

MBMBaM 519: The Grandma Tesseract

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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]

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: And I'm Hollywood Hit-Maker, Griffin McElroy, the youngest brother.

Travis: Well, boys... just got back from another meeting with the producers and director.

Griffin: Oh, of the... of our pocast?

Travis: Of our podcast. Uh, but they have some big notes, especially as we're heading into Max Fun Drive.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Uh, last week, it was my heel-turn. This week, they want more storylines. They said, "Not enough storylines..." "

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: They want some more—it can be behind the scenes, it could be in front of the scenes, it could be in the middle of the scenes.

Griffin: Well, this is great news, because I've just become, like, a sexy doctor.

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, I've just become a sort of sexual doctor, and don't have like—

Travis: That feels like two different things, Griffin. A sexy doctor versus a sexual doctor...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: ... feels like two different things.

Griffin: Well, I don't—okay, so yeah, that's good, Trav. I don't, like, diagnose and give medicine to help people's sexual. Do you know what I mean?

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: It's just like, my body looks good, and all the patients are like, "Please!" And I'm like, "I can't. I am happily married."

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: But I'm also—I'm pretty darn good at it. I can do an IV—oh, my God, guys. I had to get some bloodwork done yesterday, not COVID related, do not sweat, and I will—

Justin: I'm gonna continue to sweat as your brother, because I don't know why you had bloodwork done.

Travis: Yeah, just for funsies, or...?

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: It is an allergy panel. It's like, the nerdiest imaginable, like, reason to get bloodwork done.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Anywho, the person who was taking my blood was quite chatty. And that's their prerogative. I'm not here to, you know, shame them for that. But they were doing a lot of characters, I'll say. They were doing a lot of skit work, let's say. And uh, at one point, they were looking for my vein, and they said, "Ooh, that's a nice, big, juicy vein."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "Gonna—[vampire voice] Gonna get a lot blood out of that—" and started to do a vampire thing.

Justin: Nuh-uh.

Griffin: And like, for the remainder of—from the moment the needle entered my arm until the moment I left the room, she spoke in a vampire voice.

Justin: Nuh-uh.

Griffin: And she did a—swear to God. And um, it was one of the top five worst things that's ever happened to me, because can you two imagine... a more sort of hostage scenario than having a needle in your body, and you just can't—you can't move, and also they're gonna try out some new SNL audition tape tactics on you.

Travis: This is the difference between Griffin and I, because Griffin's—Griffin's, let's say fear here, Griffin's discomfort, comes from him seeing this as this person trying out new material on him. Where I would be thinking, like, if I was a vampire...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... the job I would get would be drawing blood from people, and so...

Griffin: Well... no.

Travis: ... who's to say that this isn't... the reveal? This isn't the prestige?

Griffin: I don't know how—that's—it's a fair point, Travis, but like, I can actually not imagine a worse job for a vampire, because you're gonna be so tempted by this shit, and I hope that this lab has their shit on lock enough, that like, if blood goes *missing*...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: ... like, it's—I want my stuff on the books somewhere. I only have so much blood. Um, and yeah.

Travis: Well, maybe they just take a little bit extra. You know, the juice is running, and in this case, the juice is your blood.

Griffin: Sure. The juice is also running on the Max Fun Drive, which we're gonna talk about a little bit later on in this episode. With—this Max Fun Drive has very chill vibes. That's the feedback we've been getting, is a lot of people say that, like, when we ask for money it's like going on a beach vacation, which is so cool.

And if you wanna join the network now, go to MaximumFun.org/join, look at all the different reward tiers that you can give at on a monthly basis, and um, think about supporting this show and the network as a whole. So go to MaximumFun.org/join.

[door knocking noise]

[door creaking noise]

Justin: “[gruff voice] It's me, the head of the network, Reggie Bigshot! I heard you need a little drama to spice things up. Well, here's some for you. [coughs, hacks] Sorry, the cigars [slurring] are catching up on me.”

Travis: Of these [crosstalk].

Griffin: S—say that again?

Justin: “The cigars are catching up on me.”

Travis: They’re catching up on you?

Justin: “Catching up on me. Listen, that’s not the point. My personal health is not the point, kids.”

Travis: No, but I am worried about you. Are you okay?

Griffin: Yeah, I love you.

Justin: “I loved that when you were bringin... at the beginning, the old days of uh, *MBMBaM*[pronounced ‘ma-bim-ba-bam-ah’]. I loved it, the farm... farm jokes... ”

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: “... and uh, I get a lot of blue stuff about uh, lots of different marginalized groups of people. I love that.”

Griffin: You—you loved that, yeah.

Travis: Yeah, you gave us a lot of positive feedback.

Justin: “I’m not so crazy about the new stuff. And honestly, boys, the well’s running a little... a little dry, so here’s the deal. If you don’t raise enough in this Max Fun Drive... ”

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: “... during this episode of *MBMBMBM*[pronounced ‘ma-bi-buh-bim’]... you’re out, alright?”

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: But then—

Justin: “Quit—just get—listen—let me—let me finish, Tromble!”

Griffin: Let him fini—[yelling] Travis, let him fucking finish, Tromble.

Justin: “Tromble, you let me finish. Thank you, Greedo. Listen... you don’t raise enough money in this episode of *MBMBaM*[pronounced `ma-bim-ba-bam], you’re kaput. People gotta go to MaximumFun.org/join. They gotta... push back, and save our show! Save your show.

My show... *Law and Order: PODCAST*, that—how I made my bajillions, that show is fine. It’s in its 30th season. So that—my show is not in danger. It’s on your show that’s *on the ropes*.”

Travis: Now, but—Mr. Bigshot, if our show—

Justin: “Please, call me Mr. Reggie Bigshot.”

Travis: Mr. Reggie Bigshot, if you were to cancel our show, then who would take care of all of these orphans, who I have dubbed “Travis’ kids,” that come to my—

Griffin: He’s got a grip of orphans, Mr. Reggie Bigshot.

Travis: Yeah, they come to my community center every day, and I teach them about driving.

Justin: “I’ll make them—”

Griffin: He’s teaching these seven and eight-year-olds how to drive, Mr. Bigshot. And I need—

Travis: On all forms of—like, not just driving cars, but like, driving golf balls...

Griffin: Forklift...

Travis: ... yeah, driving people crazy.

Justin: "I'll put `em to work. You don't need to worry about that. I'm gonna turn `em into human humidors... for my—[laughs] my—"

Travis: Wait, you would—you would cut them open and store cigars inside?

Justin: "No, if you put—there's nothing better for the temperament and tenor of a fine cigar than the pocket of a young child."

Travis: I have to agree.

Griffin: You just kinda clasp...

Justin: "So I load up their dungarees and their Levis with all my [snorts] premium smokes, and then let them sit in a very humid room, and that is how the finest cigar flavor."

Griffin: And people—I'm so sorry to interrupt, Mr. Reggie Bigshot, but—

Justin: "It's alright, Grundus! I'm warming up to ya."

Griffin: And people just let you do that?

Justin: "Well, if your show's canceled, there'd be no one to stop me, will they?"

Griffin: That doesn't—walk me through that.

Travis: Wait, hold on. So Griffin and Justin and I are the only people stopping people from using children as humidors?

Justin: "Who's Justin?" [laughs]

Travis: He left. You know him as Jumbles.

Justin: "Jumbles. I love... "

Griffin: Wait, why would Jumbles not be in the show in this—

Justin: "The real star—the real star. He left the room."

Travis: He gets scared. He gets scared whenever Reggie Bigshot comes.

Justin: "Every time I come in, he hides under a table like we're doing a nuke drill, back in my childhood."

Travis: He's under the table right now, just pissing his pants. [laughs]

Justin: "He's under the table, and dreaming. Ba-ba-baby!"

Griffin: Uh, Mr. Reggie Bigshot...

Travis: Now, Mr. Bigshot, you know we have to pay for that, now.

