: Uh, there's more. "Sharing a passion for the highest quality ingredients you'll— "

Griffin: I don't care if this shit's made out of emeralds!

Travis: And gold?

Justin: "Cinnabon and Fairlife make the perfect pair just like milk and cookies, let's check in with Jill Thomas Vice President of Global Marketing for Cinnabon."

Travis: Free me from this prison.

Justin: "The cookiebon bite is one of our yummiest examples of creativity that's come out of the innovation kitchen." [sighs] Hatred and creativity are different things, Jill.

Griffin: But they occupy the same part of our awful brain.

Justin: The extent to which we despise humanity has never been fully—

Travis: We've never hurt you more!

Justin: "The delicious cookiebon bite joins two extraordinary baked goods to create an unexpected, out of this world flavor combination, not to be missed." How?

Travis: Because here's the thing.

Griffin: Show me a picture of this bad boy.

Travis: Yeah, all I'm picturing is Saturn where's there's just like a cinnamon bun thing.

Griffin: You're not that far off my man.

Justin: I don't know if you'll, probably not but I can try.

[crowd gasps and groans in horror]

Justin: Yeah man, I'd eat it, too. That's what you all were thinking. You wanted to laugh but secretly you're like, "Hell yeah, I'd fuck that up! No question!"

Travis: But here's the thing, do you think after they put the press release out somebody leaned in and was like, "Why didn't we just do like a chocolate chip cinnamon roll?" And they're like, "Ah, shit."

Griffin: "Ah, shit."

Travis: "Damn it."

Justin: That's because they were getting into their partnership with Nashville's Christie Cookie Company. The brand behind the famous DoubleTree by Hilton cookie. We take your favorite hotel cookie and put it in a fucking cinnamon roll! What do we care?

Travis: "We take your favorite hotel cookie, put it in your favorite airport cinnamon roll!"

Justin: "Our partnership with Christie Cookie Company is just one example of our dedication to supporting premium bakery brands that offer cravable products on par with Cinnabon." Are you sure you want to do that, Jill? Are you sure you want to watch the throne that hard?

Griffin: There is one kind of day you can have after eating one of these, I feel like. And in a way like, maybe it's a relief. You eat one of these and it's like, "Well, clear my schedule."

Justin: Yeah, it transforms your khakis into sweats.

Travis: This is a cookie you look at all day and think, "Not yet."

Griffin: Not yet.

Justin: Not yet.

Travis: "Not yet, I still have things to do in this world."

Griffin: How about another question?

Justin: "I work in a bridal store and have to work in pretty close proximity to a lot of our customers. When I notice that someone smells particularly nice it's such a pleasant surprise. I often find myself complimenting them on it."

[crowd giggles]

Justin: Nooooo!

Griffin: It's too late for them. Next question. Move on! They're done, they fucked up too bad!

Justin: The problem is saying, "Wow, you smell really good!" sometimes comes off the wrong way."

Griffin: Are you sure?

Travis: [sarcastic] What?! Go ooooo!

Justin: "However I think saying, 'Sorry, I'm not trying to be creepy' might actually make it worse."

Griffin: Yes!

Justin: Oh, you don't say.

Griffin: Both are right.

Justin: "Should I stop complimenting this aspect of my customers completely, or just stop apologizing for it?" And that's from "Sorry for Smelling" in Nebraska.

Travis: Are you here?

Griffin: I heard so much response. Yes or no, I'll count it down. Is this acceptable behavior? Yes or no. Three, two, one...

Crowd: [yells] Nooo!

Travis: There was a lot of yes there.

Griffin: I heard six yes's. Travis is—

Justin: Challenge accepted, we're gonna do round robin and try to say this that isn't creepy.

Griffin: No-o!

Travis: No no no, we can do this.

Griffin: `Cause people edit it out and make it sound like a thing I think!

Travis: Some of us have acting degrees.

Griffin: Oookay.

Travis: Justin has three quarters of an acting degree.

Justin: [groans] I have a whole acting degree. Alright, here we go. "Ughhh!"

Griffin: No! Bad!

Justin: No that was just me clearing my throat!

Travis: Gotta let him get through it.

Justin: Just let me get to it. "Your musk, is..."

Griffin: Oookay!

Justin: No?

Travis: You gotta let him get through it.

Justin: You gotta let me get through it.

Travis: `Cause you don't know how it's gonna end.

Justin: [old man voice] "The fragrance you're exuding, right now... "No, I'm out. I quit. I'm tapping out.

Travis: Alright, let me try. Okay, everybody be quiet. "[big sniff] Your smell!"

Griffin: No!

Justin: No, can't start with a sniff.

Travis: Okay, let me try again. "Mmmmm!"

Justin: No, okay? No. Absolutely not. Cannot. Griffin?

Travis: "Your particles! They smell go-ood!"

