

MBMBaM 515: Viscous Bod

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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]

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.

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

Griffin: I'm your sweet baby brother, Griffin McElroy.

Justin: Dang. You just came right in there with that, Griffin. I like the authoritativeness. Y'know what I mean?

Griffin: It's who I am, and I'm done hiding it behind a bunch of qualifiers.

Justin: Yes! Yes! You are the youngest brother!

Griffin: My name is Griffin, and I was—I came after... these two gentlemen. I was brewed up in the womb, after these two gentlemen, and it's—

Justin: A womb brew.

Griffin: It's a fluke, right? That I'm the youngest one. I could've—and this is what fucks me up, and I think about this sometimes. I could've been Justin. Do you guys know what I'm saying? Like—

Travis: Wait, then who would Justin be?

Griffin: I don't know, either you or me. Like—but do you understand what I'm saying? Like, what if I was—I came together first, and Justin was the youngest? It's just like, chance—

Justin: That's weird to think about.

Griffin: Right?! Like, I could be Justin—

Travis: I am okay with picturing you as the oldest and Justin as the youngest. I cannot think of myself as anyone but the middlest.

Justin: I'd love to have your youth, though, Griffin.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: I'm so envious. I'm covetous of your youth. I'd love another chance at the last seven years.

Travis: Do you guys ever think about the fact that I get the best of both? That I'm like—

Justin: Mm. Or worst.

Travis: —not the oldest, or the littlest?

Griffin: Yeah, not the smartest, not the most virile, um...

Travis: But I'm also not the *least* smartest, or the *least* virile. Right? Like, I—

Griffin: No, you're just kind of—you're just kind of there. [laughs] You're just—your virility is just not—your virility charts—

Travis: Listen. What I am—I'm the RPG character that doesn't get a lot of bonuses, but gets like, plus one to everything.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: But you could—you think like, “He could be whatever he wants! He could be anything!”

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And then he doesn’t. And it’s like, where did he go wrong?

Travis: Well, I don’t think anyone has ever looked at me and thought, “He could be anything.” But I find that they’ve maybe looked at me and thought—

Justin: No, certainly not. You didn’t need to clarify that.

Travis: “He could be—” No. But I think people might’ve looked at me and thought, “I bet he could be mediocre at anything. Like, I think that he could be a pretty average to slightly below average lawyer.” Right?

Griffin: Sure. So, the king rolls up and he’s like, “Oh, we need the most virile knight in the land!” And I’m like, “I got this one, guys.” And I walk off. And then the queen comes up and is like, “We need the most wizened sorcerer in the land!” And Justin is like, “Don’t worry guys, I got this.”

Um, but then, that’s all of the royalty that there is.

Travis: No, but then—uhh, excuse me! But then, perhaps, a duke rolls up and says, “I just, uh—I’m on a budget, and I need a good kind of catch-all... knight.”

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I'm like, "I am the one for you!" I—listen. I'm a jack of all trades, master of none! Uh, I—

Justin: The prince is like, "I need someone to carry my packages back from Ye Gap."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Now you lost the—I feel like you lost the metaphor a little bit, Justin.

Travis: Is that me? `Cause I am the strongest.

Justin: No, you're not the strongest. You just are strong enough to carry packages home from The Gap.

Griffin: Justin's the strong—Justin's the strongest.

Travis: Justin's the strongest?!

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Strongest, smartest, bravest, uh... coolest. Uh...

Travis: My head is like a shark's fin.

Griffin: Yep. And like—

Justin: I need someone to carry my light packages from The Gap, and half-impregnate my wife!

Travis: Yep! That's me!

Justin: That's Travis.

Griffin: Travis can do that.

Travis: I can do both of those. But see, that's the thing – if someone said, "I need someone to carry packages and impregnate my wife," Griffin would be like, "I can do one of those." And Justin would say, "I can do one of those." And I would say, "I can be mediocre at both of those."

Justin: That's true.

Griffin: Well, no, I could do—I could half-impregnate twice. 'Cause I'm fully—I'm Herbie: Fully Loaded over here. [laughs]

Travis: Well, yes. That is true. Go to the doctor.

Griffin: What the fuck are we talking—

Justin: I don't know.

Griffin: It feels like we're flying without a net a little bit.

Justin: I'm loving it. I'm loving the energy. It's an exciting energy. It's an exciting time for no one. And uh, we hope you are hanging in there with just like, the world and stuff. We got a big show for you today. We've never done this before. [laughing]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: What?!

Justin: This is so strange. [laughs] Y'know what? You fucking jinxed me! You jinxed me, because I was like, "This is just easy, free-flow

conversation." And then you were like, "It's a show." I'm like, oh no, okay! I'm fucking James Corden now!

Travis: We got the McElroy house band here...

Justin: [laughing] Let me hear you, guys! Play me on!

Travis: [sings a tune]

Griffin: And you guys, uh—you guys heard about this? Uhh, Denny's has a new special. This is a—this is a—

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Oh, it's time for do—it's time for doing Munch Squad, and uh, Denny's is doin' a new thing! You guys heard about this?

Justin: [laughing] Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the show, Rosario Dawson!

Travis: Oh, wow!

Justin: It's a big get.

Griffin: "Hey, it's me. Jake the snake. I got my big snake here to do tricks for ya."

Justin: [laughing] Animal expert, Jake the snake, is here to show us his collection of reptiles.

Griffin: "Of snakes. I've got three snakes! One, two... uh oh!"

Justin: [laughing] I'm into herpetology. I don't wrestle anymore. I got into actual snakes.

Let's get into the advice. We've waited long enough.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: “This Monday, I came home from my first shift back at work since the start of the apocalypse to find that all my posters – about 15 – had been flipped upside down.”

Griffin: Hmm.

Justin: “I have three younger siblings and a friend staying with me this summer. No one will confess. How do I find the flipper, or at least get them to anonymously right the posters?” That’s from Poster Problem in the Purple Mountains.

Griffin: Wow, this is an easy one. Um, flip `em back over, and then, when the person who did this ill-conceived prank sees that you have fixed it without even acknowledging that the prank has happened, they will feel a sense of shame that will be so heavy. It will be like a boulder has landed on them.

There is nothing worse. The worst possible outcome to pulling a prank is that the other person is just kind of mildly annoyed by it, and doesn’t even like... acknowledge it.

Justin: Act like it made you sad. That’s like—that’s great—like, it’s—[sighs]

Griffin: That could be cool.

Travis: No, the worst possible outcome to a prank is somebody dies.

Justin: Somebody dies. Or, no no no. Okay. The worst possible outcome to the prank is, *everybody* dies.

Travis: [laughs] Okay, yes. That is the worst possible outcome to everything.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Or, every—all life. Just all life is extinct.

Griffin: Mass extinction is the worst possible outcome of a prank. Yes.

Justin: A prank. Of a prank. Yes.

Travis: Oh no, I put a bucket of water on top of a doorframe, and it fell, and somehow cracked the earth in half.

Justin: It fell onto, uh, a molten—yeah, right, exactly. You hit it in just the right way. The earth's got a glass jar right there.

Griffin: Ashton may— Beyoncé thinks she knocked the Christmas tree over, but it unearthed some sort of turbo-virus. Uh, yeah. That's the worst possible outcome. But, right behind that—

Travis: I prank called someone, a random dial number – it was Cthulhu. He got pissed.

Griffin: Yeah. It was actually a nuclear launch code, somehow. I don't know how that worked. Um, but right behind that is being embarrassed because your prank was just sort of like, brushed off annoyance by somebody else. So just flip these posters right back over. You're gonna like the way you look. I guarantee it.

Next question.

Travis: No, but I will saaay... there is an opportunity for a poster whodunit here.

Justin: Okay!

Travis: And this could be a good, like, mystery to cut your teeth on as a detective, because the stakes—

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: Everybody's always looking for that first big case. For Nancy Drew and her friends, it was when the uh, city girl's doll went missing at the slumber party, and she and the other members of the Clue Crew got together and uh, found the missing Hollywood Halle doll.

