

Sawbones 214: Home Alone

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[audience cheers]

Intro (Clint McElroy): Sawbones is a show about medical history, and nothing the hosts say should be taken as medical advice or opinion. It's for fun. Can't you just have fun for an hour and not try to diagnose your mystery boil? We think you've earned it. Just sit back, relax and enjoy a moment of distraction from that weird growth. You're worth it.

[theme music plays]

Justin: Hello and a joyous Candlenights to you, Huntington West Virginia!

[audience cheers]

Sydnee: It's so nice to be at home.

Justin: I know. Welcome to Sawbones: a marital tour of misguided medicine. I'm your co-host, Justin Tyler McElroy.

[audience cheers]

Sydnee: And I'm Sydnee Smirl McElroy.

[audience cheers louder]

Justin: It's fine. It's fine. You know, I thought maybe on Candlenights, maybe... that's alright.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: This is so exciting.

Justin: I know, it is.

Sydnee: I know.

Justin: It's beautiful here. In this wonderland, this Candlenights wonderland.

Sydnee: And I get to sit at your desk.

Justin: Yeah. The superdesk, we called it.

Sydnee: It's amazing.

Justin: Actually, this desk is sort of a historic, I guess you could say, it's kind of a— they actually brought it from the Smithsonian here, which I thought was so sweet, cause it's a good seven hours drive.

[audience laughs]

Justin: And heavy. But it's part of TV history, in the hit series MASH.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: No.

Justin: Okay.

Sydnee: [laughs] No.

Justin: So, what festive Candelights medical lesson have you prepared for us today, Sydnee? In past years, you've told us all the health problems that Santa had, you told us all of the different Christmas things that could kill you.

Sydnee: Yup, that's true.

Justin: Okay. What have you got for us this time?

Sydnee: [laughs] Well, I thought I would do something maybe a little more fun.

Justin: Okay, good.

Sydnee: And I am not— I am aware that this has been done before, but we have not done it, so has it really been done?

Justin: I would say not, technically speaking.

Sydnee: I dunno, I mean we— so, I wanted to talk about the movie Home Alone.

[audience cheers]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Justin: Now, I have not seen it, so this going to be kind of a double education for me.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I know that to be a lie, we have the entire collection on DVD in, like, a paint can.

Justin: It's like a gift set, it's adorable.

[audience laughs]

Justin: It came with 3 and 4, but I threw them in the trash.

[audience cheers]

Sydnee: No, I don't wanna talk— I'm only focusing on the original. I do love Home Alone 2, but that seems like a good topic for next Candlesnights.

Justin: Exactly, there you go.

Sydnee: So, I'm holding off on that one. But if you have not seen the movie Home Alone, I'm assuming most people have, but just in case, in the film there is an 8-year-old boy, Kevin, who is left home alone over Christmas by his family.

Justin: Charlie watched this for the first time this year.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Justin: And she was incredibly distressed.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Just like, monumentally, like— she had to check it with us four times, like, "So his parents are gone?" When I came into the room, I said, "Hey Charlie, what are you watching?" and she looked at me and she said, "It's called They Left Him Alone."

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] She may be a little young for it, because of course then the next part of the plot is that burglars try to break into the home and the 8-year-old has to defend it by himself.

Justin: I thought she'd be so jived, like, "No wait, just hang in there, cause he's about to just wreck shop on these two guys," and she didn't enjoy that part as much, and I was like, "Oh that's right, you're not broken. You're only 3, you don't have that just like, vengeance, just like need it, like I do at 37."

Sydnee: Now, before I get into— so Kevin defends his home with a series of very dangerous tricks and traps and other things, and we'll get into why maybe some of these things are a little unrealistic, but before, there are couple of issues that nobody ever talks about medically in this film. Early in the movie, Kevin has his whole extended family staying in his house, so there's lots of people in the house. And he is told he's gonna have to sleep with Fuller, who is his cousin, but played by his brother.

Justin: Kieran Culkin.