Griffin: Alright You're done, it's done. What if you're just like, "[small sniff] Oh, nice."

[crowd laughs and applauds]

Travis: Let's act it out! Act it out! I'm leaning down to look at a veil I like.

Griffin: Okay. "Oh, nice." What if I don't do the sniff?

Travis: Let's try again.

Griffin: "Oh, nice."

Travis: "What?"

Justin: "What's up?"

Griffin: "There's a good smell in here from somebody. Somebody in here smells good."

Justin: Live your life!

Travis: Not me!

Griffin: "Not me! Who else is it?!"

Travis: "Is it me?!"

Griffin: "I guess so! Or somebody else who was in here before, that's not weird, is it?"

Travis: "I love you!"

Griffin: "I love you, too. That dress is for OUR wedding now! Pow pow pow! I stole your fucking wedding!"

Justin: Live your life with the confidence of the person willing to claim the good smell. It's them.

Travis: It's-a me!

Justin: It's me, you got it.

Griffin: I'm letting you know if you mist up before you go outside, you know you're the one with the good smell. You always know you're the one with the smell no matter what kinda smell it is.

Travis: Actually, here's the thing. I live my life everyday afraid I smell bad and no one's telling me.

Griffin: Jesus.

Travis: I know, I have a lot of weird anxiety. And so for somebody to look at me and be like, "Hey, straight up. You smell good."

Griffin: No. Still. You said that out loud and even then after you said it you still realized it's not good.

Travis: I think the only way that would actually work is if I travelled back in time and said to myself, "Hey, you smell good."

Griffin: There's no good way to compliment a stranger about more or less anything, which is fine. Maybe an anonymous comment card situation. Everybody should have a suggestion box that they carry like a fanny pack on their back, though. And so you slip it in there when they're not looking, zip! And it's like, totally cool. "The smell is nice!" No, it's still not good!

Travis: Okay, what about a missed connections web page?

Griffin: Still not good, Travis!

Travis: And then it just says like, "You came into my store and you smell good." And then you're like, "I think that was me."

Justin: Go to them and say, "What's your LinkedIn?" And they tell you and you say, "Okay, you got a good recommendation coming your way. Keep an eye out on your inbox."

Travis: What if there was just a sign over the door that says, "Someone in here smells good" that you could just, point to.

Justin: You could ask them, "What... shampoo?"

Griffin: Ooh, ooh, ooh!

Justin: Never mind I got too yuck!

Griffin: Okay, I think I've got it. Think I've got it. They're trying on a dress or veil or whatever and you say, "What's that smell?"

Travis: Nope.

Justin: I can't, you can't!

Travis: Especially not when someone's changing clothes!

Justin: Yep. Can't. Can't do it.

Griffin: You think they're gonna be talking about a... butt? No.

Travis: You can't... "What's that smell?" Has never been followed with the rest of the sentence, "'Cause it's great."

Griffin: Alright, stop, stop. "What's that good smell?"

Travis: No!

Griffin: No, "What's that good smell?" Is fucking bulletproof!

Justin: That's good 'cause you enlist them in the mystery.

Travis: [laughs] Let us sniff around together!

Griffin: They might say, "Oh, I have a scent on. It might be me." And then you can say like, "Oh yeah. I guess that's it." Done. Don't need to drag it out any.

Justin: What have you... gained? What have you gained? What have you gained?

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: This is a way- why can't you smell the smell, think in your head, "That's nice" and then store that positive moment away for yourself.

Griffin: Even that's kind of fucking creepy!

Travis: Yeah, it is, too! But here's the thing.

Griffin: "I'm not going to say anything, but I'm going to save the memory of your great smell for myself, laaater!"

Justin: "I'm going to enjoy it later!"

Travis: I think maturity is just a series of starting to say really fucked up things and then thinking, "Nah, that's just for me."

Justin: Yeah, that one...

Travis: Yeah that one's staying in the ol' dome.

Griffin: Or just not thinking them!

Travis: Listen, I wish I had that kind of self-control.

[theme music plays]

Griffin: Hey everybody, this is Griffin. Thank you so much for listening to this episode of My Brother, My Brother and Me. Our live episode from PodCon. PodCon was a ton of fun if you didn't get a chance to go to it, you missed out on some really great panels. Or did you miss out? 'Cause you can still get a streaming ticket and watch archives of all the stuff that we talked about there.

Thank you so much to everybody who was there you all were very, very cool and it was nice to meet everybody. Let's talk about some of our sponsors this week so you can get back to listening to the rest of the episode. Our first sponsor is NatureBox. If you're trying to eat better, the holidays are a minefield. They got chocolate, they got cookies, they got candied canes.