Travis: And of course, Encyclopedia Brown's first case was Bugs Meany embezzling, and Encyclopedia got him. Got'em!

Griffin: Got'em good.

Travis: But what I'm saying is, the stakes are very low here. So if you do fail to solve it, eh... y'know, now you have a first case to look back on when you're like, y'know, your close rate is 100%, and people are like, "Ah, they always get it. They always get their person."

And you're like, "Not—not this one time. It's what haunts me. It's what drives me." And they're like, "Oh no, did like, a kidnapper get away? Or like, a murderer?" And you're like, "A poster-flipper." And they're like, "Well, that's not so bad." And you're like, "Yeah, I know. It doesn't haunt me a lot. Just haunts me a little."

Justin: "Just haunts me a regular amount."

Travis: "Just a little bit of haunting."

Griffin: It's just so—it's just so low stakes. You have the opportunity here to dish out such a gnarly repost. Such a gnarly parry counterattack that like, will completely... I remember one, uh, um, April Fools' Day when we were young, I tried to do some pranks on Travis, who I shared a room with at the time.

And like, one of the pranks... and I remember this very clearly, is I took down whatever calendar you had. I think it was like a nerd-ass Xanth calendar, which hasn't aged well. And I replaced it with like, your nerd-ass Xena calendar. And I was like, "Gotcha, motherfucker!"

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And you were like, “Yeah, that’s my Xena... mbk”

Justin: Travis only reads his calendar as far as the X at the very beginning. So, he didn’t even notice.

Griffin: Right. He didn’t even notice. But really, this last 15 seconds or so was just me viciously dragging young Travis for having a Xena and—

Travis: Oh, I'm sorry. I didn’t realize—I mean, I'm embarrassed by Xanth, because it didn’t age well.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Uh, but I'm not embarrassed by liking things, Griffin. I enjoy things.

Griffin: Suuure.

Travis: I'm a fan—you want to list some other? I also like Supernatural. Uh, I—

Griffin: Oh, do you? Oh, you—oh, Trav, you like—bud, I didn’t know you were a Supernatural fan!

Travis: Oh, I hadn’t mentioned it?

Griffin: Um, can I do a Yahoo?

Travis: Yes, please.

Justin: Uh, I'd like that, I think.

Griffin: This one was sent in by lots of folks. It’s from an anonymous Yahoo answers user, who I am gonna call Xena, asks...

Travis: [gasps]

Griffin: “Do you—” Sorry, Travis, not real.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: “Do you miss the days when it was still popular to shop at Sears?”

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: That was a cool... era.

Travis: I worked at a Sears. Worked in Sears.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Wait, is that true?

Travis: Yeah, it’s true!

Griffin: At the Lands’ End department, correct?

Travis: At the Lands’ End department. And I remember—

Griffin: Then I would say, you worked at a Lands’ End that was eaten by a Sears that was eaten by a mall.

Travis: Sure. Um, and I’ll tell you what – it was cool in there every day for a while. It was like, I remember like, I’d be there, and like, I’d look over, and I’d be like, “Is that Ray Liotta shopping in the Lands’ End department?” And it was! ‘Cause it was cool to shop at Sears. And there’s no one cooler than Ray Liotta, who I need to, now, make a point of order...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Just a quick Google.

Griffin: Just make sure that he...

Travis: I know nothing about Ray Liotta, so if he's done some bad stuff, I take it all back!

Griffin: Let's make sure he hasn't done Xanth'd himself. Uh, uh... yeah. Uh, boy. Sears is a... I never necessarily... understood... Sears. 'Cause it's like, where I went to get my inexpensive suit jackets for cotillion. But also, if we needed some new bedding, and also, some grill tools.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I don't necessarily love that all of that is in the same... location.

Travis: Sears is like the Travis McElroy of stores, in that, they don't really excel at any one thing, except Lands' End clothing.

Griffin: Right. They are great at that.

Travis: That was fine.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But it wasn't like, "Oh, who has the best fill in the blank?" And the answer is not Sears, but if you're like, "I only want to go to one place." Oh, good news!

Griffin: Good news, it's Sears. It's weird to be—I don't thi—is Sears gone? Sears has got to be gone. If Sears ain't gone now, there's no way it's gonna get through the unpleasantness.

Justin: I mean, Sears is around, but like, many Sears are not. Like, Sears at, um... in Huntington closed in August last year.

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: So it's been a little bit.

Griffin: Man, I'm thinkin' about it, though. It was fuckin' cool to shop at Sears.

Travis: Right?

Justin: I mean, the one in Huntington was next to the Qdoba and the Books-A-Million. So that's cool.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: 'Cause you could get kind of like, get a—get a book to read and enjoy, get a snack and some chips at Qdoba, and then go get yourself a socket wrench at Sears and just have an afternoon—make an afternoon of it. That's a nice shopping experience.

Griffin: That was so cool. I cannot tell you how many times I have needed to buy the hot new John Gresham book, and fuckin' bust up a burrito, and also buy a socket wrench and a webbed belt at the same store. And luckily, that little corner of the mall always had my back, didn't it?

Travis: I gotta get that hot new socket wrench. 'Cause you're like, "I got this old busted socket wrench at home. It doesn't have all the new features. Doesn't have the new ergonomics."

Justin: I um... I did a quick Google to double check the date on the Sears closing in the Huntington mall, and uh, I just—I did want to say that Google, the Google Maps listing says 'temporarily closed.' You fucking go for it, Sears.

Griffin: Oh, that's ambitious.

Justin: Fuck yeah, dude. You never know. [laughs] You might be like, fire it back up. These people need washers and shorts. Let's go! Do it again!

Griffin: Um, last time I went to a Sears here in Austin, I needed—I did need a belt. And I went to like, the dress clothes section, and they had just sort of a big metal garbage can full of belts. And it feels like Sears is... a lot of Searses are just kind of makin' it up as they go along. It feels like Sears always kind of has more stuff than it knows what to do with, and sometimes it dishes them up, um, uncooked, let's say, in a big garbage can.

Travis: Did you try the Lands' End department, Griffin, to see if they had any belts?

Griffin: The Lands' End department was in incredible condition, Travis.

Travis: Thank you.

Griffin: Everything was, uh... it was like a museum for outdoor wear.

Travis: Yep. That was our motto.

Justin: Um...

Griffin: Fuck Macy's. Fuck Macy's though.

Justin: Wow.

Travis: Whoa.

Griffin: [laughs] I'm just kidding. They're the same store.

Justin: Um, they're—basically.

Travis: You notice, nobody's making—nobody's starting new department stores anymore.

Justin: It's weird. Yeah, it's bizarre. I guess Amazon. Um, there was a quote in, um... there's a quote in the WCHS story – and I'm sorry to cheat on Rob Johnson by not talking about WSAZ – but in the WSAZ story about the Sears one closing, they captured—they got a quote from the manager of the Huntington Mall.

Formerly, Joe Johnson, our down the block neighbor, now replaced with, uh, Val Zenteno. And Val Zenteno, um... a human, as he's always quick to point out to anybody who hears his name... Val Zenteno says, "Everybody knows Sears, for good or for bad."

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: Drag 'em!

Justin: Fucking get 'em, Val! Damn! Anyway.

Griffin: Anyway, how about another—

Justin: That's a pretty—pretty sick—aw, fuckin' Sears! Don't get me started!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, yeah. Uh, I would love that. Uh, "I visited my local CVS a couple weeks back. While there, one of the clerks asked me the name of the cologne I was wearing. I didn't know what it was called, but I told them I'd come back in a couple days and let them know. When I returned to the store, the clerk was nowhere to be found. I've returned to the store about once a week since then, but I haven't ran into that clerk again. Does he still want to know the name of my cologne? How do I get this information to him? Should I just give up my quest?" That's from CVS Cologne Conundrum.

Um... it's we—it's—before—it's weird that you don't know the name of the cologne that you wear. [laughing] Presumably, you have to pick up this bottle every day, right? To squirt it on you?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: This may be an indication that it's time to practice some mindfulness in your day to day life, maybe. Stop going through the motions, and really read your bottle of cologne every day. That would be step one.