Griffin: [laughs] That's 55,000 dollars, Mr. Bigshot.

Justin: "You're not gonna pay for it. It's diegetic, it came from the tiny Dave Matthews that lives in my shirt pocket."

Travis: Oh, okay!

Griffin: Now, I do know about the sickness.

Travis: I thought that was a cigar.

Justin: "It is."

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: I do know about the sickness you did get, Mr. Reggie Bigshot, 'cause you were on the boat that they dumped the Dave Matthews Band dookie onto, and that's sort of like your origin story, that's why you are the way you are. I just wanted to say that I'm, like, hugely in love with, uh, you, and can you please describe exactly what you look like?

Justin: [laughs] "Me?"

Griffin: [holding back laughter] Yeah.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: "Oh, okay. Alright. Just me—just—imagine four cans of uh, paint."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: "Stacked on top of each other."

Griffin: Fuck yeah, okay.

Justin: "Each one of those is, like, one of my legs, okay?"

Travis: Oh, boy!

Justin: "And then on top of that, imagine a—"

Travis: Sorry, just to clarify, sorry to interrupt. Segmented like that?

Griffin: Yeah, do you have segmented legs like a cockroach?

Justin: "Yeah. They're ambulated."

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Huh. Okay.

Justin: "Imagine a big ol' crusty sourdough loaf that's got a little bit rugged. [snickers] That's my horse sound."

Griffin: Oh, you liked—you liked that!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] “I like living my life in—”

Griffin: Can I say my favorite thing about you, Mr. Reggie Bigshot? Is that you seem to be feeling *yourself* a lot.

Travis: Yeah! You’d get a lot of the...

Griffin: And I think that’s super cool.

Travis: ... and I’m just gonna say it, sexual energy coming up with just your confidence.

Justin: [laughs, crying]

Griffin: Oh, Justin’s back.

Travis: Your confidence is very attractive.

Justin: “He’s crying under a—under the table. He’s under the table and crying.”

Griffin: Ba-ba-baby!.

Justin: “I am. I’m feeling—I’m feeling—feeling my sexy. It’s been a great... few uh, months for me.”

Griffin: Oh, has it?

Justin: “Surprisingly, yeah. It’s been a whole—”

Travis: Yeah? What’s new? What’s been going on?

Justin: “You know all the bad stuff that’s been happening?”

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "It's all been good for me in ways that are hard to explain."

Travis: Well, try! Well, try. We got time.

Griffin: Try now?

Justin: "My head looks like Charles Grodin's head, with a—"

Travis: Just like, one for one?

Justin: "Just [wheezes] one for one—no. One for 1.3."

Travis: Huh!

Justin: "Distorted in all the wrong ways."

Griffin: Like in a carnival mirror.

Justin: "Like in a beautiful carnival mirror of hatred, yes."

Griffin: [snorts]

Travis: So wait, to be clear, it's likes Charles Grodin, if Charles Grodin was fueled by hatred and slightly distorted?

Justin: "Marketing says your people love Charles Grodin stuff."

Travis: That is true. We got a lot of Grodies in here.

Justin: "So there should be a lot of—well, familiar—listen, I'm watching the donation counter; it's going down. You're not enticing anyone."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, no. People are can—oogh.

Justin: “They’re can—they’re not canceling, they’re leaving the family that is in your... in your parlance. Listen, the point is this: if I don’t see those numbers when I need em to be... ”

Griffin: You’re gonna start putting cigars into children’s pockets. I think we’ve—

Justin: “Richard Belzer wants another pay bump, so uh...” Is he alive?

Griffin: Let’s check that. Let’s double-check that. We’ll get our fact-checkers on that, don’t worry about that.

Justin: “Just real quick.”

Travis: Orphans.

Justin: “Yeah, Richard Belzer’s fine. He needs a pay bump, and the rest of the cast of *Law and Order: PODCAST*, that want to meet it. So listen, get the numbers up.”

Griffin: Yep.

Travis: Or you’ll kill Richard Belzer. [laughs]

Justin: “Get the numbers up good enough, I’ll let you meet Christopher Meloni.”

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: [laughs] “I know I’ve been saying that he’s too busy to meet with you, and he is, but I’ll carve out some time in his schedule, so nicer word, I like to do the carrot and the stick. So the stick is you’re canceled, second pri—first prize is Christopher Meloni.”

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: “Second prize is, you’re canceled.”

Griffin: Um, yeah, we'll make that happen. Is this a—you're not just talking about, like, you're gonna buy a cameo of Mr. Meloni, are you?

Justin: "No, he's gonna make—Chris'll make time for me."

Travis: Um, is—I don't know if it sweetens the pot at all, but I will trade you three orphans for like, 10 minutes to hang out with Christopher Meloni.

Justin: "No, I've got plenty right now. I'm stocked up, so don't sweat it."

Travis: [taken aback] Then why would you take my orphans for humidors?

Justin: "Listen... Listen!"

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: "I gotta get out of here."

Travis: Okay.

Justin: "It's been fun, but... "

Travis: It's been a pleasure.

Justin: "I'm kind of turning into Beetlejuice, a little bit, so... I gotta... "

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: "Listen, I gotta go."

Griffin: Yeah, get the fuck out of here.

[door closing noise]

Justin: Hey. Uh...

Travis: You know what? I miss him. Like, it's weird, 'cause when when he was here, like, I didn't—

Griffin: Oh, wait, shh. Shh.

Justin: What is wrong?

Griffin: He didn't go down the stairs. He just shut the door. He's listening.

[footsteps noise]

Griffin: There it is.

Justin: [laughs quietly] Okay.

Travis: He kind of sprinted down the stairs.

Griffin: Wow, he stood there for like—he fell—he tripped a little bit, which kind of does confirm my suspicions that he was quite drunk during his appearance on this show.

Should we do questions?

Justin: [sighs] Yeah. That would be nice. I was—I was kind of enjoying just doing a freeform little bit, but I'd love to—I'd love to get into—

Travis: You know what? Justin's right. Fuck this show!

Justin: Now the show can begin. Also, my throat hurts. [laughs]

"I have a trip planned once things return to normal."

Travis: Optimistic.

Justin: [wheezes]

"Once things return to the new normal," perhaps...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "... to go on a—"

Travis: Once we've established a new society.

Griffin: [laughs quietly]

Justin: Yeah.

"Once... to go on a bachelor party on a houseboat. As a prank, we have purchased a dissolving swimsuit. However, we are at a loss as to how we can get the groom to wear it in the water [through laughter] without it becoming suspicious."

[clapping]

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "What should we do?" That's from Bare Bummer in Canada. Well, good news is, you've—you've probably given yourself, I don't know, 36 months, uh, head start on this, so we'll...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: ... get the whiteboard out, and we'll start devising an intricate—an intricate plan.

Travis: Now, I am going to say, I have not done any research into this.

Justin: Perfect.

Griffin: Alright.

Travis: But based off of things I know about things that dissolve, I'm willing to bet that perhaps the quality of material of this swimsuit may be noticeably different...

Griffin: Dead giveaway situation.

Travis: ... than st—yeah, standard swimsuit's material.

Griffin: If it's—if it is not, I'm going to live in fear every time I enter a body of water that I have been pranked, and now *my* meat and two veg is about to pop out, and that is no good.

Travis: I do think what it boils down to is, of top-of-my-head presents to give I can think of, "I got you this swimsuit," is uh... it's a real left-fielder. That's a real... curveball, as they say. Uh, I can think of, hmm, maybe two friends of mine that if they got me a really cool-looking swimsuit.

But even then, if I was a company that made dissolvable swimsuits, I don't think I'd put a lot of time into the design process.

Griffin: We gotta strike gifting the swimsuit. Like, that's not gonna work, and so now we're getting into a scenario where you have to steal all of his swimsuits, and when it's time to swim, you're like, "Oh, don't worry. You can borrow my pair." Actually, that's it. That's a fucking great idea, and that's gonna work.