Let NatureBox help you out with snacks that you love that are delicious and better for you. Nature Box has over 100 delicious snacks made from high quality simple ingredients. That means no artificial colors, flavors or sweeteners. Just go to NatureBox.com choose your snacks and Nature Box will deliver them right to your door. And new snacks are added every month! And if you don't like the snack they'll just replace it for free. Right now

NatureBox is offering My Brother, My Brother and Me fans 50% off their order when you go to NatureBox.com/MyBrother. That's NatureBox.com/MyBrother for 50% off your first order. One last time, that's NatureBox.com/MyBrother.

I also want to tell you all about Harry's. 'Cause Harry's is the best way to get razors you can use on any of your parts you don't want as much hair on anymore, I guess. I have a Harry's razor that I use to shave with and it gets my face as smooth as a seal's ass. But anyway, you already know that Harry's is dedicated to making amazing quality products at a super reasonable price.

But Harry's also makes a great gift! So this holiday Harry's is offering custom limited edition shaving sets that come with German engineered five blade cartridges that provide a close, comfortable shave. They've got foaming shave gel that smells a-mah-zing. They have special limited edition winter chrome and emerald green handles - and you can personalize it with engraving! Sets come ready to gift in beautifully designed gift boxes and start at just \$10.

And as a special offer for fans we have partnered with Harry's to give you \$5 off your order when you go to Harrys.com/MyBrother. This offer is only available for the holidays. So this holiday, give Harry's, and give handsome. Shipping cutoff ends this week so act now to get your gifts delivered in time. Get a limited edition holiday shave set while supplies last. Go to Harrys.com/MyBrother right now. That's Harrys.com/MyBrother.

Got a few jumbotrons for you as well, but first I want to tell you about ToonTown Public Works. It's the hot new podcast, so much buzz about PodCon. People were just gabbing, gabbing, gabbing about ToonTown Public Works. And those people know about fucking podcasts. Do you like old cartoons that are wrongfully or rightfully forgotten? Do you like hearing about the latest in animation news? Do you like discussions about the socio-political implications of the Three Stooges?

Join HT the Raccoon, Kacey the Dog and Surf the Cat in ToonTown Public Works, a podcast of three toons going through shorts that fell in the public domain while giving their thoughts on the toons of past, present and future.

P.S. Casper isn't a dead kid but a product of ghost fucking. Look it up. I believe I will! Anyway, go to iTunes, Stitcher or wherever you get your podcasts and search for ToonTown Public Works or just follow them on Twitter @ToonTownPublic.

Another jumbotron here, for this one I want you to help out the kids of the Running to Places Theater Company at bit.ly/pobodysnerfect. That's a great ol' URL you've secured there. Running to Places is a non-profit youth community theater company for teens. Participation is totally free and it's crazy fun! My name's Joey and I founded R2P 20 years ago. I definitely did not get approval from my board to pay for this ad. Please help us not get fired while helping us keep R2P free for the kiddos by donating to bit.ly/pobodysnerfect before somebody notices the charge on our card and starts asking questions.

If we get enough donations to cover the cost of the ad, am I good? I think so. Please help this person keep their job and please help keep this really cool sounding theater company alive. It sounds like a really great way to spend some of your bucks this holiday season.

Speaking of, there's also the MBMBaM Angels project where you can help out people in Huntington who are in need this holiday season. Our local paper puts out a list called Empty Stockings that's just a list of some of the most like, heartbreaking things that people are asking for this holiday season. And we just ask that our fans who are always so supportive of stuff like this to go to mbmbamangels.com and check out some of the things that you can help out with for people in Huntington this holiday season. We sure do appreciate your generosity and we're sure they do as well.

Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can go to MaximumFun.org and check out all the great shows there. Shows like Lady to Lady, Stop Podcasting Yourself, Tights and Fights and so many more. If you want to check out our other shows you can go to McElroyShows.com.

I think that's it. Thank you so much for listening and thank you to everybody at PodCon who came out to the panel. I think next week we are going to have just sort of a regular episode and then after that, well two Mondays

from now is actually Christmas Day, it will probably go up on Tuesday but we're probably going to put up our Candlesights Live show we're doing in Huntington that we are so stoked for. Thank you all so much for grabbing tickets for that and helping it sell out as quickly as it did. So, yeah, we will talk to you next week! Goodbye!

[music plays]

J. Keith: Hey, Helen Hong.

Helen: Yes, J. Keith van Straaten?

J. Keith: What's the difference between a layover and a stopover?

Helen: I have no idea. What's the difference between optimal and optimum?

J. Keith: I have no idea. Well, what's the difference between an actual conversation and a promo for our new show on Maximum Fun, Go Fact Yourself?

Helen: Nobody has any idea!

J. Keith: Go Fact Yourself: The game show with celebrity contestants, super smart experts, and answers to questions you've never even asked.

Helen: Listen twice a month of MaximumFun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts. And be in the audience for our tapings of Go Fact Yourself in downtown LA. It's free! Go to GoFactYourPod.com for more info.

J. Keith: We're having a very realistic conversation.

Helen: Yes, we are.

