

MBMBaM 402: Face 2 Face: That Good Hot Dog Syrup

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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, "(It's a) Departure" by The Long Winters, plays]

Travis: How close—how close do you think you came to just eating it right there?

Griffin: You just almost ate—

Justin: Almost ate it.

Griffin: So much shit.

Justin: Almost ate it. That would've been so bad.

Griffin: But it did something for Kelsey Grammer, right? We all remember when he ate shit, famously, off that one stage. Next year, *Finding Neverland* called him up. "Hey?"

Travis: "Hey?"

Griffin: "Are you—" [laughs] "Are you Frasier and also the guy who ate shit off that one stage? Love that, dude. Real good."

Travis: Do you think, if you had fallen off the stage, like, Frasier would've called you, and like—"Hey, you're in the club."

Griffin: "Welcome to the club!"

Justin: That's not how the show starts.

Griffin: You're right.

Justin: So hold on.

[audience laughs]

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

[audience cheers]

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

[audience cheers]

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

[audience cheers]

Griffin: I'm sorry for the faces I made during the first 30 seconds or so of us being on stage. We ate um, a lot of Velvet Taco? Um...

[audience cheers]

Travis: But the important thing is not how much we ate, I would argue, but in fact the timeline in which we ate it, because it arrived five minutes ago.

Griffin: We slammed it. We have been making noises that are not the traditional... toots and burps, but new sounds, exciting sounds, from new places...

Justin: New, fresh sounds.

Travis: If you filled a bagpipe with Jell-O and maybe some Gak from the '90s?

Griffin: We made a—we made a “glomp,” and it came from my chest!

Travis: [laughs] My elbow made a “shlorp” sound!

Justin: We had a—this is not a joke, we had a pretty serious two-minute conversation backstage where we tried to think if we could make a bit out of us needing, like, five minutes just to sit up here while you talk amongst yourselves. To digest.

[audience cheers]

Justin: And we promised, like—we’d get you back, at the end, we go longer, like, we weren’t wasting your time, we just needed some time up here.

Travis: So so far here in Dallas, we did *The Adventure Zone* last night, and...

[audience cheers]

Travis: Thank you very much.

Justin: It’s a D&D podcast that we—

Travis: Well, it’s more an RPG podcast.

Justin: RPG.

Travis: But it’s been a very eventful two days, so we did the show, and also there was like, some kind of—

Griffin: There was like a college prom last night? Like, an SMU formal...

Travis: In our hotel.

Griffin: At our hotel, literally outside my window, and y’all... our nation... is facing a crisis. And it’s that there hasn’t been a party rock anthem released

in, like, eight years. 'Cause they were playing, no joke, fucking back-to-back, "Shots," "Yeah!" "Gangnam Style..." "

Travis: Yeah. Like—

Griffin: ... and it's like, are we just done? Did Psy do "Gangnam Style" and we were like, "That's it, no more party rock anthems?"

Travis: To be fair, yeah.

Griffin: Oh, they also played... "Party Rock Anthem." [laughs]

Travis: Um, but another—

Justin: And "Cotton Eye Joe," so...

Griffin: "Cotton Eye Joe" is in there also, which is—yeah, okay.

Justin: But—but what you're wondering about, sometimes Dad comes to us before we go onstage, when we first arrive in a city, usually just within the first 12 hours of arriving on the scene, Dad comes do us, and he says, "Hey, I've got your pre-show bit." And he doesn't say it in those words, but what we hear is, "Hey, good news: your pre-show bit is settled."

Our dad brushed his teeth... with... Capsaicin cream.

[audience groans]

Justin: So... what's—if you don't know, Capsaicin is a cream people use for pain relief and the Capsaicin is of course the same chemical in very hot peppers.

Travis: And here's the thing. When Papa told us that, I would have equally believed mistake, or I was curious. I wanted to try. I wanted—I just wanted to find out. Let me find out.

Griffin: And maybe he did it for his sons, who he loves, so they can have a good intro bit for the podcast. That would be the only thing to explain why he does it every fucking time.

Travis: Well, and this is thing. This is—

Justin: New creams, I should note. Not always Capsaicin.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's always some different cream.

Travis: I think that this is a very insightful—to see, like, the chain from our dad to us, because how it works, [laughs] your story goes in here—so Dad will do something embarrassing, and then tell us in an embarrassed way, but then get a funny reaction to it, and eventually he's bragging about it, to be more like...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Well, he'll say, like, "And don't tell people about how I brush my teeth with Capsaicin cream."

Justin: Which is actually very instructive in your own life. If you have time, try to own it like our dad does.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: If our dad fucks up super bad, he feels bad about it, and by the end of the week, he's like, "Could we do a t-shirt of this bad thing that I did?"

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Justin: "This bad fuckup that I fucked up?"

Griffin: It's a good launchpad for your children's careers, too. And I don't really know if he was thinking about it that way, for instance, 20 years ago when he cut his butt wide open with the window screen and had to duct tape his show with a Maxi pad. I don't know if he was thinking about it when he did it, like, "Aw, they're gonna love this, though."

Justin: I don't know if he was thinking about it when he held a huge tray of cold cuts, and a truck drove past him so close that it hit him with the side view mirror, and sent fucking ham flying everywhere.

Travis: Now, I know what you're asking: where was he? How close do you have to be to have cold cuts and a truck—I think he was just, like, at the park.

Griffin: Who was in the wrong place, the truck or our dad?

Justin: I have a very clear memory of being, like, 12 years old and driving to the hospital and a lady that Dad worked with was praying over him, and I can very much remember thinking, "He does not deserve that."

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: "Ma'am, please do not bother God with this, okay."

Travis: "What happened—the cold—that is the first time I heard that one."

Griffin: "That was me. I'm trying to launch a comedy podcast up here."

Travis: "See you in 20 years, boys!"

Wait, what?

Justin: What?

Griffin: What?

Justin: [laughs] Hold on.

So anyway, we do a—

Griffin: We are gonna be making a ham delivery tomorrow and get hit by one big truck and it'll be a beautiful karmic moment.

Justin: So as you've almost certainly guessed, we do an advice show. Uh, untraditional, but you wanna start with a Yahoo?

Griffin: I do wanna start with a Yahoo.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: This one was—

[audience cheers]

Griffin: This one was sent in by Merit Palmer. Thank you, Merit. It's Yahoo Answers User Question Mark, but not like... it's not loading properly; that's their fucking name, that's what they've gone with. Question Mark asks, "I have an idea for a syrup. How can I go about selling it commercially?"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: You've heard of maple syrup. Have you heard of weeping willow syrup?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: It's a new, exci—"It doesn't have syrup in it. How did you get—"

"I squeezed it... so hard."

Justin: I don't even think this person has gotten to the production stage.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It sounds like what they've done is said, "I know a flavor I like is tomatoes. I know I love the viscosity of syrup."

[audience laughs]

Justin: “How can I bring these two things together?”

Griffin: There’s that one weeping—

Travis: “Oh, honey! Honey, wake up, I’ve done it! Stone syrup!”

“What?”

“Stone syrup!”

Griffin: “What’s the most expensive substance on Earth? Diamonds. I’d like to talk to you today...”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: “Oh, it looks like Mark’s out. He does not want to invest in diamond syrup.”

I have a new idea for syrup. Have we not... explored all of the syrup that there is?

Travis: Apparently not. Because here’s the thing: if this is just like, “add flavor to—” like, blueberry—it’s maple syrup, but with blueberry in it, that’s nothing.

Griffin: That’s *nothing*. I can do that. We’re all doing our own flavor experiments at home with syrup all the time.

Travis: What is this “new” syrup that’s gonna change the fucking game?

Griffin: Maybe it’s not the flavor; it is the practical use case of the syrup.

Justin: Okay. Engine syrup.

Griffin: [holding back laughter] Engine syrup. Make your car go zoom.

Justin: Make your car—sweet operation on this car. Edible. Edible engine syrup, finally! You ever pour motor oil in your car, and say, “Fuck, that looks good”?

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Listen, we’ve all been there.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Now it’s Engine Syrup. We’ve rebranded.

Griffin: Can we frame it so that your—can we frame it that your car is a hungry mouth...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: ... and then all the stuff you put into it is food for car!

Travis: “Listen, we got Engine Syrup. We got Go Soup. We’ve got it all.”

Griffin: “We got bottom donuts.”

“What—tires?”

“Yes!”

Travis: Okay.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: “I call those ‘bottom donuts now.’”

“That sounds... deeply sexual.”

“Yes.”

Justin: Yes. Yes. That's part of the appeal.

Griffin: It's gonna make it pop on the aisle of the Pep Boys.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: That's very on trend with millennials. They love...