Travis: "You can borrow my paper-thin, [laughs] like, pair of swim trunks."

Griffin: "Hey, it's the only one we got. Do you wanna get in the fucking river or not?"

Travis: But then what if your friend is like, "I'll just swim nude"?

Justin: Um, you guys have been talking a lot of shit, and now I'm gonna give it to you real.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Dissolving shorts stag do holiday party bachelor joke prank swim shorts. We're gonna head on over to eBay...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: ... world's largest haunted doll repository, to talk about what is depicted in this image as "the original prank short." [wheezes]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: This is coming to us from a seller called Stag Do Shorts, and the only thing they sell... [through laughter] is dissolving shorts.

Griffin: That's a cool business you made.

Justin: It's a cool business they made. "There are copies of our item being sold on the web; please be careful. You only get one chance at this." Which is so—

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: [through laughter] Which is so true.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] Probably get one chance at prank shorts.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] You do it once, and it burns his dick off, and it's like... unfortunate.

Griffin: Fool me once, shame on you. I wi—

Justin: Try again, jump in again. "Prank your mates with these shorts. Once in the pool, a chemical reaction between the special thread and the

water dissolves the thread, making the shorts just come away at the sides, leaving your friend naked in the pool.”

Travis: Huh.

Justin: “Shorts can be worn as normal, but within seconds of being in water, the fun starts. Watch your friend’s face go from confused to embarrassed, as he scrambles to cover up. All you need to do is hide your friend’s short, best done before you get to hotel, offer them your spare pair, and it’s all set. Try my full lifeguard set. Make your victim the pool lifeguard.”

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: “When he jumps in, same will happen.”

Travis: No!

Justin: “See other listings—”

Griffin: Interesting!

Justin: That’s a fucking—that’s a fucking wild way of doing it!

Griffin: That’s fucked up!

Travis: Yeah, what a high-risk scenario!

Griffin: “Bachelor pool party, hell yeah!”

“Not you, Dylan. I know it’s your special time, but you gotta be the lifeguard. That’s what you do when a group of friends go swimmin’. Someone’s gotta lifeguard, yes?”

Travis: Now, I am watching a video of this happening.

Griffin: Oh, Trav.

Justin: Trav.

Travis: And it's—this poor man appears to be in the middle of a hotel? Like, a very public place.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: As his clothing is actively failing him.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: Right.

Travis: And I would say that this goes very quickly from “Oh, he’s got kind of a smirk on his face, what is happening?” to “I’m gonna get arrested. [through laughter] I’m in a public place, and my—all my bits are gonna be out.”

Griffin: We should probably make it clear, the three of us are having a lot of fun here. This is, uh... a sort of ethically reprehensible and...

Justin: Sure.

Griffin: ... genuinely uh, should-be-illegal sort of thing... and you shouldn't get your friend's privates out, um, as a joke. Uh...

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: That's—that seems like—that's—we're all on the same page. I didn't want people to write in, and be like, “So you like this particular sort of crime.”

Justin: “So you like this.”

Travis: No, it's inappropriate to get anyone's bits out without their explicit consent.

Justin: [low voice] I will say they—they have a few more safety recommendations here.

Travis: Of what?

Justin: I will mention, first off, is this: [laughs] at the end, it says: “Keep dry,” which... yes.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: “Iron on—iron on cool, with no steam.” Why the fuck am I ironing these? [laughs] On what, for formal dissolving-shorts occasions?

Travis: “Hey, try on these crisp... [wheezes] crisp shorts.”

Justin: “Try my crisp pleated shorts. Do not let your mam wash them to make them nice for you going away! Yes, this happened.” *Did it?* “If the—in the unlikely even of a problem with the shorts, they much be returned for inspection.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: That’s a cool—that’s a cool gig.

Travis: “Yeah, these shorts didn’t fall apart.” [laughs]

Justin: “I’m a failed dissolving-shorts inspector. I love it.”

Griffin: You gotta throw these away. I’m watching the same video that Travis is watching, and it’s just kind of a bummer.

Travis: Right?

Griffin: ‘Cause it’s just all of his friends laughing, and it’s like, “Get it? Your dick!”

And he’s like, “I... Yeah, I guess so.”

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: This YouTube video is I'm now looking at a man's whole balls on YouTube. I didn't know you could do that on YouTube.

Yeah, don't do this. Don't do this thing. That's actually the easiest option; I'm glad we all got there together. Uh, can I do a Yahoo?

Travis: You know what would be fun?

Griffin: What's that, Trav?

Travis: You wear them, and under those, you have another slightly smaller pair of swim trunks that say, like, "Happy bachelor party."

Griffin: "Not—not today, friend." But even that's a—that's an even longer walk, isn't it, Travis? 'Cause it's like, you have to make them think you're wearing dissolving swim trunks, which they might not know is a thing. So that's a hard sell, of just like, "Boy, I hope these don't dissolve when I get in the water, like some swim trunks are known to do."

Travis: [wheezes, laughs] "Hey, have you guys heard about those dissolving swim trunks? These aren't them, right? You guys would tell me, right?"

Griffin: "You guys—these aren't my normal swim trunks, but um... do they feel funny? Here I go, cannonball!"

Travis: "Oh, no! I'm gonna get—I feel terrible! I can't believe you, my friends, would do this to me when we're here to celebrate Derek's nuptials. How could you—we're all just trying to have a good time, and you're trying to expose my genitals without my explicit consent. Look at this, Derek!" And "Gotcha!"

Griffin: "Gotcha! My pee-pee's not out! Nice try, though!"

Travis: [laughs] "What are you talking about? You pranked yourself, Chris."

"Yes."

Griffin: "And I almost had me."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Here's a—here's a Yahoo that was sent in by several folks, thank you everyone who sent this in. It's Yahoo Answers User Josh, who asks, "What's next for knives?"

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: "Knives are completely useless in this new age of guns and drones. In my opinion, they are going to have to change the designs of knives and add interesting and useful new features to compete with guns and drones. What do you think is the next evolution of knives?" I enjoyed this question more before I read this additional information. Because I like knives more in the abstract, rather than as... hurting. Hurting tools. Tools for hurting.

Travis: I—I would also argue that uh, knives still do things that guns and drones don't do.

Griffin: Oh, sure. Yeah. Stab, for one.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Cut.

Travis: Yeah. Point? Poke?

Griffin: Poke. That's about it. Slash, slice. I mean, that's about it.

Travis: No, you uh, you use it to—you know what? If you are a person who is lost in the wilderness...

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: ... it's a lot easier to use a knife to, like, cut down stuff for shelter than a drone.

Griffin: Uh, or a gun. Yeah.

Travis: Or a gun!

Griffin: Totally.

Travis: I think if you were ordering them, knife would be easiest to cut down some branches, then gun, then drone.

Griffin: In that order.

I think that the issue here is... if you—if they wanna make cooler, bigger, better gun, they can just make a bigger gun. The problem with knife, you make a knife too big, boop! It's sword.

Travis: That's a sword.

Griffin: So it still does need to be... a knife.

Justin: That's all proportions, though, isn't it?

Griffin: Hmm. Oh, you're saying if the hilt—

Travis: Like you mean if you're a bigger person?

Griffin: If the hilt is also gargantuan, then you could still say that it's a knife?

Justin: Yeah. Or you could have uh—if Paul Hogan's around...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: ... you could j—[holding back laughter] if he says it's a knife... He gets to indicate, basically, what's not a knife and what is a knife.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: He's really busy.

Justin: Yeah, he is pretty busy.

Travis: I—you know what I like? You know what I like. When they have those knives that do other things? So they're not just knives. It's like, here's knives in here, and also uh, it's a bottle opener, and also, it's got like a little wrench in there.

That's fun to me, but maybe they take it further. And it's like, it's a knife and it's a sandwich. Right?

Griffin: [unsure] Mm...