Travis: I don't think you should give up this quest, because he wouldn't have asked if he didn't want to know! I mean, why would he—why would someone ask something that they don't want to know? Y'know? Like, he clearly is dying to know the name of your cologne, and it seems like you guys, much like the hit film, *Serendipity*, are just barely missing each other.

Justin: Mm-hmm.

Travis: Um, until, y'know, you reconnect in that magic moment, and you're like, “[heavy breathing] It's just like a body spray. It's like a Axe thing.”

Justin: “It's just like a Axe.”

Griffin: “[heavy breathing] Oh my god, you're there! It's... it's fuckin' Bod! I found an old bottle of Bod, and I'm wearing Bod! Oh, thank god.”

Travis: “It was pretty viscous. I had to scoop it out with a tongue depressor. It didn't—it wouldn't spray anymore. It was all gunked up.”

Griffin: [laughing] “It's like a Bod jam, and it goes on smooth.” Um, two—I have two thoughts that kind of dovetail into each other. One... don't tell anyone the name of the cologne that you're wearing. I certainly wouldn't, because the last thing I want is other people out there, smelling like me. Y'know? And like, stealing my profile, doing whatever the fuck they want with it. Robbing banks with a mask on? That masked robber sure smelled like Griffin. And then I'm in jail.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: But the other thing is that, you always have the opportunity, when somebody asks you what scent you're wearing, to say like, "Oh. [laughs] I'm not wearing anything, silly."

Travis: Oh yeah.

Justin: These are my pheromones.

Griffin: That's just me.

Travis: Also, it's been a long time since I bought cologne, but I remember, uh, that I would never tell anybody the name of the cologne I was wearing, because I can't remember the last time I heard the name of a cologne and thought, "That's a cool name of a thing to say out loud!"

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I mean, for a while, because I was a person in the '90s and early 2000s, I wore Curve.

Griffin: Oh yeah.

Travis: And then, for a while, I got bored, because everyone was wearing Curve, so I started wearing... a-hem-hem... Bora Bora.

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: Ohh.

Griffin: Goin' on a trip!

Travis: Yeah. There's just—I don't know a cool name. Like, what—you could be like, "What scent? What is that cologne?" And you would say a word and be like, "Oh, that was a cool thing to say out loud with your face."

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, I did briefly have a stint where I tried on 23 by Michael Jordan when I tried out for the high school basketball team, because I was dressing for the job that I wanted.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: But I was *terribly* allergic to...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: To this scent.

Travis: Did Michael Jordan start 23 and Me?

Griffin: He did. Yeah. And originally, it was a sort of program where he would fly, uh, to your house, and he would show you some of his favorite, uh, shots that he can take. From like, different places.

Travis: Oh, cool! And also, swab the inside of your cheek, but just 'cause.

Griffin: Yeah. That was just for him.

Justin: Uh, Griff, do you have another Yahoo?

Griffin: I do have a Yahoo here. Uh, and this one was sent in by, uh, Emma Kant. Thank you, Emma. Crushing it. It's another anonymous Yahoo Answers user. Put your fuckin' name on your work, Michael Jordan. Asks...

Travis: Ooh, what a get!

Griffin: "Titanic was such an excellent movie that it's hard to critique anything about it. But, what is something small you would critique about it?"

Travis: I didn't like that the boat broke.

Griffin: [laughs] When the boat breaks, it's like, what were you doing?!

Travis: Yeah, they spend this whole movie, like, getting us way into the boat, and way into like, the people on it, and then they're just like, "Twist! The boat broke!" And you're like—

Griffin: And you know Jimmy—Jimmy Cameron like, spent a bunch of money building this huge boat prop, and then he accidentally broke it and was like, "Uhhh, I don't know! We gotta keep makin' it! Uhh!"

Travis: Because they talked throughout the movie a lot about how the boat is unbreakable. They're like, "This is an unbreakable boat!" And then they break it! And it's like, that's bad writing! Because like, you said it was unbreakable! You lied! You are an unreliable narrator. You said that the boat was unbreakable, and then you broke it. That's like having a murder mystery where it's just like, "They didn't do it." But then they did do it. Y'know?

Justin: Well, you know that—you know—you know why that happened, right?

Travis: Why?

Justin: This is actually pretty well established, uh, Hollywood lore. I think I heard it on Blank Check. Um, he wrote like, two thirds of a movie about these two people falling in love on the Titanic, and... he couldn't come up with an ending. And he was like, "God, I've written so many fuckin' pages of this thing."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And then he's like, "Maybe—and then, maybe, what if the boat had sunk?" And everybody's like, "Uh, are you kidding?" And he's like, "No, but what if it had sunk?" And they're like, "Well, the—" And everybody's like, "Uh, the Titanic was fine, and is still fine to this day, shuttling people back and forth."

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And Jimmy's like, "But what if it... "

Griffin: What if it broke and sunk to the bottom?

Justin: "What if it broke, and that was the end of the love story I did?"

Travis: I also don't like that they don't end up together.

Griffin: It sucks. And this is my main problem with the movie, if I'm gonna—and it's a fuckin' great flick, and it's like, impossible to critique it. But if I were to critique it, I would say that it spends, uh, a great deal of time making me fall in love with all of these amazing characters.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: Um, like Jack and Kathy Bates.

Travis: And Billy Zane.

Griffin: And Billy Zane. And then like... most of them die? And it's like, why did you just spend like, two and a half hours making me like, get to know Kathy Bates' character name, only to kill her off, I think, maybe, at the end of the movie.

Justin: That's a fucking gr—okay, Griffin, you have actually hit on something.

Griffin: It fucking sucks! It's a waste of my time!

Justin: Unintentionally, you've hit on something, because the two main characters, Jack Dawson and Rose, uh... should've been Rose Dawson, but...

Griffin: They should've gotten married.

Justin: They should've gotten married on the boat.

Griffin: Before they became—

Travis: There was a captain right there! He could've—

Justin: You know that, um—real quick, I do want to just, as long as we're—I want to get to my point, but um, Bill Paxton's character was named Brock Lovett, and that is one of the few characters who is a complete invention by Jimmy Cameron, so he was just like, "What would be a good name for an undersea explorer? I got it – Brock Lovett!"

Travis: Well, he said the name was Brock, and someone said, "Love it." And he said, "Yeah. Okay, perfect."

Justin: Yes, exactly.

Griffin: Good.

Justin: Um, it's—The Titanic sucks, because you're getting invested in those characters, right? And towards the end – spoilers, but towards the end, the boat break. And everybody sink into ocean.

Griffin: And die!

Justin: And that makes—that actually made me... sad!

Travis: Right!

Griffin: Yes! [laughing]

Justin: And it was so stupid, because... I want to—I want to watch movie to feel good. Right?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: But you actually—you fucked up, because it made me sad. Why did you waste all this ti—what they should've done... I'm gonna fix it real quick.

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Justin: What it should've done is, if Leonardo DiCaprio had been a real dingus the entire time, like, he kept like... [laughs] Y'know like... [laughs] Stuff like, stealing Rose's wallet when she wasn't paying attention, and putting—taking her dog and like, throwing her dog overboard, and...

Griffin: Yeah. Just kicking Kathy Bates every time she's on—just like, walking out and kicking her butt.

Justin: [laughing] Yeah!

Travis: Yes yes yes. I love this.

Justin: Exact—yeah, exactly. Like, putting out lit cigarettes on Billy Zane's bald head. And if he did all this shit, and then, that would've kicked ass! Because when she shoved him off the door, you would've been like, "Fuck yes! Get him!" And feel good!

Travis: And then she could've said something cool like, "Y'know what? We're breaking up." And shoved him off the door.

Justin: Yeah, or how about this, Travis? How about this? How about when she's like, "Hey, you're dumped." And then, as he sank, you'd be like—

Griffin: Ohh, nice!

Justin: Into the ocean. And it's like, you'd feel good! You would feel good!

Griffin: Yeah. And—

Justin: If they did that in a movie.