Sydnee: Kieran Culkin. Yeah, Macauley Culkin is the...

Justin: Is he here? Kieran? I sent some tickets out, but no, he didn't make it.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And he's— they laugh because they say, "You're gonna have to sleep with Fuller," and Fuller wets the bed. And then we see Fuller, who is chugging a Pepsi and smiling at him the whole time.

Justin: Which is like... "I'm gonna pee on you."

[audience laughs]

Justin: Like that's— that's like a pretty good intimidation move, Fuller.

Sydnee: [laughs] And I just wanna say that from a medical standpoint, if his parents are aware that he has primary nocturnal enuresis, you know, the least they could do is try to restrict his fluid intake that close to bedtime.

Justin: Okay.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: I mean, come on. [laughs] Its right before bed, he's chugging a Pepsi. Really?

Justin: That's... that's true. That's true, Syd.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: No one ever talks about that.

Justin: Drag em!

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Well, the poor kid! Come on, where's mom and dad?

Justin: Yeah, okay, but he's nasty. Like, look at him. He loves wetting the bed. He loooves it.

Sydnee: I will also say, and I will not dwell on this because it's pretty dark, but Kevin, while he's there alone, before the hijinks with burglars take place, he needs to steal his brother's money so he climbs— he's in his brother's room and his brother has all these, like, built-in shelves in his bedroom. And he climbs to the top of these shelves to get to the money on the top shelf. And he fully falls.

Justin: It's savage. Like, if you watch it, it's brutal.

Sydnee: The entire shelving unit breaks and collapses on top of him. And a tarantula falls on him. And he's fine.

[audience laughs]

Justin: He like, digs out from under rubble. It's ridiculous.

Sydnee: Yeah, he's like, pulling broken boards off of him. He's 8!

Justin: The unkillable boy.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: But he has vengeance in his blood and he's gonna take it out on the Wet Bandits, Marv and Harry, who are robbing all of the houses on the block, because everyone leaves for Christmas. That's what everyone does. In this neighborhood, they're all gone.

Justin: Everyone leaves town for Christmas and leaves their presents at home.

Sydnee: Yes.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: All of the presents are wrapped under the tree at home. Nobody's gonna open them on Christmas.

Justin: "Well, I wrapped them all, Darlene. Let's go."

Sydnee: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] "We'll be back January 7th."

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: The first injury that takes place, Kevin, he knows that the Wet Bandits are going to try to rob his home. He's seen them, like, lurking around outside. They have figured out that while there is someone home, it's just an 8-year-old and they're fine with whatever darkness follows that train of thought. They're fine with it.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: They're gonna break in and so they come to his door and there's like a little pet door. And they're knocking on the door and trying to get him to let them in, and he sticks a BB gun through the trapdoor and shoots them in the groin and in the face with a BB gun. So that's the first question. This actually probably wouldn't be that bad. Now—

Justin: Uhh, disagree.

[audience laughs]

Justin: That's a hard disagree from the J-man.

Sydnee: From a medical standpoint. I mean, it's a BB.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: So, in case you're curious [laughs] classic air-powered projectile weapons typically have muzzle velocities of 350 feet per second. I didn't know that, I had to look that up. So, I guess that's not fast enough to, certainly in the groin, I mean, he's wearing pants, thank goodness.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Yeah, that movie would have taken on a whole different vibe.

[laughs]

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: It probably wouldn't break through the fabric, so, I mean, it would hurt his testicle. Like, that would hurt, I assume. But he would probably, I mean, it would probably heal. And when he gets shot in the head, that would probably have broken the skin but it wouldn't, like, break his skull or anything.

Justin: Okay.

Sydnee: So, you know.

Justin: So he's fine.