Travis: Or like it's a knife and—okay. Wait, this is topical. Let me try again. Can I try again?

Griffin: Yeah, please.

Travis: It's a knife—

Griffin: The knife-sandwich thing was pretty stupid.

Travis: Okay, but let me try—

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Let me try—let me try again. This is really topical with a lot of viral stuff that's been going on in the internet right now, so uh...

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: It's a knife, but then you go to pick it up, it's cake.

Justin: ... What i—okay. This is actually a perfect thing to—

Travis: Is it? [wheezes]

Justin: This is the perfect time for me to stop the entire show, and at—I missed it, the thing—the inception of it, and I only caught the aftershocks of that particular meme, and it has—before I—I couldn't piece together that it was some sort of meme, and I thought I was kind of losing it for just a little bit. So what's going on there with that? Go ahead and walk me through that, please.

Travis: Well, it all began...

Griffin: That sounds pretty boring. Are you sure you want him to do that?

Justin: [wheezes] If he can do it in... 12 seconds.

Travis: It began with a viral video where it's like, "Oh, this looks like a roll of toilet paper. Nope, we're cutting into it; it's cake! This looks like a bottle of lotion; oh, we're cutting into it, it's cake!" But at no point do they say, "Look at this that looks like cake; no, it's actually a roll of toilet paper." That would've been way more impressive to me.

Justin: That's true.

Griffin: I'd wipe my butt with a cake.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] Uh, I'm sorry. I'm gonna stop the podcast. I'm gonna stop—stopping the podcast to say, Griffin, walk me through that real quick.

Griffin: I don't want to. Fuck! It—this episode in particular has been like, "Here's a funny, awesome, badass thing that I just said."

And you're like, "Show your work."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I think uh, we danced around what's next for knives and what we can do as sort of knife innovators.

Sharper? I think you're—eventually, you reach a sort of, like, atomic... like, limit there.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Like, a sort of—

Travis: You can split an atom.

Griffin: Right, and that's dangerous. 'Cause those motherfuckers are all over the place.

So second—like, a second blade? But—

Travis: Oh, I got it.

Griffin: But running perpendicular to the first blade? Or like, coming out the side of the hilt, or back on the back, like you're uh, like you're the freaking re—the guy from—the gentleman from *Phantom Menace*.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Mr. Maul, I believe is his name.

Justin: Mr. Maul.

Travis: Dr. Maul.

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: Lord Maul Esquire.

Griffin: I knew he was a Zabrak, but I couldn't remember his name. That's fucked up.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] Now, I—let me pitch this. I—and I'm gonna picture it and try to describe it, and I don't understand how the inner workings would, you know, work. But imagine a tube, right? And you load the knife into it. And it is pressurized in some way that you can release the pressure, and the knife shoots forth from the tube.

Griffin: I think—I think you're—mm. Yeah.

Travis: And buries itself into whatever you're pointing it at.

Griffin: I mean, again, I was more thinking about kitchen innovations, but I have had some trouble with sweet potatoes that I imagine knife-gun would help me out with.

Damn, you think whoever invented the bayonet was like, "I'm gonna take the rest of the year off? [laughs] This is the be—hey, guys! Guys, guys, guys, guys. Check it out! You know how we, since we got gun and like, we've just been sort of rolling over, shit has been going wild since we got a gun. But we all kind of still miss sword."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "Check it the fuck out. I did a kickass job today."

Justin: I enjoyed that in the movie *The Old Guard*? Did you guys see that flick? With Charlize Theron, and a bunch of other people in it?

Griffin: No, no.

Justin: Um, yeah, it was good and they've been alive for a very, very long time, and they're very good at murder, and they always bring gun, but then also axe is with them.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: They bring axe too. And it seems weird. Sydnee pointed out, like, "Gun can't do everything [wheezes] they need to do? They need axe still to come to the party." I wonder if it's kind of like a security axe.

Travis: Yes, that's it.

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: Like, it just makes you feel better, I guess? I don't know.

Griffin: Well, if gun acts up and turns against you...

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: ... it's like a little old lady who used an axe to chop up all her guns.

Travis: Exactly. There's not a lot of moving parts in axe, you know? There's not a lot of points of failure for axe.

Gun? Who even knows how that works?

Griffin: Who knows what the fuck's going on in there. It's like my computer.

Travis: But axe? Stick, heavy part, sharp edge. Done.

Griffin: We love it. Um...

Justin: You know what I love?

Griffin: What's that, Juice?

Justin: The Maximum Fun Network.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: And our extended podcasting family.

Travis: Got it.

Justin: Um, this is the Max Fun Drive for—I know it’s weird... [laughs] That’s the subtitle. I know it’s weird. It’s been weird for months. It’s not less weird now, but if—and basically it works like this. The shows that you listen to on the Maximum Fun Network are funded and made possible by you.

And I know that you probably hear that a lot on like, *NPR* or whatever. It’s very true on Maximum Fun. It’s 100 percent directly true.

Griffin: [laughs] On *NPR*, they’re fucking lying!

Justin: Fucking lying, thank you.

Griffin: They are—yeah.

Justin: They’re not. They’re—they’re fine.

Travis: Well, some of them might be.

Griffin: We don’t know.

Justin: Some of them might be. But we—we rely on you to pledge a few bucks a month. If you like the stuff that we do, or other shows on the Network do, please consider joining. MaximumFun.org/join is the link. They have tiers as low as, like, five bucks a month.

If you can pledge five bucks a month, you get, like, a bajillion hours of bonus content. It’s absolutely buck wild. And if you can join at *ten* dollars of month, you can get a Max Fun membership card, and a cool pin, and all the bonus content.

So it’s a very—it’s a very tantalizing offer, and it really—y—I can’t actually express to you how important these donations are to our way of life, and

to—being able to make this show as our job, and do all the other stuff that we do. It is all possible thanks to people that are—are joining the network, and helping support these shows. And I really—I can't thank you enough. It honestly means the world to us. We have a lot of fun here, but it is—it's a big deal.

Griffin: Um, yeah. Justin said it. MaximumFun.org/join. I don't actually know if you said the URL, but uh, click on the link of my voice, and go to MaximumFun.org/join, and look at the different pledge levels, and help us out, if you can.

How about another question?

Justin: Ditto, I'd love that. Thank you so much. I was about to—it's so funny. I was about to say it, and then you did it.

Travis: Can I get a—can I get a hand on the ball?

Griffin: Yeah, Trav!

Travis: [firmly] I desire another question to be delivered to me upon a platter of gold!

Griffin: It can never just be... the thing.

Justin: The finest questions known to humanity. [crosstalk].

Travis: [whimsically] Bring me a bespoke question.

Justin: "My mom texted me today, and said she wanted to get into bitcoin. She asked whether it was a good investment, if she started small. I don't know why she wants to get involved with this stuff, and I'm pretty sure bitcoin is a scam. My question is, is it ethical to help my only mother invest in cryptocurrency?" That's from Cryptoskeptic.

Travis: All money's a scam when you think about it, guys.

Justin: Go off.

Travis: 'Cause it's all just made out of bits and boops, bullshit. "Oh, this piece of paper is worth this much metal!"

Justin: Go off. Go off.

Griffin: It's not, though. It's not wrong.

Travis: It's fucking nothing. That said, I think bitcoin is even more so.
[laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Bitcoin is absolute—I mean, yes, but—okay. I can answer some of these questions. I know the exact right time to get into bitcoin was three months ago. Every single time, at any point in history, the right time to do it was before you ever started, uh, doing it.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: So that is a challenge. Bitcoin is one of those blind spots for me, where... if someone who was older came to me, and said, "So Justin, what is the deal with bitcoin?"

I feel like I would have to just sort of freeze, and remain perfectly still and silent until they thought I was—something was wrong with me, and they left the room. Because that would be—so complete would be my ignorance that I think it would lower my stock sort of permanently in their—like, when their internet broke...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: ... they wouldn't come to the J-man. They wouldn't listen to my recommendations on TV shows. Like, any of it.