Griffin: They need tire—these bottom donuts cost 200 dollars more than the tires.

Justin: That's right. Those are the—

Griffin: And so sexual!

Travis: Also, I know you meant, like, A-I-S-L-E of the Pep Boys, but what I heard of Isle of the Pep Boys.

Griffin: Welcome. [laughs]

Travis: "Welcome to Pep Boys Isle. Can you survive?"

Justin: "There's three of us and one of you. Do the math!"

Griffin: Uh, how about a question?

Justin: The problem with new syrup...

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: ... if you're saying what the name of it is, it's gonna be confusing if it goes on that thing or not. Maple syrup, no one thinks, "Oh, I'm gonna put syrup on a maple." That doesn't make any sense. What? Hot dog syrup... is like...

Travis: Oh, shit.

Justin: ... is this flavored like a hot dog in syrup form? Or is this syrup for my hot dog?

Travis: That's the biggest problem with hot dog syrup! I absolutely agree.

Griffin: Yeah, no matter which way that cookie crumbles, it's gonna be a hard pass. It's gonna be a firm *no*.

Justin: But what if it's been—what if—wait, Griff.

Griffin: Uh-huh. [laughs]

Justin: What if it's... good? [laughs] The other thing—

Griffin: Oh, oh, oh! You didn't tell me it was *good* hot dog syrup.

Justin: [laughs] No, it's obviously good hot dog syrup.

Griffin: Now, does that mean the hot dog syrup is good, or that it was expressed from good hot dogs?

Justin: The hot dog syrup isn't good; why is Mark Cuban giving me all this money? He loves it!

[pauses]

[scattered audience laughter]

Justin: Here's a question from somebody here. [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Recently, my boyfriend started up a blogging platform for reviewing pizza from local establishments. Everything from the info pages to the username are pizza-themed. The problem is, he doesn't review the pizza, but instead reviews the establishment's features and amenities, such as the silverware, table mats, and bathrooms."

[audience laughs]

Justin: “He usually concludes the review with a single sentence about the pizza.”

Griffin: Yup.

Justin: “Usually something brief and simple, like, ‘The margarita pizza was okay.’ How do I help him improve his platform’s reach and review quality while hinting to him that not even trying to review the pizza he eats at different locations is probably not the best idea?” That’s from Frustrated in Flower Mound. Are you here?

Audience Member: Yes!

Justin: Okay, wait, hold on. Hold on, thank you for coming.

Travis: Thank you for being here. Thank you for buying a ticket. Thank you for sending in a question.

Justin: I do have to ask... is boyfriend here?

Audience Member: Yeah.

Justin: Okay. So...

[audience laughs]

Justin: This fucking kills me! So I guess you found a way to tell him, huh? Fuck!

[audience laughing]

Justin: You’re just gonna fucking enlist me in your struggles. Okay.

Travis: What I got here is step one. Right now—

Justin: He had to hear it from his all-time hero.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: Great.

Travis: It's the opposite of getting a home run for the sick kid in the hospital. This is the opposite version of that.

Griffin: It's gonna get—it smashes through the window and hits the sick kid. 'Cause everybody else is gonna love the great home run. Except for that one... you have one, like, crazy long hair. Are you seeing this shit?

Travis: Woah!

Griffin: Holy shit!

Justin: Don't derail the show. They're not gonna be able to enjoy that. Get it out, get it out! Ack!

Griffin: It was so long.

Travis: Here's the thing. Question asker... you are wrong.

Griffin: [laughs] Sorry.

Justin: Sorry.

Travis: And boyfriend blogger is right.

Justin: Yeah, it sounds great. Honestly, it sounds great.

Travis: Because that's all I want—when I go on Yelp, I don't care about the fucking food.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Charles Dickens could write a book, call it *Tale of Three Pizzas*, in which he takes 600 pages to describe the three most lovely pizzas he's ever eaten. That's not gonna put the fucking pizza in my mouth, Charles. All I need is one sentence that's just—is it good, or is it okay, or is it bad?

And then if you want to dedicate a whole blog post to... for instance, do the locks on the bathroom doors work properly, now you're in my fucking wheelhouse.

Travis: Not only do they—but does it look like they've put six different lock options—

Griffin: I don't trust that shit. If there is a bathroom—this is all I think about every time I go. I scope out the b-room and make sure it's good for me. Six locks and only one of 'em works? What makes me think that sixth one is not going to give out during my tenure?

Justin: That actually—we're gonna get back to this in one second. I did want to briefly derail. Right before the show, I walked in—there's a long hall away from our dressing room that goes to the bathroom and there was a security guard sitting in the hall.

Griffin: So don't fucking try anything.

Justin: Nice try. And as I passed him, I—I always feel indebted, like, thank you for...

Travis: Thank you for your service?

Griffin: Protecting my life.

Justin: Protecting my life. So I gave him, like, a—I actually told him I just ate too many tacos. And I went to the bathroom, and the bathroom didn't have a lock on it, and then I was like, "Well, I don't know what to do." And then I was like, "Well, there is that security guard. And it's not exactly clear what he's guarding but if he's trying to guard me and my life..."

Griffin: And your treasure. [laughs]

Justin: "... and my sort of, continued existence... " I did go back out and ask him, like, "If you do see anybody, just—"

Griffin: Oh, Justin!

[audience laughs]

Justin: "If anybody's coming this way, just give 'em a heads-up, 'cause I have no lock."

Travis: And he said, "Yeah, why do you think I'm here?"

Justin: "That's why I'm here, Justin."

Travis: "Don't worry about it."

Justin: "To guard your bathroom experience."

Travis: "Yeah, dude, I know!"

Justin: "I know, yeah, dude! Don't tell me how to do my job!"

Travis: When I'm looking up restaurant reviews, all I care about is like—I—I need a whole review that's just like, "You won't regret coming here, and I don't mean the food. I mean you, Travis McElroy... "

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah.

Travis: "... will feel like you've made the right choice."

Justin: The right choice.

Griffin: Oh, boy...

Justin: If you could have an interview whether or not there is check candy?

Griffin: Ooh.

Justin: So you know, going in, that you're gonna get check candy. Would you want that?

Griffin: I think I would want—

Justin: Wait. Isn't that a spoiler? Isn't that very exciting and one of the few joys of adult life, when the check comes and you're like, ooh, but then there's like an Andes mints. So you're like, okay.

Travis: Oh, but it could also be—

Griffin: Free food! Ha ha ha!

Justin: Nice! I guess I got one over on you!

Travis: Well, I guess I *will* be having dessert tonight!

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Unless.

Justin and Travis: Unless.

Griffin: It's one of those green mints and you don't know whether it's tropical flavored or spearmint.

Justin and Travis: Ugh.

Griffin: No stars! Great ambience. Pizzas the best I've ever eaten. They gave me those tricky mints!

Travis: I will tell you, what would give me a no-star review right off the bat, no clear indication as to whether I should ask for the check, or walk up and pay at the counter. That is a...

[audience cheers]

Travis: That is a no-star review for me right there.

Justin: I have sat at a table for 20 minutes because there's nothing worse than the fear of like, going up to somebody, like, "[fearfully] Here is this. Is this for you? I don't—"

Travis: "Are you an adult?"

Justin: "Can you handle this? I just wanna go!"

Travis: "Fix for me!"

Justin: "Fix for Justin! Here is money!"

Travis: "Justin give money, you let leave?"

Justin: And have you ever noticed that you do get it wrong, and you try to get your waitress the money, they will fucking destroy—every time they are so pleased to be able to tell you, "Oh, no, no, no, no, no. You're gonna have to march up there and face what you did, alone. And buy some Chiclets, too."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Uh, I have a Yahoo here. This one was sent in by Adrian Cowles. Thank you, Adrian. Sent in a ton of good ones, thank you. It's from CoolCat4567.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Who had to—[laughs] whose fucking house was on fire, but they just had to pick a yahoo name real fast. "Uh, CoolCat—467—shit! CoolCat's taken, shit! Get the dog!"

Justin: I'm a cool cat. What else matters?

Griffin: Uh, "I touched a supposedly haunted piano that didn't know was haunted. Am I screwed?"

[audience cheers]

Justin: Okay, wait. Read it one more time?

Griffin: Yeah, there's something...

Justin: Something is in there.

Griffin: "I touched a supposedly haunted piano," comma, "that didn't know was haunted... "

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: ... comma, "am I screwed?"

Justin: Are they saying... Are they saying—

Griffin: Is this another hot dog syrup situation?

Justin: No, are they saying the piano didn't know it was haunted? Like, the piano is haunted, but the piano is not aware of its haunted status?