Travis: And could I make one more note? Can I make one more note?

Justin: I'd love this. I'd love to keep fixing Titanic, for sure.

Travis: Okay. They're steering the boat, and he's doing a great job. And he's like, "I'm gonna—"

Justin: I think, driving the boat is the actual, proper...

Travis: Well, whatever. But he's like, "I'm gonna steer it right next to this big iceberg so everyone can get a good look at the iceberg." And then, maybe there's like, a clumsy crewman who like, "Whoaaa!" And he bumps the wheel. And that's what makes it go into it.

Griffin: So that's—

Travis: So it's like, oh, this was like, completely avoidable if it wasn't for like, clumsy Steve! And like, clumsy Steve like, runs into the wheel. And then it—so it's kind of funny for a second. And it's like, a big, like, "Whoa, whoa, whoaaa!"

Griffin: That'd be really good.

Justin: Do you know—do you know what would've been fucking cooler? I want to fix it more, okay?

Travis: Okay, yeah.

Justin: What if you cut down the stuff with Jack and Rose, to about five minutes of the movie.

Griffin: And I think—and a, uh—[laughing] And I think, uh—

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: We all know which five, uh—[laughing]

Justin: Five, uh... hue hue hue hue hue.

Travis: Oh, as long as we're there, by the way – uh, then, when he was done drawing her, he should've said, "Now draw me!" And switched places.

Griffin: And we see his penis. His dick and his balls. Yeah.

Justin: Three—[laughs] Okay, so five minutes of it is that, and the other three hours and ten minutes is, you animate the iceberg and give it like—make it talk about all its hopes and dreams and shit. And then, when the boat comes, you're like, "Oh fuck, no!! No, not the iceberg! Icy the iceberg! He's about to get hit by a boat! Get out of the way, Icy!" And you'll just be screaming about that.

Those people will keep going. You won't even give a fuck about that. They can all sink, for all you care. All you care about is, is Icy okay? And here's the thing about this version – he is.

Travis: Oh, okay!

Justin: He's fine.

Griffin: He's cool.

Travis: He's cool.

Justin: So you feel happy.

Travis: Maybe he doesn't even notice.

Justin: You feel happy about it.

Griffin: He like that. I think another way—

Travis: Can I get one more note? One more note?

Griffin: They could—well, let me do one, 'cause I haven't gotten to tell a joke in a while.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: They also could'a done—they could'a had their cake and eat it too, where Jack's sinking into the bottom of the ocean and dying, and all of us are like, "Wait a minute. This movie's making me feel pretty bad right now." But then he wakes up on the boat, still not broken, and it was a dream, and looks over, and him and Rose just finished like, hookin' up again.

Travis: Yeahhh!

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And they get married, and like, she looks at him and is like, "What's wrong, my love? It seems like you were having a bad dream." And he was like, "I was, but now it's over. And guess what?" And he holds up the, uh, big blue diamond necklace, and he says, "I got the treasure."

Travis: Nice.

Griffin: And then, that's the end of the movie. And then you know, like, he got the treasure, and gets like—they're gonna have a lot of money whenever they get off the boat, and they're gonna have a cool life.

Justin: I love that. I love that.

Travis: And they'll return in Titanic 2: Twotanic.

Griffin: That—in the Titanic we got, which, now I'm thinking about it, is a shit flick...

Justin: Sucks. The more we pick at loose threads...

Griffin: It opens up—

Justin: The—I don't even feel like the cinema sins on this one went far enough, 'cause it's like—there's some really bad ones.

Griffin: We start out with Brock Fuckit, and he's like, "I'm gonna find the big treasure to get lots of money." And you're like, "Oh, that would be fuckin' cool. I can't wait to watch this. I love movies about like, finding cool treasures." And then you watch this whole movie, thinking like, "When is the... when's the treasure gonna come into play?" And they tease at it a few times, and then, uh, she is wearing it in the nudity sequence.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: And then like, at the—and then at the—and the whole time, all these people die, and you're like, "Yeah yeah yeah. But like, is Brock gonna get the cool treasure or not?" And then, at the very end, she throws it in the water?

Justin: No thank you.

Griffin: What's the point of this movie?

Travis: I would like to add a little bit to that scene to fix it. Well, not to fix it, but just to kind of highlight it for a moment. Because I think she should, uh—well, she shouldn't drop it in the ocean. But if she does drop it in the ocean, her daughter, who is also there, should walk out and say, "Hey, did you just throw that priceless gem in the ocean? You have a family! You could've—"

Justin: You have a family!

Travis: You could've given that to me, and that really would've helped, y'know, our financials and stuff!

Justin: I live in a—[laughs] I live in a crude tent that I fashioned together from those drawings of yours that you gave me of yourself naked! I have to live in a crude tent, made out of naked drawings of you! Please, just sell the necklace!

Travis: What the fuck! You've had that this whole time? When Dad needed surgery, and we had to do a GoFundMe, you had a fucking heart of the ocean we could've sold?!

Griffin: But then she says, "No no no no. Look down there. It's a shithead whale." And you look down, and she landed it right in his blowhole, and he died.

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: That's pretty good. Also—

Justin: I named him Jack, after another shithead I knew that died also.
[laughing]

Travis: Can I get one more note?

Griffin: He's been mad doggin' our boat here this whole time, but don't worry, I took care of it.

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: I have one more note. I have one more note.

Griffin: Yeah, please.

Travis: I think they should've hooked up in a cooler car.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, dude.

Justin: [bursts into laughter] Yeah, that old bus situation they hooked up in...

Travis: Yeah, that's nothing.

Justin: That raggedy old, uh, car that they had was absolutely embarrassing.

Travis: But if it had been – picture this – a sick, like, Firebird. Like, ohh, yeah! Like, aw, with the top down, and maybe they're blasting like, some Eagles music while they're like, doing it?

Justin: Travis, look out above! Fuckin' Oscars are falling onto you!

Travis: Oh, Jesus!

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: [laughing] Oh my god.

Griffin: And what would be dope is like, when the hand comes up and like, slaps the window and wipes some of the steam off the window of the Bugatti that they're shagging in, you see now, through the cleared window, Kathy Bates is just like, lookin' in there like, "Ahaha, great!" And she's loving that.

Justin: Oh my god, I just got a—I just got a fax from Jimmy. He said, "Justin would love for you to walk through the beats on av two."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: "See, make sure, I'm thinking about delaying it just so I can really crack this nut wide open." Okay, I'm getting another one about—

Travis: What if Avatar 2 was just a sequel—like a backdoor sequel to Titanic, where they got in there, and it was like, a VR session?

Justin: No, stop it. Avatar is a perfect film.

Travis: Never seen it.

Justin: It's not a piece of shit like Titanic. Avatar is perfect.

Griffin: Yeah. 'Cause it's bada—they have badass fights, and it makes you feel good at the end of it.

Justin: It's weird. We don't—

Travis: I think it's time for a Titanic reboot.

Justin: The good news is, because of our incredible fortune in becoming Jimmy's, uh, sort of dudes behind the scenes, pulling all the strings, we no longer require the money from our advertisers. That's wonderful news for us.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: And it's also wonderful news for... uh, this week's charity that we've selected.

Griffin: Yeah, this week, we are donating our ad revenue to the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness, which is all about supporting and advocating for black women and their families during—well, especially right now, during the COVID-19 pandemic, but is all about, y'know, supporting those families and keeping them safe and healthy all the time.

So, you can read about it. We'll have a link to that in the episode description.

Justin: Perfect. Let's go to the Money Zone.

[theme music plays]

Justin: Uh, I want to talk about Honey.

Travis: I love the stuff! Comes from bees!

Justin: Don't get people confused. Honey is an online service that uh, you plug into your web browser. And when you're shopping online, you're about to check out, there's a little—Honey pops up and is like, "Hey, can I save you some money real quick?" And you're like, "Um, sure, I guess." Uh, and that's Honey for you.

And um... sorry.

Griffin: Are you reading—this ad copy is out of control.