Sydnee: Not terrible. Now, there is a series of falls after this. There's some very icy stairs. Kevin has cleverly hosed down all of the stairways so that the burglars fall a lot as they try to enter the home, and—

Justin: His parents, when they get there, we have to assume, do not. Assuming he's salted by that point.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And you can assume this same kinda thing, there are multiple falls. He sets up a tripwire for them at some point, he puts a bunch of micro machines that they step on and slip and fall, and in general, from all of these falls, they just kind of get kinda rattled. It's kinda like

cartoony. Like, you expect to see stars floating around their head. And then they just stand up and keep going. And that is probably unrealistic.

Justin: Yes.

Sydnee: Especially when they fall, uh, Harry falls down an entire flight of stairs, correct?

Justin: Right.

Sydnee: Going into the basement. And they're hard concrete stairs that are now covered in ice. And he falls all the way down them. I'm expecting definitely some fractures, probably some herniated discs, internal bleeding could have resulted, I mean, they're falling on hard surfaces.

Justin: Now, okay, in deference to Christopher Columbus— not that, no, Chris Columbus. Sorry.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] The director.

Justin: In deference to Chris Columbus, he could have been bleeding internally. [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Like, we, it wasn't depicted onscreen but there's every chance. It's internal. So it's possible.

Sydnee: I just think if the first time that they fall down an entire flight of stairs, if they're not suffering some sort of broken bone or something, they're not even limping, by the third time they fall something should have happened.

Justin: Something's gone wrong, yeah.

Sydnee: Something should have gone wrong. The next injury, and most people probably remember this one. So, Kevin has cleverly rigged the front doorknob to be very hot.

Justin: He put a grill lighter on it, right?

Sydnee: Yes. And it is so hot that it is glowing red. That's a really hot doorknob.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: I mean, if it's glowing red.

Justin: That's probably one of the top three hot doorknobs he's ever touched.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: You could estimate that it could be over 700 degrees. I mean, it's a very hot doorknob. So, when Harry grabs it— Harry grabs it, right? Yeah. He grabs it, he doesn't just let go quickly either. He grabs it and holds it long enough for comedic effect, which I appreciate.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And to put this in context, if you come into contact with water that's 155 degrees for one second, you'll get a third-degree burn. So, he's got his full palm on this doorknob for three or four seconds and then his hand, now, it has not burst into flame, which it could've. [laughs]

Justin: That would've been something. That seems like a missed opportunity, Chris.

Sydnee: Theoretically it could've. Probably not, but it's possible. But it doesn't burst into flame. It does smoke, and then he sticks it into the snow and it steams. And then he's got a nice M. Because they're very—they must be very rich.

Justin: That street? Are you kidding me?

Sydnee: [laughs]

Justin: In this economy? Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Justin: In that economy, I guess. It was...

Sydnee: A monogrammed doorknob for McCallister, and then he has an M on his hand afterwards. That, it was definitely a third-degree burn at

the least, he's gonna have a ton of scarring. He's gonna have problems with that hand for a long time. He needs to be seen immediately in a hospital. He needs skin grafting. It's never gonna function the same.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Okay, untrue. I saw Home Alone 2, he's fine.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Now, the next trap is that, as any 8-year-old in a suburban home would know, you have access to industrial strength tar whenever you need it.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And so, he coats the stairs from the basement with tar, and this is very effective in removing Marv's shoes. That's not really an injury, but it sets you up for the next injury, which is that he has cleverly hidden one nail sticking straight up on those stairs.

Justin: It's savagery, y'all. It would 'a gone through the shoe. Like, it's twisted.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: But he's removed his adversary's shoe, so there is no shoe. So, instead, of course— and there's only one nail, so, I mean, the odds that he was gonna step on it actually aren't—

Justin: He knew exactly what he was doing.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: So, he steps right on the nail. It goes right into his foot. This, of course, would be, I think, incredibly painful. I think we can all agree on that. You're looking at a lot of damage, I mean, it's a deep puncture wound and so definitely it could hit some tendons. You could have a lot of damage, but my bigger concern is infection. So, a deep wound like that, and I mean, we're assuming it's a dirty nail, and you could get tetanus. That is one concern, certainly. But you could get all kinds of deep

infections and cellulitis. I guess if we're playing out the worst-case scenario, he ends up with an amputation from this.