Griffin: There's no such thing as a piano ghost, which is to say a piano that gets killed in a terrible passion and then it levitates its spirit—

Travis: But what about those pianos that fall when they try to hoist it up with a crane?

Griffin: Still no spectral energy, latent inside energy inside the piano. Now, a human ghost gets put in the piano...

Travis: Now we're talking.

Griffin: [laughs] Now we're cooking, baby.

Justin: Now we've got... [laughs] Will Ferrell vehicle.

Griffin: Do they know that they're a piano? Second question, does the piano know... [through laughter] it's a ghost?

[audience laughs]

Justin: [deep voice] You know, one funny thing about me—hey, other fellow living humans. One weird thing about me is when people tickle me, I sing beautiful music. Not words, just kind of a—

Travis: Kind of a [imitates plucky piano music].

Griffin: I love that. This could be one of those good ghost movies and he's trying to like, tell his wife and kids, "I love you, I miss you. I'm sorry about the big wreck I did that I beefed it."

Travis: [laughs] "I did so bad on the carpet."

Griffin: And they see him, and they're, he's like, "Wait, I love you!" But the wife and kids just hear [makes plonking sounds]

"Run away!"

"No!"

Scary piano.

Travis: So he literally has to be self-taught how to play piano.

Griffin: Yes. Backwards, 'cause he's inside!

Justin: By the way, *Black Mirror* Season 5, trademark, trademark, trademark. Obviously, we're gonna sell it.

Travis: I've got it. I've got it, I've got it, I've got the setup. Piano falls from a crane. Crushes a person. They rebuild the piano...

Griffin: Oh, a fusion!

Travis: They rebuild the piano—what’s that? Now the spirit or maybe the whole person’s in there. I don’t know how good they are at rebuilding pianos.

Justin: Maybe it’s every time you hit that second-octave F sharp key, you just hear a person, like, “[shrill] Ah! I’m in this one!”

Travis: I’m sorry, Steve. You’re half-piano, half-man now. You’re a piano man. Now, sing us a song!

Justin: He’s Piano Man, but he does have a gun that comes out of his leg, and he uses it to shoot perps. It’s weird.

Travis: It’s not connected. [laughs] He actually had that before the accident.

Justin: He had it before the accident.

Travis: We thought this would make sense, ‘cause you were already part robot.

Justin: Hey, “Piano Man” is actually pretty good—like, ghosts, half-piano, half-man, that’s actually pretty good.

Griffin: Yeah, Trav, good joke!

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: No, like, good idea to sell.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Everybody’s always saying we don’t appreciate Travis’ jokes so much, so I wanted to pin in this one, so they’d stop telling me that.

Justin: Yeah. Pin a [??] on it.

Griffin: Oh? You need a drink?

Justin: Mm, one sec. Real quick drink. Alright, I can do more podcast.

Travis: And we're back.

Justin: Welcome back. You've joined us already in progress.

Audience Member: [cheers loudly]

Justin: Okay!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Cool!

Justin: I'll take drinks more often, then!

"My boss has a habit of coming out of his office into the bullpen, loudly saying a single word, then returning to his office. Mostly, these words pertain to our work. 'Meeting.' 'Parking.' 'Cash.' 'Cattle'?" Cattle? Okay. "Cattle."

Griffin: We've got to park the cows!

Travis: "Sheeple!"

"Woah, boss."

Justin: "Uh, but yesterday—"

Griffin: "Skynyrd."

Justin: [laughs] Are you guys having—

Griffin: "Free Bird."

Justin: "Yesterday, I was having lunch and eating a slice of homemade cake at my desk. My boss walked past my cubicle, and shouted, 'Cake!'"

[audience laughs]

Justin: “And stood there.”

Griffin: Nice.

Justin: “I made awkward eye contact for about 15 seconds and said, ‘Yes?’”

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: “Then turned around and went—”

Griffin: 15 seconds is the perfect comedy around the time to have waited for that answer.

Justin: Actually, you know what? I’m just gonna use the timer right here.

Griffin: Oh, Jesus Christ.

Justin: Travis—this is what that would’ve felt like, okay? I’ll be the person, and you be the boss, okay?

Griffin: Good.

Justin: Ready?

Travis: Cake!

Justin: Yes?

[increasing audience laughter]

Justin: It’s perfect!

Griffin: And that’s 15 seconds of podcast that we don’t have to do.

Justin: It's just that—we'll edit that back down later, it'll be more like eight seconds.

"And then I turned around in my chair and ate my cake without looking up to make further eye contact."

Travis: So you don't know how much longer the [laughs] boss was there.

Griffin: Days.

Justin: "Did my boss want some of my cake? Did he want a conversation about the cake? Brothers, what should I do next time he addresses one of these one-word shouts in my direction?" That's from Caked and Confused in Cow Town.

Travis: Maybe your boss had only ever read about cake, but never actually seen it?

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: There it is!

Travis: "Cake!"

Griffin: "Hey, there's that fluffy stuff!"

Travis: And then when you confirm this identifica—"Yes." Nailed it!

Griffin: Nice! Great!

Justin: No, because if that was the case, like, nobody hears about cake their whole life, sees cake for the first time, and is like, "Alright, bye."

Travis: "Cool."

Justin: "Cool, I'm gonna talk away without a taste of that wonderful stuff."

Travis: I wish the boss would move to the next cubicle, and just be like, "Cereal!"

Griffin: Or, [quietly] "Cake?"

"No, not at this one. No cake here. Keep looking."

And then somebody's like, eight cubicles down, eating cake, like, "Oh, fuck."
[eating noises]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Is it possible that this is not just a boss, but it is a *Boss Baby*? Or a *Big* situation, or both, *Big Boss Baby*.

Justin: [simultaneously] *Big Boss Baby*. Yeah.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Which is the premise of the question we're talking about now, and also the villain of the next Metal Gear Solid game. Very excited about that.

Justin: Just confirmed, actually.

Griffin: Uh, Big Boss Baby. Baby climbed up into the... Zoltan machine, 'cause that's what they do. I've had a baby for 16 months. Now I can't—like, nine, ten claw machines. Can't take this kid to a Dave & Buster's. One time he got stuck in two different claw machines at one Dave & Buster's trip. What am I supposed to do, stop going to Dave & Buster's?!

Justin: Watch your kid? Come on!

Griffin: Got blown up into Tom Hanks, showed up to work the next day. Apple. No, what?

Justin: What?

Griffin: Juice!

Travis: No, okay.

Griffin: I want juice?

Justin: You want juice?

Griffin: Juice!

Travis: Yes, you want juice. Apple. Do you want apple juice, or did you want an apple?

Justin: Cake!

Travis: Yes—I—[laughs]

Justin: Cake!

Travis: No, ye—

Griffin: “No! No!”

“What are you even saying no to?”

“[crying] Waaaah!”

“You’re my boss!”

Travis: “Boss?”

Griffin: “You can’t cry in front of me. You’re my boss.”

Justin: “Waah!”

Travis: “Boom-boom.”

Griffin: “Did you—did you make boom-boom? You’re my boss!”

Justin: "I don't have to clean that up!"

Travis: "Yes!"

"Ugh."

Griffin: "Ugh."

This is the role Tom was born to play.

Travis: Now, in order for this to work...

Griffin: The role that Tom Hanks was born to play was in the music video for "I Really, Really, Like You." Uh, every other role has been...

[audience cheers]

Travis: It has to be like, a couple of times it's really paid off, and they'd be like, "This guy's got some great ideas."

So it'd be like, "I don't know, we need to get some new computers for the office, but what kind should we get?"

"Apple!"

"Hey!"

Griffin: "Hey, alright!"

Travis: "Now that's an idea!"

Justin: And the year is 1983, so he's like, very...

Travis: Yeah, it's cutting-edge.

Justin: ... sort of out in front of it.

Griffin: [snorting laughter]

Justin: Computers, I mean. And this man's name? Was Steve Jobs.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: And they were like, "What's an Apple Computer?"

And he was like, "Exactly. Welcome to the future. Start making them."

Griffin: Uh, how about a [slurring] Yahoo? You want a Yahoo?

Justin: Yeah. Yeah, let's hear the Yahoo.

Griffin: I get nervous...

Justin: Yeah, I just—

Griffin: No, here's where I get nervous. 'Cause we're about halfway through what we're calling Act 1 of tonight's festivities, and usually that's where you say, "Yeah, Griffin, go ahead and do your work up there," and then I start doing my work. And what's happen on the work—"

Justin: Just let—oh, no, I can see you! [makes high-pitched beeping noises]

[audience cheers]

Justin: This popped up. I just got a notification. This just popped up.