[music fades out]

Griffin: I have another Yahoo! If you all want it.

Justin: Yeah! Well, do you wanna? Okay, yeah.

Griffin: What's wrong?

Justin: No, I just had another question I didn't know if you wanted to...

Griffin: Yeah, let's do the Yahoo! first, it's from Aaron Quist. Thank you, Aaron. It's an anonymous Yahoo! Answers user. We're gonna call them...

Travis: A-nonymous.

Griffin: Okay. Travis decided that 'Anonymous' is the funniest name to call them.

Travis: No it's, A is short for Aaron Nonymous.

Griffin: Aaron-nonymous. Oof. Still. Asks, "What does Robert want for Christmas?"

[crowd laughs]

Travis: Robert are you here?

Griffin: "Our group of friends are exchanging gifts for Christmas this year, but I have no idea what Robert wants."

Justin: Hey, real quick, show of hands, how many Roberts do we have?

Travis: One... Okay wait, keep them up. One, two.

Griffin: This is your day, Roberts!

Travis: Not as many as I would have thought!

Justin: Can I get every Robert to just stand up real quick? Hey, everybody let's give them a big round of applause! Thank you to all the Roberts for coming out! So cool of you guys, thank you.

Travis: Yeah, we didn't think we were gonna get Robert here.

Justin: Thank you, Robert. Now sit down Robert. Sit.

Travis: Now the people who are here with Robert. What does Robert want for Christmas?

Justin: I... ughh... umm... A copy of Terminator 2 on DVD, so he can remember the great time he had shooting that movie with his friend Arnold Schwarzenegger. Yes, it's Robert Patrick.

Travis: Robert Patrick's here?

Griffin: Maybe some nice pulpy orange juice because it's Robert Loggia. And that's about as deep a cut as I can possibly deliver here on My Brother My Brother and Me is the orange juice commercial, starring Robert Loggia.

Justin: After our show, our during it, if it keeps up like this, Google 'Robert Loggia Orange Juice Commercial'. You're in for a real treat.

Griffin: Maybe Robert wants \$10,000 American dollars?

Justin: Choice. It fits every time.

Travis: Maybe what Robert wants is for you to get to know Robert well enough to know what Robert wants. Maybe you haven't spent enough time...

[crowd applause]

Travis: Applause! For that!

Griffin: Weird appeal of applause. Yeah, Robert has been in the dumps lately!

Travis: Robert just wants a fucking friend!

Justin: And a new season of Serial to explain why that applause just happened

[everyone laughs]

Justin: I need a forensic examination of where it started and where—

Travis: “I think Robert needs a friend, yes!”

Griffin: Episode one it would be like, “Blink, blink, blink. They certainly didn’t earn that applause. Where did it come from?” Maybe Robert wants you to fucking stop calling him Bob.

Justin: Yeah, he would very much appreciate that. He’s asked you so many times. I should have asked how many Bobs we have.

Travis: Oooh! How many Bobs?

Griffin: No, we’re done, that bit plays once and sometimes not even that many times.

Travis: How many people here aren’t named Robert?

[crowd cheers]

Travis: One, two...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I’m going to answer one more question.

Travis: I’m not done talking about Robert!

Griffin: Robert is so great but I’m actually done talking about Robert.

Travis: Probably a blanket.

Griffin: How good’s that last question?

Justin: It's the one with the kid.

Griffin: I don't know what the fuck you're talking about?

Travis: Nah, let's go to audience questions.

Griffin: Sorry, kid!

Justin: I'm just going to read it and then we won't address it but then it won't be a fucking mystery. I don't want Serial season 3 to be like, "They said it was about a kid. Blink, blink, blink".

"I have a nephew who just turned three years old. Whenever anyone's upset he likes to diffuse the tension by yelling and being silly until everyone is cheerful again."

Travis: Right there with you kid.

Justin: That's adorable. "However, lately, his go to phrase for this has been, 'Fuckin' A.' Which he picked up from my mom. While it's not a huge deal with us he may be going to daycare soon, he should probably not be swearing around other people's kids. How do we get him to stop swearing?" That's from Aunt of a Cool Seattle Baby.

Travis: This kid rules.

Justin: This kid rules, I don't have an answer... Oh! Check this out. "Hey, fuckin' A you smell great!"

Griffin: That does it!

[crowd erupts in cheers]

Travis: Let's hear it for the boy!

Griffin: Uh, should we go to audience questions now?

Travis: Fuckin' A!

Griffin: Yeah, alright. Can we get lights up on the crowd? So, we have runners who are going to come around with microphones. Please stay chill about this. I need like, full house lights 'cause there's a bunch of people here and we can't see them at all.

Travis: Now listen, what I would need you all to do. If you have your hand ready.

Griffin: Oh yeah, we have two rules.

Travis: First, I want you to think, "Is the thing I'm about to ask an actual request for advice, or is it just a funny story that I think is funny?"