Justin: He doesn't. I saw Home Alone 2.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] He also, while he's in the basement, Kevin has cleverly rigged what looks like one of those pull-string lightbulbs to turn on a light in the basement, but instead it's connected to an iron. Like, an iron you iron your clothes with. And so, when he pulls the string an iron comes down—

Justin: It's so good. [laughs] It's really funny.

Sydnee: And smashes right in his face.

Justin: It's great.

Sydnee: [laughs] Now, with that kind of impact, it looks about 15 feet and an iron weighs about 4 pounds, he definitely broke some bones in his face. I mean, he should be walking around the rest of this film with giant raccoon eyes for sure, a broken nose, it would be very bloody. There should be lots of broken bones there.

Justin: [laughs] And a lot of blood.

Sydnee: [laughs] Also, if you get those kinda fractures, you gotta worry about, like, your little eye muscles that make your eyes moves can get trapped in those fractures and then you can't move your eye.

[audience groans]

Sydnee: That's a serious emergency! This is not addressed.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Agreed, yes, fair. Fair, Dr. McElroy, it is not. Correct.

[ad break]

Sydnee: Eventually, at some point he gives up coming up through the basement and ends up climbing through a window, which I don't blame him after all those injuries.

Justin: Yeah.

Sydnee: So, he climbs through a window and steps directly into a bunch of glass Christmas ornaments that Kevin has cleverly left on the ground there for someone to step on. Now, this is probably after already getting smashed in the face with an iron and having a nail driven through your foot. This is probably pretty benign.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: I mean, it's gonna be, let me say this. He really steps on all those glass ornaments. Like, he doesn't even try to avoid them. He just continues to grind that glass into his bare feet. Cause he's lost his shoes. And that would take a long time, to pick out all that glass. Which is what you'd need to do.

Justin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah. [laughs] Meanwhile, you're probably wondering, "But what's going on with Marv?" Well—

[audience laughs]

Justin: That's what I was— you read my mind.

Sydnee: [laughs] No, Harry. We already talked about Marv. Harry.

Justin: Yeah.

Sydnee: So, Harry has [laughs] he has decided, he checks the cat trap-door, the cat door, there is no BB gun there. He checks the doorknob, it's not hot, so he is bursting through the back door. He's coming in, he's very angry at this child now, and as he comes bursting through the door it is rigged to a blowtorch, and as he pushes his way into the door, the blowtorch goes off right on his head. And he stands in that flame. It's like seven seconds. It's a long time.

Justin: They should have been called the Slow-Reacting Bandits.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: He stands and screams and is clearly in agony for a very long time as the top of his head is being burned with the blowtorch. And then he runs out and again sticks his head in the snow. And, I mean, the worst, it's like, "Oh he's lost some hair and his hat is gone." This kind of intensity of flame for that duration of time probably would have melted his skull to some extent.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: You've definitely lost, I mean, the skin and the hair and the hat, fine, but there's probably gonna be some areas where the skull is actually...

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Like, open now.

Justin: [laughs] That was not addressed. [laughs] [thumps table]

Sydnee: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Alright. So, skull melted. [laughs] They shouldn't even do that! Like, skulls shouldn't.

Sydnee: Harry is still alive, against all odds, but he should not be, just from this alone. There are more injuries to come, but just from that alone, that should be the end of Harry. Now, before I get into the rest of the havoc that Kevin wreaks on these— I'm actually beginning to feel sorry for the Wet Bandits at this point. One question that as I was, uh, as I've seen this film and I've read about all these injuries and thought about what would happen, I started to wonder about the legality of all this. Because it seems strange. I know you're allowed to defend your own home, but I feel like there's a limit, right? Like to what you can do legally to people who are trying to invade your home.

Justin: Correct.

Sydnee: That there's like, stop them from hurting me, and then there's, like, torturing them.

Justin: But we don't know.