Justin: I'm reading the ad copy now, and that's what threw me. Okay, so this is the fucking ad copy for Honey. In case you—okay, it saves you a lot of money when you're shopping online. Wh—you should absolutely get Honey. But listen to this. This is the ad copy that they sent to us.

"Only one sponsor could properly ring in Twenty Honey: Honey, the free online shopping tool, backed by PayPal, that gets straight to beesness by automatically finding the best promo codes when you shop online. Just download Honey, shop like normal, click 'Apply Coupons,' and watch the prices drop."

Griffin: Outstanding.

Justin: Outstanding. Thank you for your inspiring work, Honey. Um, the uh—I don't like direct addressing Honey. It makes me feel like a sleazy boss from the '60s.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: But anyway, I uh, have had to buy a few tools lately. When I have been, uh, checking out, I've used Honey, and I've saved like 50 bucks just this week via Honey. You're just losing money if you don't use it. It's free, it installs in seconds, it's super easy to use. Just go to, uh, JoinHoney.com/Brother. That's JoinHoney.com/Brother. Give it a try. You will not be sad that you did.

Griffin: You'll be happy! The opposite!

Travis: Happy you did!

Justin: Well, I don't want to get—you won't be—

Griffin: The enemy of sad!

Justin: Listen. You live in, now, you won't be happy. But you won't be sad. How's that?

Griffin: Uh, hey. Stamps.com is gonna get you stamps without you needing to go to the post office. And that's like... that's—let's just put the tiger on the table and yell at it. You don't need to go to the post office to get stamps for, y'know, your letters or packages or whatever. Because Stamps.com brings all the services of the US Postal Service right to your own home, or your office, or wherever you're laid up right now.

Stamps.com has all the services of the US Postal Service, except it's in your computer. And so, that's pretty cool.

Travis: What?

Griffin: Uh, use your computer, and—

Travis: Like—like on Reboot?

Griffin: Yeah, basically like Reboot. So you have all kinds of mail carriers that live in there, and they play all your video games for you. Uh,

Stamps.com will help you print official US postage for any letter, any package, any class of mail, anywhere you want to send it, 24/7, no questions asked. I don't know that last part. [laughs] They may ask a couple questions to make sure the mail gets to the right place.

But anyway, once it's ready, you just leave your mail for the mail carrier, and you—or you schedule a free package pickup, or you drop it in a mailbox. You don't have to touch anybody. Which is great.

Also, you can get pretty cool discounts too with Stamps.com. Five cents off every first class stamp and up to 62% off of shipping rates. Right now, you can get a special offer. Uh, that's a four week trial plus free postage and a digital scale without any long-term commitment.

Just go to Stamps.com, click on the microphone at the top of the home page, type in 'MyBrother' all one word. That's Stamps.com, enter 'MyBrother.' Stay safe, my friends.

Travis: Listen, I'm gonna talk about Warby Parker in a second, but first... do you guys ever think about that the mythology that Reboot was building was, every time you played a game on your computer, you were putting the residents of your computer at risk?

Griffin: Uh, every time.

Travis: Okay. That's a weird thing. [laughs] Oh, you want to play that cool racing game? Murderer.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Now, back to Warby Parker.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Warby Parker was founded with the goal to create boutique quality eyewear at revolutionary price points. And they did it! I – this is not a joke –

am wearing Warby Parkers right now. Uh, and if you're like me and Griffin and not Justin—

Justin: Why would that be a joke? [laughs]

Travis: What?

Griffin: Why would—

Justin: Why would that be a joke?

Griffin: That would be a really shitty, not funny joke.

Travis: If I said like, “no bullshit.” Listen, this is a no bullshit zone. I'm wearing Warby Parkers right now.

Justin: They probably don't love the cursing and stuff.

Travis: No bullcorn!

Griffin: It's a family company, Trav.

Travis: Warby Parkers on my face right now, they're adorning my nose and improving my vision. And Griffin wears glasses too, and Justin does not.

Griffin: The end of Travis' book report on who wears glasses!

Travis: My favorite thing is, uh, Warby Parker doesn't just offer, uh, glasses. They also offer sunglasses, which I require to see when it is bright outside. They also have contact lenses, and uh, eye exams! They're committed to providing exceptional vision care online and in stores.

We have a Warby Parker store here in Cincinnati! Uh, so, I love them. They're comfortable, and they have sizes big enough to fit my giant head, which I really appreciate! And they're stylish and cool. Uh, Warby Parker is committed to providing exceptional vision care online and in stores.

Their glasses start at \$95, which includes prescription lenses. And like I said, they have sunglasses, progressive, and blue light lenses. So, try Warby Parker's free home try-on program. Order five pairs of glasses to try on at home, for free, for five days. There's no obligation to buy. Ships free, and includes a pre-paid return shipping label. Try five pairs of glasses at home, for free, at WarbyParker.com/MyBrother.

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[music plays]

Speaker 1: Welcome back to Fireside Chat on KMAX. With me in studio to take your calls as the dopest duo on the west coast, Oliver Wang and Morgan Rhodes. Go ahead, caller.

Speaker 2: Hey, uh, I'm looking for a music podcast that's insightful and thoughtful, but like, also helps me discover artists and albums that I've never heard of.

Morgan: Yeah man, sounds like you need to listen to Heat Rocks. Every week, myself – and I'm Morgan Rhodes – and my cohost here, Oliver Wang, talk to influential guests about a canonical album that has changed their lives.

Oliver: Guests like Moby, Open Mike Eagle, talk about albums by Prince, Joni Mitchell, and so much more.

Speaker 2: Yooo. What's that show called again?

Morgan: Heat Rocks. Deep dives into hot records.

Oliver: Every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

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Justin: Uh, so, a brief story before we move on. Last month, which seems like a hundred thousand years ago, we recorded a brief interview with our dear friend, uh, Dr. James Buffett, uh, about life and how to stay calm in the face of calamity.

Griffin: Home summer vibes.

Justin: Yeah, summer vibes, all to—and a little bit about his new album, *Life on the Flipside*, that came out last month. Uh, and then, with the—in the face of the Black Lives Matter protests, and um... it just, uh—everything going on, it didn't seem like a great time to be encouraging people to relax.

Griffin: To live in island time, necessarily.

Justin: Yes, exactly. And I—I would argue that it is still not that. But, we still think it's important to take a little bit of time to breathe, just so you can get back out there. And when you need a second to breathe, uh, there's nobody better than Jimmy Buffett to help you do that. So, let's check it with Jimmy.

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Justin: We're joined for an update on progress of, uh, coronavirus research. We're joined by lead researcher, Dr. James Buffett. Dr. Buffett, how is work going on the antidote for coronavirus? Have you almost got this thing figured out?

Jimmy: Uhh, yes, I do. It's, uh... it's jellyfish.

Travis: Oh, wow!

Justin: Jellyfish! Where you least expected it.

Griffin: The venom of the jellyfish, or is it part of like, a diet—a sort of dietary situation?

Jimmy: I think that it's the venom. But I'm not supposed to say.

Justin: Oh, okay, yeah. You want to keep—

Travis: Sorry, sorry, we'll bleep it out.

Jimmy: Now, you know what's gonna happen now. They're gonna say Jimmy Buffett's found—why did y'all open this, and I actually responded to that question?

Travis: [laughs] I'm just guessing here, Jimmy. And this has just occurred—this is related to nothing. But have you been awarded any honorary doctorates from any universities? Are you Dr. Jimmy Buffett yet?

Jimmy: I am! I am.

Travis: Yes! I knew it!

Jimmy: Wait, I got one in here. Maybe it's in the room.

Justin: Just got 'em lying around.

Jimmy: In a corner somewhere.

Justin: Just like, reach out. Just a pile of honorary doctorates.

Jimmy: Wait, I swear to god, it might be!

Griffin: [laughing] He's got one under a wobbly table leg somewhere.

Travis: [laughing]

Jimmy: Oh no, oh no! That's the CMA award for, uh... what was it? Country Music Association musical event of the year. Oh, fuck that. Okay. Nope. But I do! I have a doctorate of music from the University of Miami.