Griffin: Please do not make it the latter. We did a bad job walking into this segment. You know the main rule is?

[crowd cheers, "No Bummers!"]

Griffin: No bummers, and also we're going to pick two people at the same time because we're going to decide which one we can help the most with. And so, that's how we're going to handle this. Is this really all the house lights?

Travis: Hat with yellow writing. Yeah, gold writing. Stay there.

Griffin: Stay there, you're number one. And then on this side, sitting on the aisle with a black shirt, you're pointing at yourself. Yep, yep. Cool, alright. We'll start with you since you were there first, what's your name?

Lisa: Lisa.

Griffin: Hi Lisa, what's your question?

Lisa: So, I'm in charge of entertainment for a company party. It's a global event and I've accidentally booked three different a cappella groups for the same half hour period.

[crowd erupts with laughter]

Griffin: Can we, okay. Can I get the audience mics turned up like twice as loud as they are now? 'Cause I want to experience every moment of this with you. You have booked multiple, three a cappella groups for one party?

Lisa: For a half hour period. And it's on Tuesday.

[crowd laughs]

Travis: How do you quit your job?

Griffin: How do I change my identity and move to Canada? Okay, that's very good.

Travis: Wait, I do want to hear their request. What do you need our help with? "Did I make a mistake?"

"No."

Justin: Okay, what is the actual question?

Lisa: What should I do about that?

Griffin: We can work with that. What's your name?

Lex: Hi, I'm Lex.

Griffin: Hi Lex, what's your question?

Lex: So, I live with my boyfriend and we keep getting into an argument over whether we should have a Lord of the Rings wedding. I am asking you to help me convince him to just have a normal, elegant wedding. I'm kind of a closet nerd. I know that's a bad one to ask you.

Griffin: Noooo, now hold on. Because under, between the beautiful cliffs of Rivendale you can throw a pretty fucking elegant wedding.

Travis: That's my day. Don't assume. The elves—

Griffin: The elves know how to throw an elegant soirée!

Travis: Can I tell you something? Okay, straight up, we're gonna do the a cappella one.

Griffin: The a cappella one, I'm gonna do it, 'cause that's the best shit I've ever heard.

Travis: We can help with that. But it's not that your question is not good! I can just answer it in one sentence.

Justin: Here he goes. Everybody, step back.

Travis: You only get one wedding and everyone does just, a wedding. "We had a Lord of the Rings wedding" is way more interesting.

Griffin: For sure.

Justin: Are you talking her into it?

[crosstalk]

Travis: Yeah. You'll get better pictures, it'll be a better thing overall—

Justin: No! Tell him you wanna do a Buckaroo Banzai wedding and then settle. And then when you can't agree you can just be like, "Fine! We'll just do a normal wedding then! I love Buckaroo Banzai!"

Travis: What about a Labyrinth themed wedding?

[crowd cheers]

Travis: Okay, there you go. Thank you.

Griffin: Would you do a normal wedding but both of you had to carry big, big swords?

[everyone laughs]

Travis: Okay, here's the compromise. Normal wedding, but tell one person in the bridal party it's a Lord of the Rings themed wedding.

Justin: Yes, yes!

[crowd applauds]

Lex: I think we should reserve that for maybe what, your brother?

Travis: Okay, perfect. Send him links to costumes, everything.

Griffin: There's only one person in your bridal party. He's Andy Serkis, he's wearing a green screen suit. And then on your cut of the wedding movie he's just wearing a normal tuxedo. And the other one? He's everyone's favorite little monster named Gollum.

Justin: Thank you very much! Thank you! Okay, a cappella groups. Did you book... three a cappella groups, for a half hour? Or did you book one new, super cool a cappella group for a half hour? 'Cause I think it's the latter. I think this is, a lot of "Behind the Music's" start this way.

[mimics a British accent] "We were just three different a cappella groups, weren't we? And we all showed up for the same gig, believe it or not. And we decided, 'Eh, let's all sing together.'"

Griffin: And that's how The Beatles got started!

Justin: "That's how the Beatles got started! Didn't they. It's how the Polyphonic Spree got its start."

Travis: You know, if you just pay all of them and two of them don't have to sing, they're probably happy about that.

Griffin: They're probably good!

Justin: You're like, "Here's your thirty dollars!" They're like, "Oh dunk! Okay, bye."

Griffin: How did you...

Justin: How did you do this?!

Travis: How did you!?

Griffin: How did you fuck up this bad?!

Travis: How did you, were you on a conference call and you didn't realize it and you said, "You're hired" and you heard three beautiful choral voices say, "Thaaank yooooou!"

Lisa: I was told to book some entertainment on Thursday and I just reached out to as many groups as I could and...

Griffin: Some with instruments and some without!

Lisa: Yes! But, the only ones available for... that were available with that close of a notice were the a cappella groups.