Sydnee: But I don't know, because I'm just a doctor, I'm not a legal expert. So, we thought we would invite some family.

[audience cheers]

Justin: So, please welcome the hosts of Court Appointed, Michael Meadows and Tommy Smirl.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Michael, if you don't listen to Court Appointed, Michael's an actual lawyer, so we wanted to get a quick opinion from them. Guys, first of all, welcome.

Michael: Thank you.

Justin: A joyous Candenights to you. So, what's the story on Kevin's sort of, uh, castle-doctoring, here?

Michael: Well, the first thing you gotta look at, and it took place in Illinois, in Chicago, I believe, correct?

Justin: Yeah.

Michael: Alright, so we gotta look at Illinois law and see what takes place there. So, Illinois actually does have a Castle Doctrine, and they have something on the books, and it's 720ILCS. If you're not in Illinois law, you're not gonna know what that stands for. [laughs]

Tommy: Illinois Law Code... Superior.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Justin: Sure.

Sydnee: I think you made that one up.

Michael: Anyway—

Tommy: You just have to say it with confidence.

Michael: That's the secret. It stands for Illinois Law Code, Superior.

Tommy: You got it.

Michael: Good.

Justin: I bought it.

Michael: [laughs] And it reads, "use of force in defense of dwelling", and "a person is justified in the use of force against another when and to the extent that he reasonably believes that such conduct is necessary to prevent or terminate such other's unlawful entry into or attack upon a dwelling." So, they have the Castle Doctrine there.

Justin: So, Kevin's cool?

[audience laughs]

Michael: Well, for the most part. Like any good law, it goes on.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Michael: There's some exceptions. And, "the use of force"— that is, well, it says, "the use of force which is intended or likely to cause death or great bodily harm," which I understand that most of these are. We're talking about melting skulls and...

Justin: Yeah. Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Michael: Yeah, so—

Tommy: Don't burn a hole in your head.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] We don't address that one, but I hope that's self-explanatory. Don't do that, by the way, don't burn a hole in your head.

Tommy: [laughs]

Michael: So you're allowed to use this kind of excessive force or great bodily harm if, and there's two exceptions, "the entry is made or attempted in a violent, riotous, or tumultuous manner, and he reasonably believes that such force is necessary to prevent an assault upon or offer personal violence to him or another in the dwelling".

Justin: Okay. Tumultuous, yes. I would grant they're very tumultuous people, by and large.

Sydnee: Well, they leave all the water on in the house.

Justin: Yeah, for sure, Syd. That's what tumultuous means.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Well, [laughs] it's reckless.

Justin: It's reckless, for sure. But they would probably have... I mean, I guess they coul'da left whenever they wanted, right?

Michael: Yeah, I mean, I think... weren't there some kind of overt threats they made to Kevin when they were trying to come in the house?

Justin: Yeah, I guess that's true...

Sydnee: They do. I mean, they do... well, it's like that, "We're gonna get you, you little pipsqueak," kinda stuff.

Michael: Oh, that's pretty serious.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Yeah. And also, they had killed all those other people.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: I don't think that's—

Justin: They cut that out, that's on the— in the collector's set they have some deleted scenes. And they kill a bunch of people. [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: It makes the whole thing make a lot more sense, honestly.

Tommy: Well, I think where Kevin loses that argument is he's having too much fun doing it.

Justin: That's a very good point Tommy, thank you for bringing it up. He is enjoying himself a great deal.

Tommy: I think the little twerp just has a torture fetish going on with him.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] That sounds about right.

Sydnee: He does seem to be acting with a lot of malice, does that matter?

Michael: Well, I mean, it could matter, and actually this law goes on to read that there is an exception that you're not 'gonna have any civil liability for any kind of defense of your home. So, basically if somebody tries to break into your house and you use force to defend it and then you hurt them and they try to sue you for the injuries that you, I guess, put on them with the paint buckets or whatever... [laughs] So anyway, there's a bar for any kind of civil litigation from that. But one of the exceptions is that you're actually allowed to sue them if the use of force involves "willful or wanton misconduct". So that's an exception. So, Kevin may be in trouble civilly for this, I think.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: They never addressed that.