Griffin: Wait, what app do you get ghost notifica—haunted doll notifications?

Justin: If I told you, then everybody would get it, then the segment wouldn't be special anymore.

Griffin: Okay.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: It's Google Maps.

Justin: It's Google Maps. I'll tell you the full thing they're doing: "Haunted porcelain doll with orbs," slash, "paranormal," slash, "stunning!"

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Griffin: We never—we talk about the orbs so much, we never talk about how beautiful these dolls are!

Justin: She's about to. Condition: all caps, in quotes, exclamation point. "Wonderful!" Okay, but what—

Travis: What does that mean for a haunted doll?

Justin: The condition of this doll is... wonderful!

Um... first off, check out the orbs

Griffin: I got a mouthful of drink when you check the—peep the orbs.

Travis: Check out those or—those orbs, though! Like a 1980's music video. Whoa!

Griffin: Whoa!

What those orbs do, though? They'll fuck with your remote control!

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: This—you cannot get this hung up on each of this.

Griffin: [laughs] Okay, sorry.

Justin: 'Cause it is like—there's other journeys to go on here. "This doll looks just like a real little girl!"

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: "Such a realistic face! An absolutely gorgeous doll. Her pictures do not do her justice." Hey, lady?

Travis: She's got a beauty that moves!

Justin: Hey, lady, if the pictures don't do her justice... take more pictures. It's a doll. It doesn't mind. Take more pictures, until you get a picture that does it justice.

Travis: Get some glamour shots.

Justin: "Here's a doll from an investigation in Savannah, Georgia. Cold spots are often found in the room that she's placed in. Also thumping in the middle of the night. I have captured orbs in second photo, so check it out."

[audience laughs]

Justin: They wanna make sure you've seen the orbs. "We have also seen—"

Griffin: We are currently reading more of the description without going to look at the orbs, though, which is kind of—speaks to what we do on the show with Haunted Doll Watch that somebody just said, "I captured ghost orbs in a photo," and Justin said, "I'll get to those ghost orbs later; I have to keep reading."

Justin: Okay, well, then I'm—see, I'm gonna have to—I'm gonna have to—

Griffin: What are you typing? What could you—control F ghost orbs?

Justin: So I'm picking up the second image.

Travis: Whoa, check out those orbs!

Justin: The orbs are not... fucking anything.

Griffin: There's not orbs.

Travis: You know how JJ Abrams movie is haunted?

Justin: It's just a lens flare on the order. It's nothing.

Griffin: You do photoshops...

Justin: I feel like just talking about it, though.

Griffin: ... generate orbs.

Travis: Those photos do not do her justice.

Justin: The photos don't do her justice, I can say that for sure. "EVPs have been re—" sorry, I got tripped up. "We have also seen her slightly move to the slide at times all on her own. She is a very beautiful doll. She has very long, golden locks of hair. EVPs have been recorded from her in the past. We believe she's a girl around the age of nine." This is the part of Haunted Doll Watch where we just kind of—

Griffin: It gets sad in the middle, yeah.

Justin: "We have tried to communicate with her and asked her how she passed. We also received one EVP saying "car." ...Okay.

Griffin: And another saying "ham."

Justin: [laughs] So—

[audience laughs]

Justin: We believe—she talks about her car a lot. That's what it says. "She talks about her car a lot. If you wish to adopt you into your home, she can be yours. She also has an adorable giggle."

Travis: Perhaps “adorable” is not what you would associate...

Justin: With a ghost giggle from a doll. “Be prepared!” exclamation point, no fucking context whatsoever. It just says—

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: “Be prepared! Make sure to put a towel in a cardboard box for her to live in.”

Justin: “She needs a loving home, so don’t adopt her unless you’re gonna be good to her.”

Griffin: Oh, you don’t fucking care! If somebody pays the, I’m gonna guess, 31 dollars for this doll, you don’t fucking care what home it goes to. There’s no screening process.

Justin: By the way, 100 dollars.

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: That’s the buy it now, thank you.

Griffin: My mistake. It is a beautiful doll.

Justin: It is wild, though, ‘cause like, “Be good to her. She’s like one of my children. Anyway, I’m gonna put her up for sale on the internet.” Is that how you’re good to people, do you think? Is putting the children for sale on the internet?

Travis: “Be good to her. Be prepared!”

Justin: “Be prepared!”

Griffin: “Be prepa—uh.”

Justin: “Be prepared.”

Travis: For those orbs.

Justin: And then it just says, this is another complete sentence, it just says, "nice big doll."

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: If you're worried about it being haunted but being too small, don't worry about that here. She's a nice big doll.

Griffin: Ghost got a lot of elbow room.

Justin: "She is about a 24-inch doll... "

Griffin: Fuck!

Justin: "... from the top of the hat down." Thank you for clarifying, because if I had gotten the doll and said, "Well, yeah, if you count the hat. I wanted a 2-foot haunted doll. Not counting the hat."

Griffin: "Now I have to put my own hat on."

Justin: "Great."

Travis: Just imagine, I think for context, the eyes of the doll would be just over the top of our table.

Justin: Yeah. This is maybe—

Travis: Picture it.

Griffin: And the orbs would be fucking crazy.

Justin: [makes "wow" sound]

This is maybe the most perplexing sentence in the whole thing.

Griffin: You're fucking me. There's more perplexing stuff?

Justin: Yeah, this one's really perplexing. "She's an expensive doll. Sells for around 300 to 400 dollars. Apparently not.

[audience laughs]

Justin: I mean, right? Like, apparently not, because you are selling it for 100 dollars, so like, apparently not?

Travis: Does having a ghost in the doll make it worth less?

Justin: Less? Is it less valuable if you capture a spectral ghost?

Griffin: If there was an *Antiques Roadshow* where they brought on a doll, and the doll was like, I don't know, old and nice and belonged to like, Lincoln. And they're like, "Wow. I've never seen a doll in this—is this Lincoln's?"

"Yes."

"This has gotta be worth a million dollars."

"Well, one thing... great condition, beautiful doll, big ol' doll."

Travis: [laughs] Nice big doll.

Griffin: "Be prepared, there's a ghost in there."

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Are we still in a mint situation? Are we down to like, very good—

Travis: Oh, is this like when someone cleans the patina off of the thing, and they're like, "No, if there wasn't a ghost in there, it would be like, 3,000 to 4,000 dollars. But with the ghost, 20 bucks."

[audience laughs]

Justin: If you're the sort of person that would be concerned about the presence of a ghost in the doll, it's more of a binary thing, right? Like, it's not going to affect the sale price, it's gonna be like, "No, probably not. I don't actually think so, 'cause it's haunted, and the home is where I live. So I don't think so."

Griffin: Uh, can I do a Yahoo?

Justin: Um, [sighs] yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. I guess.

Griffin: Who did you just check with?

Travis: Dad.

Griffin: [laughs] Okay. Uh, thank you Daddy. It's Yahoo Answers—no, not the user, but Adrian Cowles sent this one in too. Thank you, Adrian. It's Yahoo Answers—well, technically, I think if you go on Yahoo to find Yahoos for this show, you're a part of the fucking community. And I'm saying that, risking losing all these good folks who are doing this work for us, but [blows raspberry] I calls 'em like I see 'em!

User CPC26CA. This one's just fucking diarrhea. The other one at least had direction. "I am a cool cat!" These are four sequential numbers!

Travis: Maybe this is like a license plate. Maybe there's a code in there.

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: It means something.

Griffin: I'm not gonna do this joke. Um...

Travis: Wait, we can do that?

Griffin: "Am I allowed to... bring my Rubik's Cube to a football game?"

[continued audience laughter]

Griffin: Legally, yes. Should that change? [through laughter] Yes.

Justin: Imagine you just did one of the best touchdowns ever. It was—

Travis: Uh-huh. Wait, give me a second. Oh-ho!

Griffin: They fumbled it, you ran it all the way back, one yard line, you fumbled it, they ran it back, another fumble, you ran it back. Longest touchdown run in history.

Justin: Incredible. You're living your dream, right? Your hands in the air—you're living it. And then you look in the stands, and there's just one person, like, "Hmm. Fine. Anyway, back to my puzzle."

Griffin: And that person was my football teacher.

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Justin: My football teacher, Malcolm McDowell.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: All I wanted was for him to give me a certificate that said, "Football Grand Master."

Griffin: Dude's got a fucking spiral on him, though, like, "I'll show you an outlier. Boom, 130 yards."

Travis: [through laughter] That's Malcolm Gladwell!

Griffin: Oh, shit!

[audience laughs]

Justin: I'm sure they get that all the time.

Griffin: I'll go get in the box.