Travis: Well, and the problem is, is even if you were able to explain it to them, they would believe you less. It would seem more like you were fucking with them than if you just stood there silent, like a statue. Because

the truth is, bitcoin basically boils down to, [laughs softly] "I'm going to send you a JPEG, and I'm gonna tell you how much that JPEG's worth."

Then someone else is gonna say, "Hey, give me that JPEG, and then *I'm* gonna tell you how much that JPEG is worth." It's all based upon, like, perceived value.

Justin: I'm actually feeling more con—listening to you talk makes me feel more confident [crosstalk].

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah, right?

Justin: I actually—Travis, thank you. I do feel—thank you for cheering me up. I do feel better, uh, listening to you try to explain—

Travis: That's all it is! It's all perceived value.

Justin: As you desperately clutch at any sort of cognizant thoughts about bitcoin, it really makes me feel better.

Travis: No, I stand by it. It's perceived value, because the irony is, as we, these three goobers, sit here and even just say—every time we say the word "bitcoin," bitcoin becomes a *little* more valuable.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: It's just a—it increases a *little bit*, because it's like, "I've heard about bitcoin. That's something, right? That is something. That is all it is." So yeah, get your mom into it now. She'll be rich in five days!

Griffin: I uh... heard through the grapevine about the very serious Twitter hack that happened last week, where a bunch of different big accounts got got, and those big accounts did ask people to send them bitcoin, and... it's bad. It's a terrible—it's a terrible invasion of privacy, and given Twitter's sort of... global, political importance, I guess – that's like, a harrowing thing – but I do just wanna dial in...

Travis: Uh-huh?

Griffin: ... that this probably did work on some people. Some people were... uh, successfully bamboozled by this, and I do wonder if Barack Obama's tweet, President Barack Hussein Obama, a lot of people forget about these things important to me, it... If he got anybody with—I am giving back to my community due to COVID-19. All bitcoins sent to the address below will be sent back, doubled. If you send back 1,000 dollars, I will send back 2,000 dollars, then there's the bitcoin link.

Then President Barack Hussein Obama said, "Only doing this for the next 30 minutes! Enjoy."

Justin: [snorts]

Travis: Wait, why did—

Griffin: The enjoy really gets me—

Travis: Why does Barack have all of this bitcoin saved [laughs] up?

Griffin: Why does he do that? Why is he doubling it? Why is it just for the—why is he doing a supermarket sweep bonus round? Why did he tell me to enjoy sending him the money, so he can double the money?

Travis: Why would that be the only exchange? Why not just, "I'll send you le—" Say, "Hey," and I'll send you some bitcoin. Why is the exchange part necessary at all?

Griffin: "I am giving back to my community. My community of people who have and know what bitcoin is. Enjoy for 30 minutes. I'm your president, Barack Obama, and—your former president, and I do want you send me the bitcoin, but do not sweat, because I am going to send back twice as much as you send me. I know what bitcoin is. You see these swordfish sunglasses I'm wearing. And I want you to enjoy this!"

Travis: “And my cousin Doug has a great investment opportunity that he says is a sure thing. So all I need is your bitcoin, and then I will invest in this slug-racing circuit. And then I—oh, shit, we’re broke. Ah, damn it.”

Griffin: Fucking—Billy Gates tweets it, fucking Elon Musk tweets it, and it’s like, “Hey, I have bitcoin. Come and get it. For 30 minutes, enjoy!”

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: And I think, like, those fucking nerds probably know what’s up. President Barack Obama’s swooping in, and being like, “I also have bitcoin! Come get it! 30 minutes, baby!”

Travis: “I’ve got 30 minutes worth of bitcoin!”

Justin: Travis, I’d love to dive more into your knowledge and understanding of bitcoin. Um... so Griffin, do you understand bitcoin mining?

Griffin: Uh, it’s where they use graphics cards to get the bitcoin, and keep me from being able to find the graphics cards.

Justin: Travis, can you tell me how computers make bitcoins with bitcoin mining? And Griffin, I want you to judge, and I want you to hear Travis’, and then I want you to hear the real answer, and then you judge which is just fucking wilder.

Travis: Okay. I want everyone to know, I could do the thing where I’m like, “I don’t fucking know. I’m a cool jock.” But I am going to do my best, purely...

Justin: Yes, please.

Travis: ... from context...

Justin: For science.

Travis: Yes. I am going to say bitcoin mining is when there's, like, some AI just searching around the web, looking for just—it's kind of like the loose change of bitcoin. Wherever there's like, .000000001 percent of a bitcoin, or whatever, that someone has forgotten about, or maybe while they were doing a transaction, it got rounded down or up or whatever, and that AI just scoops it on up, and saves it for somebody.

Griffin: This sounds fucking wrong.

Justin: Okay, so here's the right answer. [laughs] So you get a co—there's all these really hard math problems, okay? On the bitcoin network, there's all these really hard math problems, and they're so hard that the computer has to both work very hard, but also get lucky to solve it. And the—the um—the chances against them doing it is like one in 13 trillion. So it's very unlikely that they can solve these very hard math problems, but if they do, they win a prize, and it's bitcoin.

Griffin: Okay, wait. [burst into laughter]

Travis: Wait. So you—hold on. So there's a computer... *Good Will Hunting* its way...

Justin: Lots of computers.

Travis: ... through a website.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: And they're standing before the whiteboard, and trying to... get lucky, which, what that even means in the [laughs] terms of computing is both baffling and terrifying to me. And the computer's trying to get lucky, and if a computer solves a math problem...

Justin: A very hard math problem. I really can't—

Travis: Yes, thank you. A very hard math problem. It gets some—the computer gets some bitcoin.

Justin: Wins a prize. Yes. Well, I mean, technically it belongs—I mean, a computer does not have rights.

Travis: Whoa, alright.

Justin: 'Cause we're not living in the Dark Ages. So its owner would own the uh, um, you know, the bitcoin. But yes, that is—that is—how I understand it, is that the computer [laughs]—the computer doesn't really—does a bunch of hard math, and eventually gets it right, and it gets a little prize! That's a bitcoin!

Travis: Huh. I think, amazingly – and I—this is, of course, completely subjective – but I think my answer made more sense than the thing you said.

Griffin: No. Justin envisions a world that makes me much happier, because is there some sort of deranged mathematician trillionaire somewhere that's like, "I cannot die until these impossible formulae have been um, discovered."

Travis: Who—this is—

Griffin: Who makes the—

Travis: Who makes the question?!

Justin: Bitcoin makes the question.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: They only really—they only release a few... [snorts] The—okay. This is not fuck—this is fucking true. They only release a little bit of extra bonus puzzles once—

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: They release the puzzles—

Travis: On the back of their menus.

Justin: They release the puzzles in what's called a block reward, and the block reward is halved every uh, 210 thousand blocks. Around every four years. So in 2009, there was 50. In 2013, it was 25. In 2018, it was 12.5, and somewhere this year, it'll be 6.25, right? 'Cause they only release a few puzzles... [through laughter] a few new pu—[normally] they're releasing less puzzles.

Travis: Just to get the bitcoin out there? But who's making up the puzzles, Justin?

Justin: ... The co—the computer... creates the...

Travis: So the computer creates a puzzle it can't solve.

Griffin: This is—this is probably...

Justin: The computer creates a puzzle it can't solve, and also the puzzles get harder every two weeks.

Travis: They just throw an extra three in there?

Griffin: They put another three in.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It gets harder. [laughs loudly]

Travis: "This was an x, but now it's a z. Fuck you!" [laughs]

Justin: You are—you are 44,000 times more likely to win the Powerball Jackpot with a single lottery ticket than you are to pick the correct hash on a single try, which is the correct putt to solve this fucking puzzle. You will not solve this puzzle!

Travis: Do they have any word searches?

Justin: No, it's all jumbled.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: But it's hard jumbles.