Tommy: You know, since Kevin's so little, they'd probably have to take it to small claims court.

[audience groans]

Justin: Woof. Woofs-a-daisy, got that dad joke in.

[audience cheers]

[laughter]

Sydnee: What about the idea of, like, setting traps? Like, the things that he doesn't directly do to them? Like, what if he wasn't there? You set all these traps and then you just go hide somewhere.

Tommy: Tell them about the spring-gun, tell them about the spring-gun.

Michael: Oh, Tommy hears me talk about spring-guns all the time. It's my favorite subject I learned about in law school. So, a spring-gun is a gun that you rig at your house, like a shotgun pointing at a window with a wire, so if somebody opens the window the gun shoots the window.

Justin: Okay.

Michael: Now, basically it doesn't discriminate, it just shoots somebody, and nobody's at the house. So, the reason this is such an interesting thing in the legal field is because it illustrates the principle that you're not allowed to use deadly force to defend property. So, that's kind of the difference.

Justin: So, Kevin does have to stay to wage this battle?

Michael: He does.

Justin: He has to be present for the whole thing?

Tommy: Yeah, if he leaves and leaves the traps behind, then he's liable.

Michael: Oh, that's a whole different thing.

Justin: Alright.

Michael: Because then he doesn't have that component of, you know, personal fear.

Justin: Alright.

Sydnee: Could you ever make the argument in court, "Hey, kid, why didn't you just call the cops?"

Michael: ... I don't know.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Michael: I usually base my arguments off who's paying me, so it kinda depends. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Alright, ladies and gentlemen, a big round of applause for Michael Meadows and Tommy Smirl of Court Appointed fame.

[audience cheers]

Justin: We've got a... alright Syd, we've got some other injuries.

Sydnee: [laughs] Alright. We have a few more injuries to talk about. There is a classic scene where somebody gets sort of tarred and feathered.

Justin: It gets... that part gets dark. It's like, yeah, Kevin, we know. You're winning, okay?

Sydnee: Yeah. It's not really... I don't know that it's an injury, it's just, yeah. Again, I think he's acting with malice. But then we've 'gotta discuss the— I think what everybody, if you like Home Alone, if you've seen it, you remember the paint cans.

So, Kevin has rigged these paint cans, we'll assume they're full, from the top of the bannister of the stairway going into the house, so that as they start to climb the stairs towards him, he can let them go and they swing down and smack both of the burglars right in the forehead. So, again, assuming that these paint cans are full, that's about 10 pounds, they are hitting them in the face with roughly 2 kilonewton of force, in the face.

Justin: Ah.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Which should be enough, again— now, we have already established that Marv has broken many bones in his face, but to break any bones that aren't broken, it should totally smash their noses, their orbits. They should sustain multiple fractures, and then at the same time, neither of them should have any teeth left after this.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And they probably now have some intercranial hemorrhaging going on.

Justin: Okay. And that's in addition to the melted skull.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Okay.

Sydnee: Now, the tarantula which we mentioned was set up earlier in the film. We knew it was coming back, cause it's been wandering around the house. The tarantula is used really not so much as a weapon as an instrument of fear. In order to escape, when they've almost captured Kevin, and in order to get away, he sees the tarantula and he grabs it and he places it on Harry's face. Marv's face? Harry's face.

Justin: There's really no reason to be afraid of ranchos. They're...

[audience laughs and cheers]

Justin: A lot of people are getting way into them, and I don't even think they should be that tripped out by them.

Sydnee: No, I agree with you. I actually don't think there's really any injury here. He just freaked them out.

Justin: Perfect.

Sydnee: They should know better, really. But what this results in is Harry tries to very helpfully remove the tarantula from Marv by swinging a crowbar at it. Don't worry, the tarantula is not harmed. It escapes. But he does smack his partner in crime in the chest with a crowbar, very hard. And his reaction to this is just kind of a, "Oh, man."