Justin: Um, you... you shouldn't... if people are trying—they're performers. They're putting on a show just for you. You realize that's the only point there, right? Like.

Griffin: Okay, okay. But in one four downs of football...

Justin: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ... there's only like, eight seconds of football actually being played, and then it's like a half minute of figuring out what the next one's gonna be, which is astounding to me because how many variations can there possibly be? You either throw it or you run with it or you kick it, right? Am I missing something? There's so much! But there's a lot of downtimes—

Travis: There's also—Griffin, there's also the times where you hide it under your jersey and pretend you're pregnant.

Griffin: That's a fourth category, I think fun-'em-ups, like, are we gonna run, pass, kick, or do a funny, fun one.

Travis: So you're Mighty Ducks.

Griffin: Sort of like a Mighty Ducks fun one.

Travis: You're go Big Greens.

Justin: Did you—do you guys remember there's a part in *Mighty Ducks* where Gordon Bombay gets mad at them [through laughter] for doing too many fun duck stunts? And it's like, "Hey, Gordon. We're trying to enjoy the movie."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Can you not get mad at them for having some fun?

Griffin: Whenever they call a time-out...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: ... which in a sport, if you call a time-out, that's basically you saying, like, "We fucked up and we need to fix it," right? And that's disrespectful to my time in the stands. I wanna have some busywork! I wanna, if not have the whole time to play a game of Pokémon trading cards, and least get my deck in order. At least solve one face of the Rubik's Cube.

Are we running a danger, though, of going up on the Jumbotron of the first period...

Justin: Look at this nerdlinger.

Griffin: And then second period, "Let's check back in—oh, yikes, having a rough time there, Griffin!"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "It's all about the snake pattern. Do you need me to come down there and do it for you?"

Justin: And then you see one of the angels in the outfield behind him, like, "No, he's got it! He can do it!"

Travis: "He's got—okay, now turn—oh, fuck, now what was it? Oh, fuck? Oh, was it? Let me do it."

Justin: [crosstalk].

Travis: "Uh, God?"

"Not mine!"

Griffin: "I can't figure those—those are wild, man!"

Travis: "I don't know shit about those things."

Justin: "You know who made those? The Devil. Surprise!"

Um, do we have time for one—do you wanna do another Yahoo?

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: We're not leaving.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: We're not leaving, yeah.

Justin: We're just gonna pee. And you can pee, and we'll all pee.

Griffin: I actually have a very good Yahoo here.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: If I could do two in a row, if it's okay with everybody here.

I kid you not, Adrian Cowles also sent this one in. Absolutely fucking crushed it. It's by Question Mark. Probably a different one. This time I think it was, it didn't load, because it's uh... a bad website. Uh, they asked, "What are we gonna have for breakfast in 100 years from now? Thanks."

Whatever it is, it's gonna have good hot dog syrup on it.

Travis: What I really like is like—obviously, they're asking, like, human beings, but what it could also be is like, "Hey, what do you guys want to have for breakfast 100 years from now? I wanna start planning now."

Justin: "Let's go ahead and get out in front of it."

Griffin: I—it may be weird to think it's human beings, because it could also be talking to—the answer could be us, by robots.

Justin: Right. Humans.

Griffin: But assuming we're still humans, we're still ruling shit, 100 years from now – no way – um...

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Uh, what are we gonna eat 100 years in the future... answer: obvious ones, computer eggs.

Justin: That's right. That's one.

Travis: Are those eggs computers lay?

Justin: Cyberbacon.

Griffin: Cyberbacon! Oh, man. Amazon Toast.

Justin: [laughs loudly] I hope that in 100 years, I will be able to vape all my meals. That is my—I wanna get vape nutrients, I want vape—I don't just want vape nutrients. I want vape satisfaction. I want—

Griffin: [laughs] A filling—

Justin: I went to—we went to eat at Edith's Café with the French stuff...

Griffin: It was good as hell.

Justin: It was good as hell, but I wish I had vaped it. I want that level of satisfaction.

Travis: What I want—and I know this is a long way off, but what I want is a drone that will come to me and bring me French toast while I sleep and open my mouth, and put it in my mouth, move my chin up and down, massage my throat so I swallow it, and I could just keep sleeping.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah. It would need to know your favorite song that it could play you if you wake up in the middle of this process.

Justin: And a super sharp hypodermic needle. So you wouldn't even notice the injection going in with the nanobots.

I mean, it'll be imagery, right?

Griffin: Oh, it just flashes—flashes at you.

Justin: Pictures of the food—

Travis: And then you're like, "Oh, what a good picture."

Justin: "What a good picture. A delicious picture. Thank you to future—" What if you could, um...

Griffin: Aw, yeah!

Travis: Everybody stand back!

Griffin: Justin's got it!

Travis: Stand back! He's about to dunk!

Justin: [through laughter] Please stop. Please stop.

Griffin: If you're sitting in the first three rows, you may get wet!

Justin: Please don't make a big deal out of it, please.

Griffin: Shh.

Justin: Please stop. Don't make a big deal out of it. It's not that good.

Griffin: Shh. Shh.

Travis: Can we get the house lights up?

Griffin: I'm gonna take a big drink!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: No, let him see it! Let him see it!

Justin: I'm not looking. You can't make me look.

Griffin: Justin, you gotta look, dog. It's gonna be so good. Your great joke is gonna...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Alright! Now we're gonna count it down!

Justin: Okay wait, listen! Before I say that, I wanna say we have merch in the lobby.

Griffin: Yeah, let's do that. Let's walk out after this. We're gonna come back after an intermission and do audience questions, we're gonna have a lot of fun in the second half of the show, after we get the great walk off from Justin's joke, which better not stink.

Justin: So make sure you try to see it in the second half.

Griffin: So yeah. Justin, that's joke, and let's get ready for it.

Justin: Wouldn't it be great if... Wouldn't it be great if you could eat a GIF of Jif?

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

Griffin: Hey, everybody, it's Griffin, and I'm here editing the episode while the other boys are out playing with a kite, even though it's my birthday and I'm the one who should be out there with the kite, and they're the ones that

are actually out there doing, you know, kite stunts, and that's my favorite thing, but whatever.

I'm gonna do the ads real quick, and let you get back to the rest of the episode. Thank you to Dallas and Houston for having us this past weekend. Sorry the episode's a bit late. We didn't get it up yesterday, 'cause we were still traveling, and then I got it up late today, 'cause it's my freaking birthday, so huff it if you got a problem. I'm sorry.

Anyway, our first ad here is for ZipRecruiter. Are you hiring? Because posting your job to job sites and waiting, it stinks and you shouldn't have to do it. It should be illegal, actually, to ask people to do it. So ZipRecruiter, they revolutionized hiring. Their technology finds great candidates for you. It learns what you're looking for, identifies people with the right expertise, and invites them to apply to your job.

Right now, our listeners can try ZipRecruiter—am I saying that right? Yes. ZipRecruiter for free at [ZipRecruiter.com/mybrother](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/mybrother). ZipRecruiter, the smartest way to hire.

I also want to tell you all about Boll and Branch. You're never gonna agree on everything with everyone, but I think everyone can agree, I'm just counter—contradicting what I just said, but I think we can all agree you can all use a little bit more sleep.

Getting a great night's sleep is easier and more affordable than you think. You just gotta change your sheets! That's why you should check out Boll and Branch. We got us some Boll and Branch sheets, and I'm telling ya, it's like sleeping on a dream cloud. And what's that? Well, it's um... you know how when you dream, and you sweat, and that sweat evaporates, goes up and makes the softest clouds up in heaven for God to lay down on.

Anyway, their sheets are made out of 100-percent organic cotton, which means they start out soft and get even softer over time. They got thousands of 5-star reviews. Even three US presidents sleep on Boll and Branch sheets. Shipping's free and you can try them for 30 nights. If you don't love them, you can send them back for a full refund.

To get you started right now, our listeners can get 50 dollars off your first set of sheets at BollAndBranch.com, promo code "my brother." Go to BollAndBranch.com today for 50 dollars off your first set of sheets. That's B-O-L-L and branch dot com, promo code "my brother." See ya there! On the website. Um, their forums are amazing. Very active user there.

Um, hey. Can you do me a favor for this Jumbotron? Can you listen to Lawn Care and toss them a like on the Book, which I guess means Facebook? Or just get any book and open up to a random page and write how much you like Lawn Care, that's a band. This is also kind of a message for the band Lawn Care? They say, "Thank you for showing me *MBMBaM* and for being the most righteous band. I hope everyone checks out your good, good music, and I promise I'll move to Pittsburgh someday. I miss all of you dearly, and I hope you continue to be nice and try hard. Spider House forever. Love, the Baja Blasters." Is that another band? That's also a very, very good band name. Also? Who sold a house to a spider? [laughs] What did they pay him with, dead flies?