Travis: But it's hard ones. They're like—this is, like, nine letters!

Justin: So hopefully that helps. Hey, if I—

Travis: Just let your mom listen to that 10 minutes, she's out.

Justin: Just in case our investments in bitcoin don't pay out, I would like to invite us all for a quick sojourn to the—to the Money Zone.

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

Travis: Uh, real quick, before we do ads, folks, this just occurred to me that you might've listened to that whole cryptocurrency section and thought, "You know, that sounded like a cry for help from the McElroys that I should explain how cryptocurrency works to them." And uh...

Griffin: Oh, wow.

Travis: You would be wrong!

Griffin: Wow, what a swing-and-a-miss that interpretation would be.

Justin: Whew, you could not be farther off, my friend!

Travis: Nope! I am perfectly happy where I'm at!

Griffin: I'll say this. If you do need those, just dump 'em in my mentions. And this is a service I can begin to provide to you, Justin and Travis, 'cause I ain't popped in on those bad boys in a bit. I do—I d—send it to me, and I

will send the information out to my brothers. I can be point of first contact right now.

Justin: I'd actually rather use this as a test, because if you send it to us, we'll know you skipped the ads.

Travis: Yeah! Ooh, yeah!

Justin: And that—and that makes you an immoral thief. [laughs quietly]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Basically. So please, do not send it to us. We don't wanna know how it works. Please.

Griffin: Uh, you know who else isn't welcome in my mentions, is uh, plaque and uh, tarter buildup. And these guys are my teeth's worst enemies. But do you know who my teeth's best friends is? It's quip! Quip's the good electric toothbrush that uh—it covers your—all your oral care essentials. It's got these timed sonic vibrations with 30-second pulses to guide a dentist-recommended two-minute routine. And if you got a little kiddo, smaller mouth, smaller teeth, you got a littler quip. And it's for—it's the right size for ya.

Travis: I don't like that that assumption was made, Griffin, 'cause just, real quick, Baby Dot, even though she is six months, does have the mouth and teeth of a 40-year-old.

Griffin: I know that about her...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: ... and it sucks, 'cause it doesn't look very good.

Travis: No. It doesn't now, but when she's 70, and she's got the mouth and teeth of a 40-year-old...

Griffin: Yeah, sure. It's gonna look amazing.

Uh, the quip brush head, toothpaste, and floss refills are automatically delivered on a dentist-recommended schedule every three months for just five dollars each, a friendly reminder when it's time for a refresh and to stay committed to your oral health, and shipping is free!

I have been using a quip for uh, a couple years now. And uh, it's really, really nice. Back when I was traveling, the freaking little mirror mount turns into a holster for it, it was real slick. Now, it's mostly just a mirror mount, but it's a good one.

If you go to getquip.com/mybrother right now, you can get your first refill for free. That's your first refill free at getquip.com/mybrother. That's get Q-U-I-P dot com slash my brother. Quip, the good habits company.

Travis: Hey, you guys know what I always say. If you're in a hitch, you gotta fix your stitch. You've heard me say—you've heard me say that, right?

Griffin: I've heard you yell that.

Travis: Yeah. I yell it a lot.

Griffin: I heard you sort of scream that, like a sort of primal animal beast.

Travis: Well, I get frustrated.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: You know, 'cause people are wearing shows—like, they're wearing clothes – and shows – that aren't their size or style, and like they paid too much for them, and they're like, "I don't know where to get other clothes!"

And I'm like, "If you're in a hitch, you gotta fix your stitch!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: 'Cause you can just go to Stitch Fix, and they're a company that focuses on, like, getting you the clothes you actually want. Because they

have a personal stylist that will work with you to get you clothes you love, and get them to you effortlessly. It's a completely different way to shop, and you fill out your own profile.

Just go to [StitchFix.com/mybrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/mybrother), and you'll pick out looks that personalized for you, colors you like, styles you like, and a budget you like. You pay a 20-dollar styling fee for each fix, which is credited towards anything you keep. Schedule it anytime; there's no subscription required. Plus, shipping, returns, and exchanges are easy and free.

Get started today at [StitchFix.com/mybrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/mybrother), and you'll get 25 percent off when you keep everything in your fix. That's [StitchFix.com/mybrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/mybrother) for 25 percent off when you keep everything in your fix. [StitchFix.com/mybrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/mybrother). When you're in a hitch, you gotta fix your stitch.

Justin: It's not catching on.

Griffin: That's nothing.

Travis: It says it, right here in the—like, I'm reading the—it's green, it says, "Do not skip. Do not skip, Travis."

Justin: [scats guitar solo]

Travis: [questioning grunt]

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [continues scatting]

Griffin: There you go.

Travis: Mm.

Justin: [continues scatting] [singing] I wanna munch!

Griffin: Squad!

Travis: Squaaad!

Justin: [scats] I want to munch!

Griffin: Squad!

Travis: Squad!

Justin: [scats] [normally] Man, my throat is still messed up from...

Griffin: I know, man.

Justin: It's terrible.

Um, so hey! This one comes to us from the UK, and this is weird, because normally the UK does not make it into a lot of, um, a lot of Munch Squads. But this one is from Heinz UK, and it was sent to me from Graham Roebuck, who is just an all-around...

Griffin: Beast!

Justin: Just the all-rounder. Can't be stopped.

[exhales] Salad cream ice cream?

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Mm—

Justin: "Heinz launches Heinz Creamz DIY ice cream kits."

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: Now, it's important for you to know, Heinz Creamz is with a Z. A Z at the end of Heinz, so a Z at the end of Creamz.

Griffin: What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Justin: Uh, "July is nationalized Cream Month, and whilst trips to ice cream parlors may look a little different this year, Heinz has launched a selection of DIY ice cream kits. Using a range of Heinz sauces, you could make your very own Heinz Creamz at home, and celebrate National Ice Cream Month from the comfort of your kitchen!"

So you go to their fucking website... [laughs] and there's a l—there's a place right there where the crime is.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Where you can—it says, "Click here to do crime."

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: And when you click it, you go to a page that is Heinz Creamz, and um, you've—you—let's say you wanted the mayo cream.

Griffin: [firmly] And I—and I—and I *don't*.

Justin: [snorts]

Travis: But let's say you did.

Justin: "Relish the creamy taste of Heinz Good Mayonnaise." [wheezes]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: It says this?!

Justin: It's actually "Heinz Seriously Good Mayonnaise," but the "seriously" is in brackets, so I took it upon myself to leave it out, for comedic effect.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: "Relish the creamy taste of Heinz—" You can't say—we're talking about toppings. You probably shouldn't use "relish."

Griffin: No.

Justin: As a—as your—okay. “Relish the creamy taste of Heinz Seriously Good Mayonnaise in an ice cream! This make-your-own Heinz Creamz kit includes the equipment you’ll need to make a Heinz mayonnaise ice cream. It includes Heinz Good Mayonnaise Sauce...”

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: “... a branded gift box, a recipe card—” [laughs] What if it didn’t have that?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: It’s like, “I don’t know, *you* fucking figure it out. Here’s some mayonnaise, and a wish.”

Travis: And it’s not pre-measured, let’s be [laughs] honest.

Griffin: It seems like—

Travis: Their proportions are way off.

Griffin: It’s wild, I feel like the person writing this press release had Benjamin Button Disease *and* Jack Disease?

Justin: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Because it’s like, with each paragraph, their sort of, like, age seems to be going backwards? “Put good mayonnaise in cream sauce! It ice cream! Yay!”

Justin: “It also includes a reusable ice cream tub.” Uh, that’s profane.

So you make mayonnaise ice cream in it, and you're like, "Don't—don't—don't toss that, Vicky. [laughs] I'm gonna save that. I want to use it again, for anything else."

Justin: "And lastly, a limited-edition engraved golden scoop and spoon." It doesn't say what's engraved on it, but I'm assuming it's the word "pervert."