Travis: Nice!

Griffin: Hey, alright! They don't just give those out.

Jimmy: So you can call me Dr. Buffett.

Travis: Dr. Jimmy Buffett says jellyfish!

Justin: Uh, how are you, uh—how are you handling it? How are you dealing with it? Y'know, it's funny. No matter how good things are in my life, I usually have the thought, "Well, I bet Jimmy Buffett's probably having more fun than I am right now." And I feel like this period is the one shot I have, where maybe at any given moment, I might be having more fun than you are. Just in—in one moment. No? You're shaking your head no. No, still having more fun.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I bet you been in just like, some boring place. You're probably in Cleveland or something. Like, you're stuck landlocked in Cleveland.

Jimmy: Malibu.

Justin: Dang it! Dang it, Jimmy! This was my chance!

Griffin: [laughs]

Jimmy: Stuck in Malibu.

Travis: Now, I have heard Cleveland referred to as the Malibu of Ohio. So...

Jimmy: Listen. I couldn't agree more. Listen, I'm very, y'know... they've been very, very good to me in the state of Ohio. Yeah, for a couple of days there, I was climbing the walls. But I tell you what it was. Uh, I read this article early on... y'know who Scott Kelly is? The astronaut?

Griffin: No.

Travis: He's an astronaut, right?

Griffin: He's that astronaut.

Jimmy: There you go! Yeah, thank you. Thanks, Travis.

Travis: [laughs]

Jimmy: He was—he is the man that has spent the longest—the human that has spent the longest time in space. Look at us all out here, now. It could be pretty like, locked in. But when you're on the space station...

Justin: Right.

Jimmy: The interesting thing was, the common sense things he put out there kind of calmed me down, and it made me think of long sailing voyages that I did, and that's exactly what I did. Because like, when I used to do long trips, y'know, thousand miles or so down from Newport to uh, British

Virgin Islands, or to St. Bart's, or from Lauderdale... still a long trip, y'know? And you're on your own out there.

So, the way it usually started out was a party at the dock. And you got a little drunk, and you were hung over when you left. And you'd go... and it pretty much never, uh... never ceased to fail that something major on your boat would break, or a huge storm would hit you in the first day or two, while you're still trying to get over your hangover.

And there are times probably I was weeping to myself, going, "I should be back on shore eating eggs benedict at the Four Seasons! Why am I out here?!" And then you have to kind of slap yourself in the face and go, "Hey. Get it together and get in the groove." And you do!

Travis: Uh, I just want to say, uh, Dr. Buffett... this might go completely against your entire ethos, but the idea of being hung over on a boat during a storm sounds like the worst thing in the world to me. [laughing]

Jimmy: No!

Travis: That sounds like the worst thing I could imagine.

Jimmy: There's something worse. [laughs] Hung over on stage in front of ten thousand people. Try that on.

Travis: [laughs]

Jimmy: I don't do that anymore. Listen, that was when the police get—please, baby Jesus, if you let the adrenaline get in here and let me get through this, I swear to God, I will never do this again.

Travis: [laughing]

Jimmy: That happened at about 50. And I haven't done it since.

Griffin: So, we have a few more—like a decade and a half of good, hard livin' ahead of us before we have to, uh...

Jimmy: Yeah! Don't go there yet! I'm not saying, stop today.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Um, hey, you—it has been seven years since you've released a studio record. I think Songs from St. Somewhere was the last one.

Jimmy: Yep.

Justin: Why, uh—and now, you are back with Life on the Flip Side. What—how do you know when it's time for you to put out a record? Do you wait 'til you have enough songs, or you decide, "Yeah, I gotta sit down and focus on this long enough to do one."

Jimmy: Y'know what? Uh, Justin, it's a little bit of both, because y'know... I was doing—I was having a lot of fun being Jimmy, and uh—but in the meantime, there was work going on, which was the musical. That took a lot of time, and uh, that was the first four months of the year. And then, touring, and then, then we were immediately into preparing it for the road.

So, between that and then, all of a sudden, jumping into the Kygo world and becoming what—they anointed me the godfather of tropical house. I enjoy playing around in there, so I was kind of... y'know, my creative stuff is going in those directions. And y'know, before that, other things were doing it.

And then, it's the time flies thing. I went, "Damn. It's been seven years." And we were starting to write, and I had some pretty good songs. And we—y'know, and it was a great thing, but the Coral Reefer Band... We loved being in the studio. I mean, some of the—the best times I ever had playing music was in that studio with my band, 'cause we built that little studio in Key West, and that's kind of our little magic spot.

And uh, and so, we went, "Hell yeah, let's concentrate for the rest of the time on writing and going in January and do a record. Let's see what it does." We've always, when we made an album, it wasn't trying to get famous or get, y'know, get successful. Thank god that's happened. So I don't have anything to prove out there. But we just wanted to make a record that, y'know, if you liked what we do, you can add this to your collection.

So, that was the driving force. And when we got into it, we—y'know, as you do something like that, I wasn't workin' on any other things, and I concentrated for the last seven months on writing songs.

Griffin: We don't have like, a specific question from the audience like we usually do for these guest segments. Uh...

Jimmy: Is anybody listenin'?

Travis: Who knows.

Griffin: There's a small—

Travis: Who knows anymore.

Jimmy: Is anybody listenin'? No?

Griffin: A small diehard contingent of fans.

Jimmy: You can't keep a fanbase with quarantine?

Justin: Come on, Jimmy.

Travis: Well, they've all realized they could be baking bread instead of listening to our show, and they're like, "Wait, this is more interesting."

Griffin: Yeah, they've all picked up new hobbies and left us behind. But that—that kind of goes into the question. We uh, we also had Liz Gilbert on the show during this quarantine and sort of talked to her about the same thing, and I'm curious your thoughts, like... how you, uh, remain creative? Like, how you are sort of fostering that part of yourself in the midst of all of this?

'Cause I know there's like, a lot of our listeners who have all this time on their hands, and feel like they should be using it to make something. But don't really—are finding it tough to sort of get up the guts to actually do it.

Jimmy: Yeah. Y'know, I've missed a few days, but I've been pretty true to it, and that is, uh... the first thing is, y'know, to look at how we can keep, uh, our fanbase, which already was up there, like, lookin' at our Wednesday and Saturday shows. Y'know, we were a little bit ahead of the curve there, with Margaritaville TV and Radio Margaritaville. 'Cause we—y'know, when you can't go out, everybody kind of gathered there.

And so, we had a locked in audience, and so, we wanted to entertain 'em. So we've been—that was one thing. And we're still doing that. And the other thing was, uh, I started playing guitar more, and uh... and going over jazz chords. [laughs]

Travis: Oh, really?

Jimmy: Yeah. And I got—well, I got this guitar. I don't have it here, but the people at Benedetto, they make these beautiful jazz guitars. Y'know, they started in Italy, but they're made in Savannah, Georgia, and they were gonna make me one. And the factory shut down, and I had a loaner. So I still got it, and it's this beautiful guitar, so I had this great Benedetto jazz guitar. Thank you, uh, Howard Paul, who's the CEO. And y'know, they're waitin' to go back to work, too.

So, I've got this beautiful jazz guitar, and... y'know, I'm not a very jazz player, but I love listenin' to it. So I started playing a little, looking for some little augmented segments and chords as I was writing, and I had this guitar. So, I'm doing like, an hour a day of just playing guitar, and also, an hour a day of uh, French. 'Cause I, y'know, I speak fairly good French, but this is a good time to—and I'm doing better now, 'cause I'm doing it a lot. I go up on a podcast and talk to people, and I'm reading The Little Prince in French.

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: Ooh! Have you thought about releasing a French jazz album?

Justin: There you go. Really alienate everybody.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Jimmy: How did that not cross my mind?

Travis: I—listen. I would buy it. You call it, uh, James Buffett [Boo-fay] Presents, and then you make it like—I mean, I would listen the hell out of that.