Anyway, this is a message for Rhiannon and it's from Raman, who says, "Happy birthday, sweetie, or maybe Memorial Day, or National Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day, which is June 9th." [holding back laughter] Mark your calendars. Whatever's appropriate right now. "Thanks for introducing me to the McElroys, so now we have a podcast empire to obsess about, and to alienate any friends who don't listen to this wonderful family. That's their problem, not ours." Could you make it your problem, and like, talk to them? No, you've done enough. Thank you so much for supporting the show.

And thank you to everybody who helped support the show during the Max Fun Drive. You all, once again, year after year, crushed it, and we appreciate y'all so much, and yeah, if you've missed out on our shows here in Dallas and Houston, we got shows coming up all over this nation of ours, you can find links at McElroyShows.com/tours, just about to head up to St. Louis and Detroit and Columbus, so that's coming up real soon, so if you live near there and wanna come see us, there's, I think, tickets still available to all three at McElroyShows.com/tours.

And yeah, I'm gonna let you get back to the rest of the episode. Hope you enjoy it, and we'll be back next week. Bye!

[advertisement plays]

Oliver: How's it going, everyone? I'm Oliver Wang.

Morgan: And I'm Morgan Rhodes. We have a brand-new show on the Maximum Fun Network that we'd love to share with you. It's called *Heat Rocks*.

Oliver: Morgan, we should probably explain what a heat rock is.

Megan: It is a banger, a fire track, true fire.

Oliver: Right. Dope album.

Each episode, we will bring on a special guest to join us to talk about one of their heat rocks. It might be a musician...

Morgan: A writer.

Oliver: Maybe a scholar.

Morgan: I mean, I would've been happy to just talk to you about your heat rocks, but this is a different show, so.

Oliver: Yeah, I think people might enjoy hearing maybe the guests instead.

Morgan: To do that, you should go to MaximumFun.org. So if you want to talk about hot music, you should check us out.

Oliver: *Heat Rocks*.

[advertisement ends]

Justin: It's time to enter the gauntlet.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Don't—

Justin: For you. And for us.

Travis: Lock the doors!

Griffin: The gauntlet is our gauntlet. It's not your gauntlet. It's not a competition, although there will be a winner, and there will be a loser.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Uh, I'll do the pitch. So here's the thing, we're going to choose two people to come to their microphones. They're going to tell us their...

Griffin: Their names.

Justin: ... names, if they want to give us their pronouns, if they're comfortable with that, we love that.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: If you see that as a uh, hilarious, rich vein of goofs, don't.

Justin: That won't—that won't go well for you, trust me on that.

Travis: And let me double-down on that, if then see Griffin saying, "Don't make a joke out of it," as a challenge of like, "Oh, but I think I still can."

Griffin: Yes. We—

Travis: Don't?

Griffin: Don't? We are in the meatspace. This is not Twitter.

Justin: [laughs] We have microphones here.

And uh, you'll give us your questions, and we will choose the person—not the person with the zaniest or the funniest, just the person we can help the

most, because honestly, our toolbox? You can't see it, it's behind the table. It's fairly small. It's a limited... set.

Griffin: Also, two rules, other rules. Do you know the first one?

Audience Members: No bummers!

Griffin: That was "no bummers," if you have trouble making out a million voices at once. That's right – there's a million people here.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: You all have set the world attendance record for—at number two—

Justin: Take that, Mark Merren.

Griffin: At number two—

Travis: Our constant enemy.

Justin: [growls]

Griffin: And number two, it had to be like, a question and not just, like, a fun story or like a fun thing you saw.

Travis: If the ending of your question is, "Am I good?" We're probably not gonna pick that one.

Griffin: That's not a question; it's a trap. Okay, can we get house lights up? And we're gonna start picking folks. Oh, don't get up and dance around. We—just raise your hand, and we will—wow, this is a big theatre. Full house lights, I think, and maybe a little less stage lights.

Okay. Hey, what's up?

Sarah: Hi. Um, hi. I'm Sarah. I'm super nervous.

Justin: It's okay, Sarah. You got this.

Sarah: So my husband and I go to our local grocery store, pretty regularly buy groceries, um, and...

Justin: Good thing to do there, for sure.

Griffin: [laughs]

Sarah: We... can no longer go to the meat and seafood counter there, because the employee that is always there... does not know how that exchange is supposed to work.

Justin: Well, that's seems curious. Considering they're—

Griffin: You mean, money for meat is—in my understanding.

Justin: What is their understanding of stuff?

Travis: They hand you money?

Justin: "Do you have meat for me?"

Griffin: [laughs] "I don't know where we get the meat! I just assume we buy it from people who come here! I'm like an NPC in a roleplaying game! Yes, I will take your stringy buzzard meat. Here's 20 coin."

Sarah: So it's worse than that, actually. Um—

Justin: It's worse than *that*?!

Griffin: That was a joke!

Justin: Go on.

Sarah: So uh, my husband and I didn't realize this was happening to both of us, until we both came home and complained about it. We'll ask for our meat or our seafood, and he'll come out to give it to us, and when we go to grab for it, he'll pull it back, and go, "Too slow!"

Griffin: Oh, no!

Travis: No! No!

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Every time?

Sarah: Every time!

Justin: Ugh!

Sarah: Like, we separately can count three or four times a piece.

Justin: Okay, Sarah.

Travis: Yeah. No, no, no, no.

Justin: Hang tight, Sarah. You've been through a lot, okay? Hang on. Just hang in there one more second. Okay.

Adam: Hi. This is really scary, wow.

Justin: House left. Yeah, I know. Imagine being us.

Adam: [laughs] Good point. Um, so my name's Adam. I use they/them pronouns.

Justin: What's up, Adam!

Griffin: Woo!

Adam: So my question is kind of weird. So for preface, my dad's super affirming, it's not the first time I've come out to him before. I'm really exceedingly queer in every way. Um...

[audience cheers]

Adam: But my question is, though, is I have yet to come out to him as genderfluid. Now, the thing is about coming out is that it's always a weird process even when it's affirming and I know the person's gonna be affirming, so my question is, what's a really funny way to come out to my dad as genderfluid?

Griffin: Hey, alright. Bye, Justin.

Justin: I'm trying to come up with questions we're less equipped to answer, Adam, and frankly, right now, I'm drawing a blank. Hold on.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Let me check the toolbox.

Justin: Hold on, let me look in the toolbox, one sec.

Travis: Oh, no, there's just a sandwich in there!

Justin: Why did we only bring a sandwich?

Travis: Oh, no!

Griffin: That's a—that's a toughie!

Justin: Adam, that's so hard, because you have to understand you're asking us to come up with funny—Adam, I don't—I d—[sighs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Say the thing about GIF and Jif again.

Justin: Adam, here's the thing. One day, you'll be able to eat a GIF of Jif, if that's still—if that's become memetic, yet, maybe.

Travis: Oh, that's it! Lead with that, when you're talking to your dad. Like, "Hey, Dad, what if one day..."

Justin: “Dad, I know, and also...”

Yeah, we’re gonna help Adam real quick. Just go to your dad and say, “Listen, I have two really funny things to tell you.”

Adam: [laughs]

Justin: “You’re gonna love them both equally. The second one isn’t a joke, and the first one is. They’re not both funny. Okay, let me start over, Dad. I’m sorry. Just let me leave the room and walk back in.”

Griffin: You’re reading this on a sheet of paper that you’ve transcribed of this exact podcast episode. And I think that’s gonna go a-real good.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: So... thank you, Adam.

Travis: I think we’re go—[laughs]

Griffin: We’re doing both!

Justin: Yeah, we did both! Adam...

Travis: Take care.

Justin: Adam, thank you so much. Does that help? Wait, hold on—Adam, does that help?

Adam: ... Maybe.

Griffin: That was—

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: Yeah! Yeah!

Justin: Thank you, Adam.

Griffin: [emphasizing every word] You are going to have to train mind, body... [normally] so that—"Here's my 20 dollars. Let me get those uh, little shrimp."

And he goes, "Alright," you go, [swishing noise]!

[audience laughs]

Travis: And then he says, "You're ready."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And then you have to work...

Griffin: And now you're the meat... monger.

Sarah: My husband's actually tried that move.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: And?!

Sarah: It did not go over well.

Griffin: Damn!

Travis: The bag ripped, beef everywhere.

Okay, here's a—one of—

Justin: So you're saying, it's literally impossible to be faster than this guy?