Travis: And, what was the wording of this contact? Like, "You are hired sight unseen? Just say yes."

Lisa: It was more like, "We've seen your videos, very interesting."

Travis: Were you lying?

Lisa: Yes.

Griffin: Okay!

[crowd laughs]

Travis: "Videos! What are you talking about, videos?"

"I dunno! Money's money, Frank!"

Griffin: I mean everybody loves the Pitch Perfect's. So you could just sort of position it like, LARPing Pitch Perfect I guess? And maybe people at the party will be like, "Okay, we'll give this a shot. Boom, badda bing..." And they like, are really good at it! The house lights are disappearing, what the fuck is going on? Byeeeee!

Travis: Did we help?

Griffin: We didn't help at all, we didn't, we just talked about some bullshit. We didn't say anything remotely helpful.

Justin: Ah, we usually help. That's so weird.

Travis: Thank you very much.

Griffin: Thank you very much. Can we get the house lights back up?

Justin: Yeah, 'cause we're just going to lose these fucking microphones.

Griffin: We will start with you, what's your name?

Emilin: Hello, my name's Emilin.

Brothers: Hi Emilin!

Emilin: So, we have too many furies in our D&D party—

Griffin: [yells] No! Such! Thing! Next question!

[Emilin and crowd laugh]

Griffin: Why you trying to get us in trouble again?! We got in trouble once, alright, we'll never do that again!

Travis: [mimicking Paul Stanley] Hello, Toronto!

Griffin: Toronto!

Travis: We got a lot of furies tonight!

Griffin: We got a lot of furies tonight, listen! I love the culture and lifestyle!

Travis: They're all so supportive of each other and other projects!

Justin: [normally] There's another bit about five minutes later where Paul Stanley is like, [mimicking] "Too many girls out there like to get licked!"

Griffin: Yeah, it's a bad part of the audio.

Justin: It's a bad part of the audio! And then instantly afterwards, he's like, God bless him, Paul Stanley goes, "Do any guys out there like to get licked?" And it's like, "Good for you Paul, let's just ask everybody if they like to get licked, huh?"

Griffin: [mimicking] "What about all our gender non-binary fans? Who doesn't conform to the gender spectrum but likes to get liiiicked?"

Griffin: [returning to normal speech] Uhh, we won't consider that question. I do not know—

Travis: Let me offer a small replacement. There's not enough furies in my group.

Griffin: Is it a party composition issue where everybody wants to play a bugbear or some sort of... I don't know if there are furry races in D&D?

[crowd shouts, "Tabaxi!"]

Griffin: Okay, there are actually furry... !

Justin: That's so sweet. Okay.

Heather: Hi!

Griffin: What's your name?

Heather: Heather. So, for the last five years I've been trying to distance myself from quite the extensive goth phase. As I'm sure many of us here can relate to.

Justin: Same here, sure.

Travis: Yeah, tell me about it.

Griffin: Unless you're still into it in which, stand in your truth.

Heather: Ah, well. Something that's made that quite difficult is that my family owns a number of funeral homes.

Griffin: A number?!

Heather: A number of funeral homes!

Griffin: Is the number more than oooone?

Heather: Yes!

Griffin: That's quite a lot of funeral homes!

Heather: It's quite a lot of funeral homes!

Justin: Congratulations, that sounds like a very profitable business. Congrats to your family.

Heather: Yeah, so what do I do when my friends walk past funeral homes with my last name slapped up over them in a frankly way too gothic font?

Travis: You flash that dead cash.

Justin: I'm going to help you.

Griffin: I think we're gonna go with this one. Thank you very much.

Travis: Can we get a round of applause for Emilin?

Justin: Round of applause for Emilin! Get more furrries! The lights, again the lights! If I could just have those lights back.

Griffin: The lights do keep disappearing.

Justin: It's time for you to rebel, against the family business. And what do I mean by that? I mean... never die.

Griffin: Whoa!

Justin: What a cool thing for you to be like—

Travis: That's not the opposite of being a funeral home...?

Justin: Yeah, no. It's like, "Hey listen mom and dad, sorry! I'm not interested in the family biz! I'm never going to die!" And you just loudly announce. And any time they start talking about it, just be like, "Pff? Death? That's for suckers."

Travis: "I don't buy it, show me the evidence."

Griffin: Make sure you do that while funerals are happening at the funeral home. "Got another one, huh death? What a sucker!"

Justin: "What a waste of cash!"

Travis: "Next time try not dying."

Justin: "Yeah, that's my thing." And the thing is, what's great about that is... it works until it doesn't.

Travis: And then you don't have to be there!

Justin: You don't have to sweat it, like, you're basically immortal in that sense if you think about it.

Travis: We're all temporarily immortal.

Griffin: Jesus, okay, now this existential dread is... great.

Justin: Man, this is good shit.