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I can only imagine. Um, so let's go back to this press release here.

I will let you know, I'm looking at the website, and the bad news is that—that Heinz Ketchup Creamz is sold out.

Travis: Agh!

Justin: You can't that anymore. You can get BBQ Creamz...

Travis: Huh.

Justin: ... you can get Saucy Sauce Creamz.

Griffin: [snorts]

Travis: These are all...

Justin: Why?!

Travis: ... challenging.

Justin: There's uh, Saucy Sauce Creamz, and then there's Heinz Salad Creamz.

Griffin: What is salad cream?

Justin: "It's the tangy taste—" It's like, uh, salad dressing.

Griffin: No, I fig—I put that together, but like, there’s lots of different types of salad dressing.

Justin: Well, this is Salad Creamz.

Travis: You get it.

Justin: It’s—it’s a g—it would be a good ice cream, is the good way to imagine it.

So they—they’ve listed the—it says, “The tangy taste of salad creams makes it one of Britain’s most loved sauces, and now it’s a Heinz Creamz. That zing we all know and love can be paired with the delicious sweetness of summer strawberries, on top of refreshing ice cream.”

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Um, “Heinz BBQ Creamz is sweet, sticky, and tongue-tinglingly delicious.”

Travis: Oh. Ew!

Justin: “[crosstalk] mouth-watering flavor of classic Heinz Barbecue Sauce in a Heinz Creamz. A team with maple syrup, pecans, and perhaps a sprinkling of bacon bits, and this sweet and smoky ice cream will really pack a punch.”

Travis: Hey, just real quick. When I put something on my tongue, if the reaction my tongue has is to *tingle*?

Justin: That is body—that is poison.

Travis: That is bad.

Justin: Your body rejects it.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: That is a bad thing to happen. “Oh, so my whole mouth is buzzing!”

Justin: Um, “[David Chaubert], senior brand manager at Heinz Sauce, says, ‘This summer is looking different for many of us.’”

Griffin: Yep.

Justin: “And while we might be staycating or staying at home more than in other years, it doesn’t mean you have to miss out on the joys of a good ice cream. Heinz Sauces are here to help.”

Hey, David? Honestly, d—you’re right about the first part. This summer *is* looking different for u—but—fuck you for thinking the answer is “Do you want to make a ice cream out of mayonnaise?”

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: “Does that fix it?”

Travis: Yeah. Everything’s up in the air now...

Justin: “Does it fix it if you do ice cream out of mayonnaise? Did we fix it?”

Griffin: “It can’t hurt, right?”

Justin: “Listen, everything’s fucked. Do you wanna make ketchup ice cream in your own house?”

Travis: “Hey, no one’s watching.”

Griffin: “We’ve tried everything, and—”

Travis: “No one’s watching, anything [laughs] goes.”

Griffin: “Think of it this way: once it’s all back to the new normal, you’re probably not gonna want to make salad cream ice cream.”

Justin: “You probably won’t do that. You’ll be so happy to return to this—to the life you knew.”

“We give you the ultimate summer mashup, Heinz Creamz!”

Travis: [sighs]

Justin: “A DIY ice cream kit with an added summery squeeze of one of your favorite Heinz sauces.”

Griffin: Mm!

Justin: “So you needn’t miss out on one of the sauciest of sweet treats or six, during a summer of social distancing.”

David, fuck off!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It’s not the ultimate summer mashup, you absolute maniac! It’s ketchup mixed with ice cream! Stop it!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “We mi—we know it might seem like a bit of a crazy combo to some... ”

Travis: Hmm.

Justin: “... but with Heinz always at the forefront of innovation, *anything* is possible.”

Hey, David? If anything is possible, could I request a vaccine?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Could that be first on your list, you fucking ketchup wizard?

Travis: You think—

Justin: If anything is possible?

Travis: I think when David turned in the first draft of this press release, somebody said, like, “Do we wanna add any qualifiers here, where you just said, ‘Forefront of innovation’? Do we wanna put, like, ‘Forefront of dressing innovation, or some—’”

Justin: Sauce in—yeah, sauce innovation. Heinz innovation.

Travis: No. [laughs]

Griffin: Anything’s possible!

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: “We are at the *Bleeding Edge* of all technology, both food and medical.”

Travis: [laughing]

Justin: “And we’re gonna make this summer work for you.” If you—this is just like the Bud Light um, the Bud Light—

Griffin: Baskin-Robbins?

Justin: Baskin-Robbins things.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: If I called you, and I’m like, “Hey, this has all been really hard for everybody, I’m just checking in to see how you’re doing, what are you up to?”

And you say, "I'm making mayonnaise ice cream."

I'm going to call... the authorities to come, like, check on you.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: 'Cause I'm worried that something has gone terribly wrong.

Travis: [sighs]

Griffin: I bet it's good, though.

Justin: It's probably good, is the worst thing about it.

Travis: The one where you said the bacon bits, that got me a little bit.

Justin: The BBQ ice cream with some bacon bits and pecans, yeah. I mean, yeah, that'd probably be pretty good.

Travis: That one got me.

Justin: Listen, if I could order these to America, I probably already would be. I find that—I find the idea—like, the ketchup and barbecue sauce...

Griffin: Terrible.

Justin: ...I can almost—I can almost see my—no, I can almost see my way there.

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: We're into, like... it's mayonnaise. Like, that's hard. That gets a little more challenging.

Griffin: That's tough.

Justin: If it's, like, Mayo Creamz. And just the number of Z's on this page, guys...

Griffin: It's quite a few.

Justin: ... it's tough. There's a—there is a lot of Z's in this—in this—

Griffin: I bet a thousand island ice cream...

Justin: 45 Z's on this page.

Griffin: [laughs]

Um, hey, can I do another Yahoo?

Travis: Yeah, of course!

Justin: Yeah, I'd love that.

Griffin: Um, [sighs] aw, geez. I've got two here. I'm debating which one's... the best... I mean, I don't know that this one is the most sort of gut-bustingly funny, but it is a conversation that I'm curious about, that I feel like Justin's gonna have a lot to say.

Uh, sent in by several people again. It's by Yahoo Answers User Misty, who asks, "What is the best place to work in at the mall?"

Travis: Huh. [pauses] Well, the answer, I think, is obvious, but...

Justin: I just wanna fucking talk about this.

Griffin: I just kinda wanna talk about—yeah.

Justin: Can we send jokes out? Can we just send jokes out of the room for a little bit? Is that okay?

Griffin: Well, we talked about bitcoin for about 75 minutes earlier in the episode, so I think there's a precedent established.

Travis: Okay, you know what? I'll—hey, jokes. Fuck off.

Justin: Yeah, fuck off. We're gonna settle this.

Travis: I have worked a couple mall jobs...

[unintelligible phone noises]

Griffin: Do you call your phone "jokes"?

Justin: No, I don't call my phone "jokes." That's a very good idea, though. If I could program it to be like, "Hey—"

[phone sound repeats]

Justin: ... Stop it. Um...

Travis: I—I've worked several mall jobs.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Travis: And I think right now...

Justin: Don't need your bone fides, just need an answer.

Travis: ... if I was going to pick a mall job, I think it would be, like, a cellphone case kiosk.

Griffin: Woah, what?

Travis: Yeah! It feels low-impact - like, I don't think you're dealing with customers left and right - it's a very narrow window of information you have to be briefed on. You get to sit down for a lot of it. Very little oversight over what you do. Most of the time, when I see people working there, they're like, on their phones or—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Even, like, playing games.

Justin: Travis, you've just hit the—you've just hit the biggest issue with it. When I see people working there... If you put yourself into the cell phone kiosk, what you have basically done is put yourself into a human zoo.

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You are an exhibit at the mall museum. Constant, constant scrutiny. Everyone looking at you. What are they looking at on the phone? What are they up to?