Sarah: Like, we either have to go out of our way to go to a different grocery store, or become vegetarians. [laughs]

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: Wow. One of my favorite things about having a baby is to see humanity condensed into—'cause it's as much personality, but in a very small thing, and now when people do that oh, oh! My baby's face is what every human being feels when that happens, but unfiltered, and it's just [pauses].

[audience laughs]

Travis: And it's the best—'cause it's like, "Yeah! That's what I feel! Hey!"

Griffin: You're gonna need—if reflexes aren't getting it done, and I still think y'all could push it a little bit harder, you're gonna need like, a blow gun with some sort of neurotoxin.

Travis: Or—or! You're gonna have to partner with your husband, right? So you're standing there. A person reaches out. Then, what's that? Your husband comes.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And the meat salesman goes, "Clever folks." And then—and then you eat him! Meow! No, not like that. Uh, does that help?

Justin: Or what if—what if—

Travis: And you just wait.

Griffin: Ohh!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Ice them out. Or you have your own bag of meat that you've brought from home, and you hold it up, and it's like, "Oh..."

Travis: And you can save time.

Griffin: And like, *Indiana Jones* it.

Justin: Okay, he goes back to get the meat from the meat room. When he comes back, you're not there. Guess that's his problem now.

Do any of those help?

Sarah: I like Travis' idea. The—

Travis: Yay!

Justin: Well, hey, we're picking winners, you're not! Sit down, Sarah!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Classic Sarah.

Griffin: Alright. Uh, I've got—

Justin: Should we pick—can we pick two balcony people? And then...

Griffin: Let's do balcony people, and y'all start making your way down, we'll get y'all next. How about just front there, red jacket?

Justin: Yup, come on down...

[audience cheers]

Justin: Um, I'm seeing... let's see... you know up, way up there, next to the person waving their jacket.

Griffin: Oh, God! Y'all, we gotta make examples!

Justin: Sorry.

David: Uh, okay, so my name's David.

Travis: David!

David: Yes. And—

Griffin: [laughs loudly] That is the correct response.

Justin: Not a great start, David, but keep going.

David: About a week ago, I was eating breakfast at Edith's...

Griffin: Oh, nice!

Justin: Nice!

David: Yeah. And... an elderly man—

Justin: What'd you get?

David: The raclette.

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Travis: My dad had that.

Justin: Dad had that.

Travis: Dad, how you feeling?

Justin: He says, "Bad."

Griffin: Okay. It's bad.

Okay, so...

David: So there was an elderly man that sat next to my wife and I, wearing a red jacket in approximately the same color and size as mine.

Griffin: Fashionable. Good.

Justin: Okay. Okay.

Griffin: Real quick, the rest of the question's not gonna be something mean about the red jacket, right?

David: Not at all.

Justin: Okay. Good. 'Cause I'm very jealous of the red jacket. If I had it right now, I would wear it.

David: So that's why I started up a conversation with him, and I figured out he was a retired marine...

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Cool. Okay.

David: And he said that his kids couldn't come with him on a trip to Hawaii, and he invited my wife and I?

Travis: Oh! Oh, did he, now? Huh!

David: The only, like, little thing was I would have—

Griffin: There's just—sorry, there's just *one*?

Justin: You just had one thing—

Griffin: I got like 11 off the dome.

David: So this is like a marines-only resort at Hawaii, and it would cost us—

Travis: What?!

David: It would cost us 100 dollars a person. Should we go?

[audience laughs]

Travis: Okay. What I love—

Griffin: Stop, stop, stop. We'll get around to it. We have another question to listen to.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Hello.

Griffin: Hello.

Justin: Hi.

Sarah: Hey, I'm Sarah.

Justin: Hi, Sarah.

Sarah: Mine's not quite that weird.

Justin: Okay.

Sarah: Um, [laughs] so I find myself—

Justin: So I asked these two people to come to a marine vacation with me...

[audience laughs]

Justin: Okay, go ahead, Sarah.

Sarah: Um, I find myself in a similar situation to you, in that I work with two of my sisters.

Justin: Okay.

Sarah: And my question is, how do I, in the professional world, what's the best way to establish your dominance as an alpha sibling? Like...

Justin: I've got this, guys.

Sarah: Just like, the cool one. The funny one. The smart one. I want that... to be me.

Travis: Dye your hair purple.

Sarah: Oh!

Travis: Doesn't hurt.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Uh, I mean, you just do the best work.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Boo!

Griffin: Ahh. You get in a social situation—

Justin: I could teach you some pretty good jokes about pictures of peanut butter that you could maybe trot out what I'm bringing to the table.

Uh...

Griffin: I think... [holding back laughter] the Hawaii one has a siren call...

Justin: I think we already helped Sarah so much. There's, like, three things that you could do right now.

Sarah: That's fair enough. Fair enough.

Justin: Actionable items. Like, before—

Travis: Thank you so much!

Justin: Thank you, Sarah.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: We did our best. We did our best.

Travis: Okay, here's what I want you to break down for me.

David: Okay.

Travis: And I'm going to lay out how I think it went, and you tell me if I'm correct. "Do you wanna go with me? Hahaha, it's 100 dollars a person, and we leave in May. Are you in? I'm serious, are you in?"

Griffin: "We leave in May and I come back in—I mean, we all come back in June."

Justin: "What'd I say?"

Griffin: "What'd you—"

"I'm sorry."

Travis: How serious was this offer?

David: It felt pretty serious, and he set, like, a secondary meeting place if we, like—if I wanted to follow through, he was like, "The Elks have a dinner at the last Friday of every month."

Griffin: Oh, that's where he's gonna get you. [laughs] He's not gonna fly you to Hawaii. Oh, no. That would be cost-prohibitive. He can get you at the Elk's Lodge.

Justin: So wait, is... travel included?

David: He didn't say.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: So no. [laughs]

Justin: No. Obviously.

Travis: Because if he had that to pitch, he wouldn't have kept that in his quiver. Right? He would've brought, "And I will fly you." Like, I—at that point, I might say yes.

Justin: Do you think maybe he's puttin' together a music festival? Like, a fire island style—a fyre festival—

Griffin: Fyre fest.

Justin: —kind of thing, where it's like, "Listen, I'm just trying to get this off the ground. I know young people love music. For 100 dollars, you can come to my new festival [holding back laughter] that I'm doing with Jaa Rule. That's right, Jaa Rule's back in the game. He will not be defeated."

Griffin: He's very sorry. Uhh...

Travis: A hundred dollars is a good price.

Justin: It's a good price for all the band—what bands are gonna be there?

[audience laughs]

Travis: The Flaming Laps.

Justin: [laughs] The Strukes. The Buttles.

Griffin: [laughs] Who is that supposed to be?

Justin: The Beatles.

Griffin: Why would that be there?

Justin: 'Cause they would—it's a cover—

Griffin: It's a good band.

Justin: It's a cover band.

Griffin: Justin ran out of bands he knew about.

David: Jimmy Buffet. [pronounced buff-ay]

Griffin: Jimmy Buffet, that's good.

Justin: There you go, that's good. Very good.

Griffin: Uh, don't.

Justin: Don't.

Griffin: Got you.

Justin: Did you—wait, just to clarify, did you need us to tell you "don't"? You were good on that before, right?

David: Just a little affirmation.

Griffin: Okay. You made the right call.

Travis: Okay, excellent, excellent.

Griffin: Alright, balcony folks.

Justin: Balcony heroes.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Let's begin on this side. I'm sorry about the height of the microphone. Yes.

Fallon: That's not very nice.

Griffin: Sorry. [laughs]

Justin: I mean, I didn't set it up. Sorry.

Fallon: So, I'm a mortuary student.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Sorry, I need—

Fallon: A funeral director in training.

Griffin: No, but your name—not your job title.

Justin: Name.

Fallon: Name. Oh, Fallon.

Justin: Fallon, hello. Fallon?

Fallon: Like Jimmy Fallon, yes.

Griffin: I'm sorry that when people mishear you, you have to then say the follow up thing you just said.

Justin: 'Cause Fallon's a really cool name.

Fallon: I can't hear anything anyways.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Okay.

Fallon: I have this slight problem with—when I'm public speaking or speaking in general, I have vocal fry, my voice cracks a lot. And uh, I'm not sure if I should ever happen if I'm in the middle of a funeral and the...

"Yeah, if you'd like to pay your last respects, [imitating voice crack] please come up to the... "

[audience laughs]

Fallon: Okay, side note, I can do it on purpose.

Justin: Okay.

Fallon: But I often do it on accident.

Griffin: Okay.

Fallon: But I don't want them to be like, "Bobcat Goldthwait is presenting our funeral."