Travis: Listen, this is the first time our show has ever been interesting.

Justin: Listen.

Griffin: Listen.

Travis: Listen.

Justin: Is it a fun funeral home?

Griffin: Is there a ball pit?

Justin: Is there a ball pit?

Travis: A fun-eral home!

Heather: The ball pit is full of skulls.

Griffin: What the fuck!

Heather: I'm kidding, I'm kidding.

Griffin: Is that the aesthetic of your funeral homes?

Heather: No, it's very classy.

Travis: Straight up, your family owns a number of funeral homes. You should just keep being goth because then people will see you out and about,

and they're like, "Uh, God." And then you're like, "Come with me. My home's full of dead people!"

Griffin: I'm sorry, there are some gross misconceptions about what funeral homes are, happening on this stage. They're not chock-a-block full of dead people.

Travis: Hold on, hold on, hold on!

Griffin: They're not sorting through a queue?

Travis: But statistically speaking are there more dead people in a funeral home than your home?

Justin: I. Am. The oldest brother. I am 37 years old. And I'm ready to talk about anything else. I hope that helped because this segment is over.

Griffin: Thank you very much.

Justin: Alright, let's get those house lights back, eh?

Griffin: House lights way up! Let's get someone way over... Okay, we don't usually do this for prop work but someone has a sound that says, 'The Dog Pound' and I'm very interested.

Travis: Yeah, the Dog Pound's in.

Griffin: Absolutely. Well, I guess whoever wants it?

Travis: If someone has an actual dog with their hands raised?

Griffin: [talking to crowd member] With the dog in it? Oh, okay, here we have the dog.

Justin: Hell yeah! I hope this question is about the dog. Or wait, does the dog have the question?

Griffin: I want the dog pound sign! The dog pound sign!

Justin: You're holding it!

[dog barks in crowd]

Justin: Wait a minute, hold on, I changed my mind.

Crowd member: The dog pound, we all have brothers, do you guys fight a lot?

Griffin: Is that the question?

Crowd member: Yeah, that's—

Griffin: That's not advice!

Travis: You don't need advice, you're just like, "I want to find out a little bit more about those three crazy McElroys."

Griffin: We never fight.

Crowd member: The Dog Pound like many other McElroy fans bow down—

Griffin: What is this hive mind! "We are Dog Pound."

Justin: Hello! What's your name?

Cory: Cory.

Travis: And the dog's name?

Cory: This is Falcor.

Travis: Yes!

Justin: Love Lord of the Rings!

[crowd laughs]

Griffin: Shit.

Travis: See, I was going to make an Amadeus, Amadeus joke but I backed off.

Griffin: What is the question?

Cory: So I was at the dentist the other day and the dentist was telling me about her favorite superhero movies.

Griffin: This is starting to sound like a joke. Like, a joke with a punch line. No, it's good? Okay.

Cory: I'm sure there's a joke contained in it, but I have a real question. While I had the dental dam in she told me her favorite—

Griffin: Is that what it's called?

Justin: Grody. Okay.

Cory: She told me her favorite character was X-Man.

[everyone groans]

Travis: Oh, no!

Cory: And I realized, she thinks Wolverine's name is X-Man!

Justin: Okay, good, good, good!

Cory: I couldn't say anything! And then later seemed too late. But now I'm worried that she's going to have some dude-bro, she's going to say this to them and they're going to be really condescending.

Griffin: Yeah that's definitely getting the pipeline I feel like, unfortunately.

Travis: Actually in fact what she said, X-Man, some dude-bro somewhere went, "Huh!"

Justin: Yeah, the windows must be very thick there because a guy was like flinging himself against them, "Well actually, well actually wait! Actually!"

Travis: Dog Pound, thank you very much.

Justin: Dog Pound, thank you very much, I'm going to help this Wolverine.

Travis: When you said you couldn't, did you mean because you were petrified by awkwardness? Because that's what I would do if someone said, "My favorite superhero is X-Man." I would go, "Oh!"

Griffin: I mean I would get worried this was some silver age bullshit I didn't actually know about. "X-Man's not a thing!"

"Actually in 1941, Jack Kirby did something or whatever"

I don't know anything about fucking comic books at all!

Justin: Our dad is backstage freaking out. The uh, maybe this is a trap? And you avoided it. I used to do that with like, I would say wrong facts. Remember that episode of Newsradio? We're not going to talk about Newsradio right now but one of the characters would lay out wrong, incorrect facts and when someone would correct them they'd go, "Ah, geek check!" I actually did that a lot. So maybe this a trap for dude-bros like, "Uh, actually it's Wolverine?"

"Yeah I know it's fucking Wolverine!"

Travis: And then they pull a tooth.

Justin: Yeah, "I knew it! Hahaha!"