Jimmy: [laughs]

Justin: Jimmy, as someone who has been to several of your concerts, and has heard people just singing along with every word, I would fuckin' adore one night to hear you be like, "Hey everybody, I'm just gonna groove for the next 30 minutes." [laughing] "I'm just gonna sit up here and just kind of noodle on some of this."

Travis: You all know French, right? Okay, just follow along.

Jimmy: You want—you want French and jazz? You want to see an audience move out quick, y'know...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: Concessions and merch sales are gonna spike.

Griffin: Yeah. [laughing] Just inject some of that into your most beloved songs. After—after the first chorus—

Travis: Just start singing a chorus of Margaritaville in French. It's just like, "What? Huh?"

Jimmy: Let's see... wastin' away would be uh, [French words]. It'd be uh, 'who cares.' [French words] in Margaritaville. Let's see, uh...

Travis: That's good! I like that!

Jimmy: [speaking French]

Griffin: Alright!

Travis: Yeah. I love it.

Jimmy: [speaking French]

Travis: [laughing]

Jimmy: There you go.

Griffin: We'll just cut that out and put it on Spotify.

Jimmy: Wait a minute, wait a minute!

Travis: We got something, here!

Griffin: Oh, here we go!

Justin: Oh, here we go, lay it down! Okay.

Jimmy: Ah, jazz cars? Okay, let's do it. Okay. [playing guitar and singing in French] Where's my saw? [singing in French]

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: [laughing]

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: This is great!

Justin: This is good, though!

Griffin: That sounded really good!

Travis: That hit Jimmy Buffett single, "Where's My Saw?"

Jimmy: That'll empty 18,000 people out, quick.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Listen, you might have to start in much smaller clubs for a while.

Justin: Yeah, you gotta build back up.

Travis: Aw, James Buffett could be your Chris Gaines! What do you think?

Griffin: Oh my god!

Justin: Exactly!

Jimmy: Don't even talk about Chris Gaines. Ugh.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I know, you were such—

Justin: Finally, somebody's speaking out!

Griffin: You were such a fan, and so heartbroken when that phase of his career was so short-lived.

Travis: I'll never forget when Jimmy Buffet found out that it was just Garth Brooks the whole time. [laughs] He was crushed!

Justin: Hey, uh, one—before we let you go, Jimmy, one last thing. Just in—I think of you as—we've talked about your heart rate before in detail. Um, this can be a stressful time. We've talked about keeping busy. What would be your advice for people that are feeling stressed, feeling kind of pent up and losing it? How do you—how do people keep calm?

Jimmy: Well, y'know, I think that—and keep a little bit busy, but do something, y'know? And uh, and do something, y'know, like... reading. To me, if I'm being—if you start there, and you don't have the ability, get out of doing things, read good books. Y'know? And if you're not a reader, start reading, because it can take you there. It really can. We all know, y'know, to me, great writers read and listen. Y'know? And that's where—I start first in reading. Basic. Y'know, and then, if you got room, uh, get a ping pong table.

Griffin: Mm!

Travis: Okay.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Then you're covered.

Justin: Jimmy, this is the second time you've recommended reading on our show, and I'm so—I can't—I'm so fed up. It's the least you—

Jimmy: You don't want to read? Okay, okay. Forget reading!

Travis: Yeahhh!

Griffin: Just ping pong!

Justin: I'm gonna cut that out and make it my ringtone. Just Jimmy—

Jimmy: Now, I'll tell ya what. Let's get back to the ping pong table, okay?

Travis: Okay! Thank you!

Jimmy: Uh, the Buffett family are all ping pong players, except my wife. My kids and I, and even my dogs can chase the ball. My dogs are here? You want to see `em?

Travis: [gasps] Yes! Awww!

Justin: Aww!

Jimmy: Watch this. Let me see if this will work. Wait. Let's see. Hey, Gracie. Beach? Want to go to the beach?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Unmoved.

Travis: Nothing has happened, Jimmy.

Jimmy: How about this? Treat! Treat! [pause] Damn.

Travis: [laughs] I think they're asleep, Jimmy.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Wait, Jimmy, those are stuffed dogs, pal. You been in... you been locked up for too long.

Justin: [laughing] Yeah.

Jimmy: Oh, they are stuffed dogs. I forgot. No, no. Okay, the other—yeah, but they make little... my son has one in his apartment here, and he showed it to me. But it's a little ping pong table, and it's gotta be maybe four feet by

three feet, that also pops open and has little pool cues, and you can shoot pool on it. They don't cost much, either.

Justin: I know something that people could do to help with their anxiety, and that is to pick up, uh, *Life on the Flip Side*, the new studio album by Jimmy Buffett. In—I was about to say 'in stores.' Don't do that. [laughs]

Travis: Nope.

Justin: Just, y'know, buy it on the internet, wherever fine albums are sold.

Jimmy: [laughs] Okay. Where's that these days?

Justin: Yeah, okay, well, fair enough. I don't know. I'm a podcast guy, Jimmy, I don't know.

Griffin: We give our stuff out for free.

Jimmy: [laughs] Okay.

Justin: Uh, but thank you so much for joining us. As always, it is a treat and a delight.

Jimmy: Yeah, well, thanks. I'll just stay in touch with you guys as always. I love listening to the show, and uh, best to everybody out there, and uh... hopefully, you'll get back on the road, too. When you do, it'll be a biiig, big—they'll be ready for you!

Justin: Co-headliners.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: The tour America's been waiting for.

Jimmy: You could open—you can open for us anytime.

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: I was gonna say the same to you, Jimmy.

Griffin: Yeah, let's not worry about the billing.

Justin: It'll be a competition between that and your French jazz to see who can clear the place out the quickest.

Griffin: [laughs]

Jimmy: [laughing] Okay, yeah. You're the one that made me do that. You guys... y'all are evil.

Travis: You did great!

Jimmy: Alright.

Justin: I liked yours. Alright. Thanks, Jimmy!

Jimmy: Thanks, guys! Always great. Great to see ya. Stay safe. Bye.

--

Justin: Uh, here is a question. "I'm in the process of writing a fairly serious fantasy novel, set in classic olden times. My problem is this – what is the best word to use when referring to a character's butt? This is a fairly serious scene, so I don't want to sound anachronistic or suggestive. At the same time, I don't want to sound stuffy or puritanical. So what's my best option?" That's from Chasing Tail Words in Chattanooga.

Griffin: Um...

Travis: Cleft.

Justin: Well, first off, I will say, congratulations on being what I assume is the only fantasy author in Chattanooga.

Griffin: You're doing—oh, that's—I don't even know—I don't even know how to begin diagnosing what that was a slam on.

Travis: What's that mean?

Griffin: What that was a...

Justin: Just doesn't seem you hear about a lot of... lot of fantasy authors from Chattanooga. I mean, there's probably not a lot from other areas.

Griffin: Yeah, but why would you even—why would you even say that?

Justin: Just killin' time.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: It's fuckin' mean, though, to Chattanooga.

Justin: It's not mean. How is it mean? It's not even judgmental.

Griffin: It's mean to Chattanooga. And the people who live there, writing fantasy novels.

Justin: Why? Why is it mean to Chattanooga to say that I don't think there's a lot of fantasy authors there?

Griffin: I mean, it's maybe a mild burn, but you didn't even need to say it. You didn't even—you didn't even need to—what's blowing me away is, you didn't even need to be mean to Chattanooga, and you decided to do it any—

Justin: I'm not being mean to Chattanooga to say there's not a lot of fantasy. Like, there's not a lot of serial killers from Huntington.

Griffin: Do you know that? Did you do your own census in Chattanooga, done by Justin McElroy? Juice, I hope it was before COVID, 'cause that's a lot of human exposure that you did when you went door to door, asking who was fantasy novelist in Chattanooga!

Justin: I'm not helping with this anymore. You guys come up with butt names on your own. I'm muting. Here, do your—hear my volume going down? [continuing to talk more and more quietly until silent]

Travis: So, I've got some synonyms for butt, here.

Griffin: Yep. But—

Travis: Backside.

Griffin: Backside? Okay, but... let's set the terminology here. Justin, please come back. It's not my fault you were mean to Chattanooga, so you can't take this out on both of us, because you realized how shitty you were being to Chattanooga.