Griffin: Yeah.

Fallon: I don't want that.

Travis: Wait, is.

Griffin: I would love seeing it.

Travis: I would love to have Bobcat Goldthwait at mine.

Fallon: No, I'm talk—[frustrated mumbling].

Justin: Okay, Fallon, thank you. Let's hear our other question. Hello.

Scott: Hello. I'm Scott.

Travis: Hi, Scott.

Justin: Hi, Scott.

Scott: I am also a really socially anxious college student—

Travis: I thought you were gonna say "also a mortuary student in training..." "

Justin: "But I'm a bitter rival. Making all the good dead bodies on schedule."

Travis: "Why don't we get the good dead bodies?"

Justin: "There's a new mortuary in town!"

Alright, sorry, Scott.

Scott: So I really love, like, film and music criticism and all that stuff, and the problem is I love to bring this up and have, you know, discussions about "Hey, I thought the editing in this was very interesting and subversive in a lot of ways," and most people are like, "I thought that movie was fine."

So the question is, how do I sell myself and not end up just making it sound like I hate their movie just because I had a lot of thoughts about it?

Griffin: Are you talking to, like, Spielberg? You're not talking to them about their movie.

Scott: No, that's a good question. Other people, 'cause they need to make friends, and I don't have those.

Griffin: You wanna have deeper conversations...

Scott: Yeah.

Justin: You wanna be friends with Steven Spielberg? And you want us to help you with *that*?

Griffin: We could.

Scott: I wanna be friend with Bobcat Goldthwait.

Justin: Hey—

Travis: It all ties together!

Justin: Thank you. Thank you, Scott, for tying that bit back together. That was fantastic.

Griffin: I mean, if you're looking for a place to go to have more—and this'll be quick.

Scott: Okay. Alright.

Griffin: More in-depth conversations about movies and music. My experience is go to literally any non-Starbucks coffee shop and wait about four seconds.

Travis: I will also say, right across the street, I'm pretty sure is a college, and they actually have some kind of, like, film club.

Griffin: Actually, it's not even across the street. I think we're technically in it.

Travis: So that. But also, real quick answer, establish yourself in the group as like, the person who knows why a thing is, because like, I have friends that like, know about music, and I'll hear a song, and I'll look at them, and say, "Why do I like that?"

Griffin: [laughs softly]

Travis: And they'll go, "Oh, it's because the way this diminishes and resolves itself is very satisfying to some people." I'm like, "Okay, great! Thank you very much." So being a resource for information like that can really be useful in a conversation. Much better to be a resource than kind of like, force that information onto someone else.

Justin: You gotta wait for your opportunity.

Travis: Yeah.

Scott: That's a very good point. The problem there is, you don't just go up to people like, "I'm your resource now. Open me up, I'm encyclopedia—"

Griffin: Hey, you could try it.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: You can try it.

Travis: What do you need to know.

Griffin: Let's—thank you very much. I hope we helped, even a little bit.

Travis: Scott, thank you.

Griffin: Alright.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: I'm gonna get—I'm gonna get real for a second. I think—well, first of all, this is the first time and maybe the closest proximity to me dunking on a profession as a goof in an episode of the podcast, and then being [holding back laughter] confronted by a practitioner of that profession.

I'm sorry I made jokes about funeral directors. I heard a lot about it the next day. It was all fun and games. Apparently, it must not have been a very good goof, because nobody here seems to remember that I did it.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: So, that being said, I think something like busting out a gnar vocal fry in the middle of like a funeral speech is actually a pretty great thing, because the folks who are there are very sad. And—

Justin: Usually.

Griffin: Usually very sad. And whenever something happens that is, like, a funny memory of that day during a sad—no, I'm serious! Whenever something funny happens during, like, a very sad thing that breaks the tension of it, best case scenario, that's the stuff you remember from a funeral. Like, 100 percent serious, that's a good thing that you're providing

a moment of levity, even though you're the butt of the joke maybe a little bit. If it's a funny memory that they get to take home, then that's a good thing.

Travis: That's absolutely true. 'Cause it's the kind of thing where in the moment, it might feel inappropriate, but ten years later is the thing, like, "Hey, do you remember?"

"Yeah, I do!"

And you have like, a strange kind of fond memory.

Griffin: You'll be the most powerful inside joke between these two people who are experiencing the most bittersweet moment of your life ever, and that sucks for you, but it's so good for them.

Justin: To break our own rule for a moment, when we are at our mom's viewing, one of our extended relatives came up to us and said, "I'm so sorry."

And I, without really thinking about it, said, "We don't blame you."

[audience laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] And I'm pretty sure I was just being a dick.

'Cause I thought I'd earned it. But I—like, that's what I remember the most from that day!

Griffin: And that's good 'cause there was a lot of bummer shit that we could remember the most.

Justin: Bummer shit that [crosstalk].

Travis: There was somebody who walked up to me and said, "Your mom's in heaven, and she can't wait for you to get there."

Griffin: What?

Justin: What!? Excuse me!? She has to—anyway, I think providing something memorable like that is gonna make the day easier for people. And—

Griffin: Honestly, that should be a focus of your profession from now on! Slapstick!

I'm being 100-fucking—"Here's your coffee."

[wobbly noises]

Travis: And honestly, sell in post. Kind of like, "Oh, a pie in the face, it's [???]," but you like, trip and fall, and it's just like, "Don't mind me, everybody! [hums comedic tune]"

Griffin: There's probably gonna be one out of 100 people who are like, so disrespectful, and the other one would be like, ["They ripped a big beeper in the middle of it." [laughs]?]

Travis: Guys, guys. Patch Sadams.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Does that help?

[pauses]

Justin: Okay. Okay, thank you so much. Thank you, Fallon!

Griffin: Uh, wrap up?

Justin: Yeah, that's gonna do it for us. Hey, seriously, you all, thank you so much. You guys have been so cool.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Tonight, like—tonight and yesterday, these two Dallas shows are the only time that people have like, started chants before the show, and—

Travis: This is our first live show since January.

Justin: Yeah. So a little bit of the yips.

Travis: And it's really nice.

Griffin: What did we do in January? I thought it was—

Travis: That was part—no, sorry, December.

Griffin: December. Jesus.

Justin: December. Sheesh.

Griffin: Okay. Um...

Justin: So anyway, we had to shake off some of the rust, and you all have been so gracious and kind and thank you so much.

[audience cheers]

Justin: On an equally sincere note, [lowers voice] if y'all can get to Houston...

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: If y'all just want to get tickets and come, or get tickets and don't come—[laughs] Don't do that! But if you can get to Houston, you should just come on over to Houston tomorrow! It'll be different jokes!

Griffin: It might be sold out, though. Hold on, let me che—no, tickets are available!

Justin: Tickets available! Plenty of great seats.

Griffin: For this one.

Justin: This one, you can come to.

Griffin: Thank you to the McFarlin for having us.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Yeah!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Thank you, too—we didn't thank you last night, but I will tonight—thank you to American hero Paul Sabourin!

Griffin: Thank you to our—

Justin: PaulAndStorm.geocities.com/studiocity. You can hear more—

Travis: Angelfire.

Justin: Slash angelfire. You can hear some of Paul's music.

Griffin: Thank you to our real daddy... Daddy.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: I forgot his name.

Travis: Also, speaking of Paul, Paul and Storm are also some of the organizers of the JoCo Cruise, which cabins are on sale for now, and they are going fast. I don't know why I'm looking at you, I know that that's true. They're going fast, so JoCoCruise.com. Do it!

Griffin: Come sail away. Uh, that is their—

Travis: That's the tagline.

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

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

[audience cheers]

Justin: And thank you to you, every week on *My Brother, My Brother and Me*, which you do not know if you have not listened before, but I will tell you now, we have a closing question from Griffin, something that we return to the next week after thinking about it.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Griffin, what is the final question of this episode of *My Brother, My Brother and Me*?

Griffin: Whatever is... one past a hat trick, 'cause this is Adrian Cowles again with the closer. Crushed it.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: It's from Yahoo Answers User Lady May, who asks... "High school constipated my vape and won't give it back."

[audience laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: [through laughter] 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!

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

[chord plays]

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Lisa: We ask each other stupid questions.

[clip plays]

Emily: Um, if you—[laughs] if you got a packet with like 300 seeds in it, what kind of plant would you choose... the seeds to be? [laughs]

Lisa: [laughs loudly]

Speaker: [laughs]

Lisa: That felt like you were assigned to ask me a question, and there were certain words you weren't allowed to use.

[clip ends]

Lisa: We talk about Martha Stewart, her pony, and other celebrity horse news. Ben Chunch.

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