Griffin: Oh shit, maybe they were just distracting you from the tooth tricks they were about to pull on you by putting a little brain teaser in there! "Hey,

you know who I love? Golden Guy!” And it’s like, “Golden Guy, who the fuck is Golden Guy? Oh, my tooth is gone! Pretty sneaky, dentist!”

Travis: I would actually rather have a dentist say that their favorite superhero is X-Man rather than Wolverine. ‘Cause I’d just be like, I dunno, there’s way more interesting superheroes than Wolverine.

Griffin: Is there? His bones aren’t real. Whoaaa!

Travis: I’m gonna say Nightcrawler is better than Wolverine.

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: Wolverine’s like a thousand years old he hung out with Jesus!

Travis: Nightcrawler is like a demon!

Griffin: Waaaaaah— Wolverine’s got metal bones! I can do that one twice, it’s so cool!

Travis: Damn it, you’re right.

Griffin: Uh, this is the greatest thing I’ve ever heard. I’m so glad you didn’t correct them. We get these gifts. You’ve given us a gift because we will never meet this dentist, probably. But I know there’s somebody out there who thinks Wolverine’s name is X-Man. And while this may bring you worry for that person it brings me a great amount of joy because they don’t know! They won’t know any better until some dude-bro comes in and smashes through the window. But for now let’s just celebrate the moment of X-Man.

Travis: How does your dentist square away the knowledge that the name of the group is X-Men? Like it’s X-Man and then there’s X-Men?

Griffin: X-Man and his excellent X-Men!

Justin: I mean they have, there is a band called Alvin and the Chipmunks. You ever fucking think about that? That’s actually really messed up if you

think about it. Alvin and uh... we'll just name them by their species I guess?
I don't know.

Griffin: Also! We're dumbasses. There's a dude named Professor X!

Travis: He is an X-Man.

Griffin: That's better than X-Man!

Justin: It's not any better. Does that help?

Griffin: Is that anything?

Justin: Is that anything?

Cory: I think it eases my conscience.

Griffin: Oh thank you!

Justin: Thank you, that's the least we could do.

Travis: Alright folks, you can go ahead and drop the house lights down. We gotta wrap up for the evening. Thank you. Aww...

Griffin: Aww...

Travis: But here's the good news! There's a whole 'nother day of PodCon tomorrow!

Griffin: Yes!

[crowd cheers]

Justin: All kinds of great shows will be there.

Griffin: Seriously, thank you to PodCon for having us be here and get to do this show. You all are fantastic.

Travis: You're welcome, Griffin.

Griffin: I as the only non-PodCon founder can continue to thank the benevolent founders for gracing us. No, seriously. This is a really, really cool event and it's really special and I'm so glad that all these folks who I've listened to for a while have all gotten together and I've gotten to hear them talk about smart things. It's very cool.

Travis: Yeah, not only... I will say it's so great to get to spend time with you, our wonderful audience, but also to spend time with like, Francesca Lee and y'know, Kevin Porter and Gaby Dunn and meet these amazing people who make amazing work.

Griffin: And meet you also. We've gotten to meet a bunch of folks. A lot of Adventure Zone cosplays which is fucking super rad.

Travis: Yeaaaah!

Justin: When I look out into this crowd and think, "God, every one of them is a podcast." It's so inspirational to me to see so many podcasts in one room. Met a lot of great podcasts today. And I hope to see some more of you tomorrow. [mimicking Paul Stanley] Toronto!

Travis: Toronto!

Griffin: Alright, this uh— Oh! 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".

Justin: Yeah! Oh hey, real quick. We come from an area called West Virginia.

Travis: It's a state. Believe it or not.

Justin: Around the holiday season some folks there don't have enough to make ends meet let alone buy Christmas presents. Every year there's a thing called Empty Stockings List the newspaper publishes, full of people who just want to get, maybe something for Christmas, a gift, for a kid. A lot

of the time it's just basic necessities - a sleeping bag, a tent, what have you. And we like to sic our fans on it and run wild.

Travis: But like, in a good way. Imagine wolves but they're charitable.

Justin: Like a pack of charitable wolves! If you can kick in a few bucks it's mbmbamangels.com is that thing. And if you can go there and you can buy a gift for someone that someone is asking for - and it goes right to them. It'll make you feel great. If you can do it and help us help our area we would really appreciate it. So thank you, so much, in advance.

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: And thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can go to maximumfun.org and check out all the great podcasts there! Yay, Max Fun! Alright, final Yahoo! Was sent in by Level 9000 Ya-Drew Druid Drew Davenport, thank you Drew.

[crowd cheers]

Griffin: It's an anonymous user but I'm gonna call them 'Pearl' asks, "Why is the word asshole not censored on Yahoo! Answers? Is it because the Christians are losing power?"

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy!

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy!

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy!

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

Travis: Thank you!

[theme music plays]

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[music plays]

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Speaker 5: What's your jam?

Speaker 6: Which one of you is the Renata of the panel?

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