Justin: No, it's just Travis and Griffin, as usual. It's not a big—I muted myself out. It's not a problem. But it's just fuckin' Travis and Griff. Y'know. The classic stuff. Yeah, I was dunkin' on Chattanooga. The usual shit. Yeah, I hate it, too. It's terrible.

Travis: Who do you think he's talking to, Griffin?

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: It's a shitball town that no fantasy authors go to.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: That's why—I'm surprised there's not more fantasy authors, just so that they can pretend to be anywhere else.

Travis: He probably called John Scalzi.

Justin: Than in Chattanooga. John Scalzi, I didn't hear—no, now they're talking about John Scalzi.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Why would you—sweetheart, why would you say John Scalzi? Is somebody talking about John Scalzi? Yeah, Old Man's War is dope, though. You're right.

Travis: Derriere.

Griffin: Derriere is funny. I mean, that's the thing. When you're doing this serious, um, sexual fantasy novel, are you trying to—is it like, a funny scene?

Travis: They said it's a fairly serious scene, so that probably rules out tushy, which the Thesaurus.com recommended.

Griffin: That's fucked up.

Travis: Now, let me throw this out. Haunches.

Justin: Fuck. See, I should've stayed muted, 'cause I was gonna use haunches. That was my haunch. Like, he showed his haunch. Y'know? In a serious way.

Travis: What about 'his cleft,' which I said earlier, and I stand by. His bottom cleft.

Griffin: Um...

Justin: I want to know, what is the scene... Okay. What is the scene that's not funny, and it's not suggestive, it's just a regular, serious scene about butts? [laughs]

Griffin: No, it's sexual, but like, he takes off his pants and—

Justin: Nope. Does not want it to be suggestive. So it's not sexual.

Travis: Hmm.

Griffin: It's a fairly serious... oh, so like, he is being stripped nude, uh, to be brought before the—the king's... counsel.

Justin: The official butt...

Travis: Oh, then it's kiester.

Griffin: Kies—no.

Travis: No, that's not it?

Justin: I'm the KBI. I'm the king's butt inspector.

Travis: Fanny?

Justin: I'm the FBI, the fiefdom butt inspector!

Griffin: [laughs] Is it—

Travis: The problem is, the only thing that I'm seeing that I think, like, is fairly serious, is like, bottom. But that just sounds like a... like, so infantile.

Justin: Bottom.

Travis: What about... ooh! Posterior?

Justin: No.

Griffin: Nope.

Travis: What's wrong with that?

Griffin: Sound like a grandpa.

Justin: Overly clinical.

Griffin: A big thing that, uh, like, authors like to do whenever they're talking about somebody's uh, privates or back privates, is they will say—they will use, like, metaphor, and be like, "his big pumpkin."

Travis: Uh-huh! [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And it like, if I was—

Justin: They do that all the—you're right, Griffin. All the time, I'm seeing that.

Griffin: [laughs] The king's counselor stripped the bad knight of his clothes and exposed his wormy and his big pumpkin. And I think people would know which one is the penis, and which one is the butt. Right? Hey guys, we're all adults here. We all know what the big pumpkin is.

Travis: Yeah. It's... yeah. What Linus worships.

Griffin: It's the butt.

Travis: Now, let me throw this out. You need to maybe add a gerent in there. That will make it seem more serious and fantasy and stuff. So if you say like, "Exposing his quivering cheeks," right? Now it's like, ooh, that's some writing! You can't just say, "exposing his butt." That's nothing, right? That's first draft.

Exposing, uh, his uh... no, all I can come up with is quivering cheeks.

Griffin: I mean, you could just say his uh... his big fat ass.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, why not—

Travis: His juicy dumper.

Griffin: No?

Justin: No.

Griffin: Not his juicy dumper.

Justin: Dumper is not the right vibe.

Griffin: I think just saying like, he takes off his pants before the king's counsel and reveals his big—his fat ass. Then people are gonna read that, and like, it may catch them off guard, but they'll be like, "Oh, this is a character development trait I didn't know about. But now, when I think about them, I am gonna think about, um..."

Justin: It explains a lot of their choices to this point.

Griffin: It explains a lot, and like, that fight scene that I envisioned earlier when I was reading the words and like, trying to figure out what it looked like in my mind? Now that I know that he's packing heat in them Jordaches, then, like, it's gonna change a lot of what that fight looks like.

Justin: [laughing] It makes so much sense, because the entire book, they've been carrying them themselves like someone with a fat ass.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And I never imagined it.

Travis: I thought he was just kind of full of himself, and a little bit of a braggart, but it turns out, no, he got that fat ass.

Griffin: When he kills a dragon with a spear, and you know that he's got some heavin' Levis in there, then you are gonna think about the fight in a different way, is all I'm saying.

Justin: It's true.

Travis: And y'know, and I know what you're saying, question asker, like, I don't want it to be funny. So let me give you this suggestion. A lot of the times, uh, as a reader, I don't know if something is supposed to be, like—what the tone is supposed to be until someone else responds to it. So, here is what I suggest.

Uh, he removed his pantaloons before the inspector, revealing his fat ass. And then you have the inspector say, "Well, this is very serious."

Justin: This is a serious—that's a serious ass.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Well, I see. This is very serious indeed.

Justin: That's a serious chunk of back meat.

Travis: Nothing funny about that ass.

Justin: [laughs] Just a regular fat ass.

Griffin: Those are two serious butt cheeks.

Travis: Well, Witcher! This is a very serious ass you've brought before us! I must speak with the counsel to decide how to deal with dat ass! Witcher!

Justin: Witcher!

Travis: Well!

Justin: Bounce a coin off your Witcher's ass! Uh, thank you for—

Travis: Oh, valley of plenty! Still works.

Justin: [laughs] Thank you. Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself, against all odds. Thank you to Jimmy Buffett. His new album, *Life on the Flip Side*, is available now wherever you listen to music.

Travis: Uh, check out all the other amazing shows on MaximumFun.org. uh, there's lots to check out there. Let's see, uh... *Minority Korner*, uh, there's uh... y'know, other ones.

Griffin: Oh, that was bad. Wow.

Travis: Jordan, Jesse, Go.

Justin: So bad. Try again. Try again.

Travis: I'm sayin'! Jordan, Jesse, Go. Uh, *Bubble*. Which, y'know... there's not like, new episodes or anything, but it's still great. Still worth a listen.

Griffin: Why are you so bad at talking about the other shows on the Maximum Fun network?

Travis: I don't know, Griffin!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Go to McElroyMerch.com.

Justin: Y'know what I like? Heat Rocks.

Travis: Heat Rocks is a good one. Yeah. That's a good one too.

Justin: You ever listen to Heat Rocks? Great way to discover new music, I've found, personally.

Travis: You can go to McElroyMerch.com, uh, see all of our merchandise there, including a 'Good Out Here' t-shirt, as well as a 'Phantasmal and Resplendent' pin. Both of those from The Adventure Zone. And the proceeds of which are going to The Trevor Project, so make sure to check those out.

Uh, what else, boys?

Griffin: Uh, yeah, check out also the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness. We'll have a link to that in the episode description, and uh, think about supporting them also.

Um... yeah. Did we thank John Roderick and The Long Winters?

Travis: No, but do it.

Justin: For the use of their theme song, (It's a) Departure, off the album Putting the Days to Bed.

Griffin: One in the same. Thanks, John and the Long Winters.

Um, do y'all want that final?

Travis: Yes, please.

Justin: Yeah, absolutely.

Griffin: Well, let me fuckin' find it.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Hold the fuckin' phone. Uh, here's another Emma Kant joint to close us out. Thank you, Emma. It's from Yahoo Answers user Samantha, who asks, "Can you get a tongue piercing if your tongue isn't healthy?"

Travis: Oh boy. Oh boy.

Justin: [laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin Mc—is that too gross? Should I do a different one?

Justin: No, you already said it. This has been My Brother, My Brother, and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

[theme music plays]

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