Justin: [laughs]

Sydnee: And that would not be his reaction. He definitely, I mean, it was right on his sternum. He definitely cracked some ribs there, maybe that ended up with a punctured lung. You have to worry about, I mean, there's that whole thing where if you hit somebody in the chest right at the right moment, maybe it made his heart stop. I don't know. I just know that he should walk away with definitely some broken bones in his chest. For sure.

Justin: Okay. And maybe a stopped heart.

Sydnee: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Well, he's not walking away with that.

Justin: Fair. Thank you, Dr. McElroy.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: They again, they almost catch him when he ziplines from his house to the treehouse in a very cool moment, I think.

Justin: I think it's cool.

Sydnee: Yeah. And they try to follow him along the rope, climbing along the rope, and he gets the hedge clippers and cuts the rope, and so both of them swing down, fall from the rope, fall from, I don't know, about 10, 15 feet, something like that. Anyway, and again, a lot of these same kinda injuries. I would expect some fractures, I would expect probably some spinal damage at this point.

Justin: Fun. Cool.

Sydnee: You know? Perhaps to the cervical spine. Maybe they're paralyzed, we don't know.

Justin: Hilarious. Thank you.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: They seem to get up from this pretty easily.

Justin: Oh stop, I'm in stitches.

Sydnee: And they chase him into the neighbor's house where he is finally calling the police, and they catch him now. And at this moment, before the final injury of the film, they catch him. And I will say, they do mean to inflict damage on this poor 8-year-old boy, because—

Justin: Yeah, they say, "We're gonna bite every one of your fingers off," or something.

Sydnee: Yes. And you may be wondering, can you bite a finger off?

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: Are you?

Justin: That's... yeah, Syd. Yeah. I guess I was wondering if you can bite a finger off.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: And I would say, of course you can. Especially if you go through a joint.

[audience groans]

Sydnee: I mean, I'm not saying you should. I'm just saying you could.

Justin: Okay.

Sydnee: But the moment of truth seems to have arrived, we're worried about little Kevin, but then the kindly neighbor man who Kevin has been—

Justin: "Hello, I'm Kindly Neighborman."

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Who Kevin had been afraid of, until he realized he was just a nice guy—

Justin: Spoiler alert.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: I think we've already done that. Comes up behind the Wet Bandits and smashes them on the head, and then the face, with a snow shovel. Now, this blow actually knocks them, out. [laughs]

Justin: This... that's a good shovel. Listen, I know what these cats should have inflicted already on themselves, that's a very good shovel. [laughs]

Sydnee: Really, of all the things that they've survived, I would not expect this to be the thing that causes them to be unconscious, but it is. And so, if they have been hit hard enough to lose consciousness, again, we're probably dealing with at the very least a concussion, but probably

some intracranial bleeding or some sort of other injury, and combined with everything else that they've been through through the evening, I'd be very worried about their mental status at the end of this. I certainly don't think they're going to walk out to the car in handcuffs, to the police car screaming, like they do. Yelling at the kid.

Justin: Yeah, the morgue. The morgue should get them, Syd. It's a great point, happy holidays everyone.

[audience laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I thought this was fun!

Justin: Yeah, it was fun. Folks, we have so much more for you tonight. Candlenights is just beginning. I hope you're pumped.

[audience cheers]

Justin: We've got more podcasts and more fun for you, and it's gonna be one heck of a night. Thank you to The Taxpayers for letting us use their song "Medicines" as the intro and outro of our program.

[audience cheers]

Justin: Thank you to Maximum Fun network for having us as part of their extended podcasting family. Thank you to the beautiful City Hall auditorium and City of Huntington. Thank you to you for coming here to our house, I promise we'll put on a good show for you. But until next time here on Sawbones, my name is Justin McElroy.

Sydnee: And I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Justin: And as always, don't drill a hole in your head.

[audience cheers]

[theme music plays]

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