And it's that thing of like, that judgy thing that people do, where it's like, "I can't believe they're on their phone," when they were just on their phone, like, 15 seconds ago.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And they just don't happen to be on their phone right at that exact second. It's—it's an incredible level of scrutiny. It'd be a terrible job. Incorrect.

Griffin: You picked, arguably, one of the most stressful... gigs.

Justin: Gotta be the most stressful.

Travis: I mean, I disagree only because I stand by the low oversight thing.

Griffin: Mm.

Travis: Like, that for me, in any job I've ever had, is a boss who is looking to make themselves—especially in a retail environment, looking to make themselves feel essential. And so they are just looking for things to point out, so that they feel like they've done their job.

Justin: But Travis, if you're at the cell phone kiosk, or the Hillshire Farms kiosk, or any kiosk, your boss is gonna be able to fucking clock you from a hundred yards.

Travis: Well, yes.

Justin: They can monitor your progress without you even—

Griffin: There are no corners.

Justin: It's not the tell-tale, like—

Travis: But who—what kiosk boss is, like, checking in—if you own a kiosk, I think you didn't buy it because you were ready to be super hands-on.

Justin: Travis, they're the face... of Super Sterling Silver. Of course I'm going to check on them.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: They are the frontline of customer interaction, and I'm—I'm in charge of making sure that our customers always walk away with silver and a smile.

Travis: There is a kiosk...

Justin: Whatever engraved gift.

Travis: ... at the uh, Kenwood Towne Centre here in Cincinnati, where the product that they sell [laughs] is glass cubes, where the center of them has been laser-etched with some kind of photograph of, perhaps, a beloved pet or a child or uh, mee-maw that you wanna remember.

Justin: [snorts]

Travis: And I see that every time I go to the Kenwood Mall, and I think, "That's a front for something." There is no way that they sell enough engraved...

Griffin: Let me get some cubes!

Travis: ... cubes...

Griffin: "What are you doing today?"

"Going to the mall."

"Cool. Can I come along?"

"Sure, I guess, if you wanna watch me stand around and look at cubes for an hour."

Travis: Gotta pick out the perfect cube.

Griffin: "I'm trying to pick the perfect grandma tesseract."

Justin: [laughs] "I'm locking my grandma in this—in this holocron."

Travis: [laughs] "She's wronged Krypton, and [laughs] I need—"

Justin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: "Yep, yep. Haven't seen Mee-Maw since I banished her to the phantom zone."

Justin: "Oh, that? That's my mee-maw's horcrux."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "For \$29.99 at the Kenwood Mall, believe it or not!"

Griffin: Uh...

Justin: Okay. So that's incorrect. Griffin.

Griffin: I mean, here's what's making this tough for me. I feel like, uh, like an Auntie Anne's is—is thrilling. You see Auntie Anne's, and then you probably do—I assume you get to eat some Auntie Anne's at some point.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Or at least you get, like, a dope discount.

But at what point—I love the smell of an Auntie Anne's, you know, wafting down an airport terminal, or something like that...

Justin: Sure.

Griffin: ... but that smell, I imagine... after—I'm gonna be really generous, and say, like, three weeks, is going to be a complete nightmare.

Justin: Any restaurant, any food service, you are going to run into that. Definitely happened at the OG. Uh, love the breadsticks, love the chicken scampi, love so many of their offerings. Could not stand it after, you know...

Travis: And not only while you're there. The problem is, especially with something like that pretzel smell, it permeates. Eventually, you, like...

Griffin: It gets in you.

Justin: That's right.

Travis: It's gonna get in your clothes, which will then get in your car, which will then, like—you change, you have your uniform at home, and like, your home will smell faintly of pretzels. It will haunt you.

Justin: My friend Tommy Redd used to work at Fazoli's, and if he stored his uniform in the cab of his truck, when he would give me a ride to school, I would insist on riding in the truck bed. So—so vibrant was the smell of his Fazoli's uniform.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: This—this bizarro anti-air freshener. Um, it's gonna make you hate—if you work at a pla—food you love, you're gonna hate it a few weeks in. If you work at a place you hate, you're gonna hate it more. So food service is incorrect.

I'm gonna give you my hot take, and you all can...

Griffin: You've had approximately 400 jobs, so I will defer to you.

Justin: This is not one I've had, but I'm pretty sure of what the best job would be. And that is the vape shop at the mall.

Travis: Huh!

Griffin: [laughing quietly]

Justin: So vape shop is fucking cool, because you just sit around and vape. And if your boss opens the door, and they're like, "What are you doing? Just sitting around and vaping?!"

You'd be like, "Uh, yeah. I am. I'm both advertising our product and becoming more knowledgeable about it, and I'm sitting here, cranking some major fucking cotton."

Griffin: Fucking cotton, yeah.

Justin: And spooking the—the guy over at Macy's. Uh—I think that the vape shop would be a very chill place to work. Morally, I don't know. The science is out.

Griffin: Yes. When your love—but that's it, Juice!

Travis: Ohh.

Griffin: That's the perfect fix, is when your loved ones are like, "Uh, the science is out, but what science we have, you know, it's—I'm worried about you."

You can be like, "Hey..." [dramatic inhale and exhale] "It's for work."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: They actually made a rule at the vape shop at the Huntington Mall. At first, they were allowed to crank cotton 24/sev, and then they made a rule that you couldn't crank cotton at all, and to watch the discrepancy in employee satisfaction...

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: ... [laughs] was so palpable, it could be felt at the American Cookie Factory. It was so—so distinct to just go from like, "Wow, this is a fucking very good job," to "I've gotta get the fuck out of here and indulge my addiction to aerosolized nicotine!"

Griffin: Um... Boy, between the bitcoin and vape chat, this episode has a particular sort of flavor to it.

Travis: Once again, you can tweet those at Griffin McElroy.

Griffin: Yeah, hit me up with one of those.

Um, hey, and while you're doing that, as long as you're on the internet, consider going to MaximumFun.org/join. Consider uh, becoming a member of the Network at whatever level you are able, that you feel comfortable with. If you want to support us and the shows we make, and the Maximum Fun Network as a whole.

Uh, we have been doing this for over 10 years now, and we are only, you know, able to do it as our jobs and have been able to make it a bigger part of our lives because of the Max Fun Drive. It is a—a truly very important thing to us.

So please consider. MaximumFun.org/join. Look at the levels. Look at the different pledge gifts. And um, yeah. Think about it, and thank you.

Justin: [gruff voice] "Bad news, boys."

Travis: Oh, boy.

Justin: "It's me. I snuck in this time."

Travis: Okay.

Justin: "Me, Reggie Bigshot. Listen."

Griffin: [quietly] Yeah.

Justin: "Bad news. You're one... You're one member shy."

Travis: Oh, no!

Justin: "Yeah. Just one more person... You know what? I'll give you another day. If just one person logs onto MaximumFun.org/join..."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: "... and uh, joins the family, as it were, I'll save your little show."

Griffin: 'Kay.

Justin: "Can't promise Meloni. Can't promise that."

Griffin: No.

Justin: "Didn't do good enough for that. But one person..."

Travis: Just one? That seems pretty low.

Justin: "Well, are you that person?"

Travis: Me?

Justin: "That's right, listener. I can see you."

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Holy shit. Um, I g—

Justin: "I'm using some real dark web—"

Travis: You're slipping into Hugo Weaving, [laughs] Mr. Bigshot.

Justin: "A little bit. A little black hat stuff that I—my nephew hooked up for me, and I can see ya—and I can see you're not going to that web—that web URL that I told you about, so I need you to head over there and *join the family*, and save these boys, and their... orphans."

Griffin: And the cigar orphans, yes.

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

Justin: [normally] Thank you so much for listening. Uh, Griffin, do you have a final Yahoo?

Griffin: Yeah. This one was sent in by Emma Kant. Thank you, Emma. It's Yahoo Answers User Josh, who does ask, "Would cremation even work on water Pokémon?"

Travis: Huh.

Justin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: Huh.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

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

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