

Wonderful! 141: Anyone Can Pilot!

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: Hi! This is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hello, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is Wonderful!

Griffin: I'm just gonna give you this big fat thumbs up the whole time we record.

Rachel: Oh, thumbs up has so much meaning for us now because our son doles them out—

Griffin: He gives them out—

Rachel: —and it's very rewarding.

Griffin: He also—well, let's be fair. He also dishes out thumbs down.

Rachel: He does.

Griffin: And that fuckin' hurts, man!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I have to tell him—I—like, you know, when I fail as a father, I have to reckon with that sort of internally—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and I reflect on my, uh—my bad parenting, and at the end of the night, you know, I wake up in a cold sweat and I'm like, "Aw, man. I really goofed it today."

To get that sort of instant feedback, "Thumbs down because you made me eat my meatballs for dinner. Thumbs down."

That's like, "Aw, shit... how—I have to look you in the face while you tell me I'm not doin' it right. Dang it!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But you're gonna get a big thumbs up from me—

Rachel: Thank you!

Griffin: —'cause this is a podcast where we talk about things that we like, and things that are good, and things that we're into, and right now I'm into you, and I'm—by "right now" I mean always, for the rest of my life—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —but right now I'm really into you.

Rachel: Aww.

Griffin: And you get a thumbs up.

Rachel: Thank you! Is that your small wonder?

Griffin: No.

Rachel: Oh, okay. [laughs]

Griffin: What's your small wonder? Why don't you go first this time?

Rachel: Oh, this is terrible! Ummm... we just watched *Palm Springs* on Hulu.

Griffin: Yeah! Fun flick.

Rachel: And I enjoyed it way more than I expected I would.

Griffin: That—yeah, the—I'm a—I'm a sucker for, like, a time loop movie. *Groundhog Day* is, like, my favorite flick ever, and I'm—I'm very fascinated by the idea, and they have a lot of fun with it.

Rachel: Yeah. I thought, like, "Oh, here comes a romantic comedy," which is, you know, a 50/50 shot usually, but I thought this was really great!

Griffin: Yep. Um, I'm gonna bring back *Hyori's Bed and Breakfast*. We are, like, on the final episode of it—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and we've been watching this final episode for, like, weeks, 'cause we can't—I think both of us are a little, like, nervous to just have it be out of our lives.

Rachel: You know what's hilarious is that I think the show—the season we're watching takes place over two weeks, and we have been watching it for, like, six months. [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, if not longer. Uh, that show is still just very, uh—it's a nice, chill come-down show if we watch something kinda spooky, kinda eerie—

Rachel: Yeahhh.

Griffin: —kinda troubling. We'll come back into the everlovin' arms of Hyori and Sang-soon, and it's, uh—it's good stuff.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: It's on Netflix, if you haven't heard us talk about it before. It's great. They run a bed and breakfast.

Hey, another small wonder of mine, that's actually a huge sort of, uh, existentially foundational wonder, is the Max Fun Drive! Which is happening right now!

Rachel: Yay!

Griffin: We've obviously rescheduled it, uh, and now we are doing sort of a different format, much more low pressure. Rachel and I are not going to talk your ear off about it, but we are, uh, part of the Max Fun Network, which is, uh, listener supported, uh, and artist owned, as John Hodgman and other people tell you at the end of each episode of every show.

Uh, and you can join the network now at Maximumfun.org/join. Choose a monthly membership level that, uh, you know, you are able to give. We know it's a weird time right now, um, but the support that you have given us in the past has allowed us to make this show a larger part of our lives, and that is incredible, and we cannot thank you enough for it.

Rachel: Yeah. I—I would encourage all of you, um, if you are able to give right now, to go to Maximumfun.org/join. Uh, check out, you know, some of the benefits we're able to offer you if you are a member. Uh, and support us in—

Griffin: You make it sound like there—we have, like, an exclusive lounge—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —at most airports. Uh, yeah. We'll tell you a little bit more about it later on but, uh, let's go. I think I go first this week?

Rachel: That sounds right.

Griffin: Okay. Uh, my first thing is a little bit abstract. Um, but I got excited the more I thought about it. Uh, I don't really know how to phrase it but—so, I'll try this. Having your own personal data storage device.

This sounds, like, very, very nerdy, but I'm talking about, like—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and this joy has been long diminished since, like, technology has advanced and now you can, like, for two dollars buy a terabyte microSD card and, like—

Rachel: Are you talking about those—those thumb drives that you can wear as a bracelet?

Griffin: That's a great example of exactly what I'm talking about, babe.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: Thank you so much. Um, yeah. These days, like, you know, it refers to flash drives or external hard drives or microSD cards. Which, like, it's not novel

anymore that we have, like, these enormous data storage things, uh, but I still enjoy it a lot.

My closet—I probably have, like, six or seven big external hard drives in there, and for me, like, I like knowing that there are these, like, little snapshots of, like, everything I've ever done on a computer? Like, all in one thing.

Like, if I ever wanted to find an old document, or an, old, like, idea of mine— There was, like, a—a game I was working up in Photoshop—which I haven't had Photoshop in fucking forever—and I was like, "I wonder if I could find that?" And I did. Like, I found it in an old hard drive in my, uh—in my closet.

Um, so I don't wanna get, like, too grandpa-y about this. Like, that's the—the modern context for this thing, and I don't think people give a shit about it as much as, uh, *I* used to. When we're talking about rewritable floppy discs.

Rachel: Whoaaa.

Griffin: When we're talking about—yes. Uh, we—

Rachel: 90's kids remember.

Griffin: 90's kids `membra the floppy discs. Uh, when I was in middle school, uh, 3.5 inch floppy discs flowed like wine—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —uh, at our house. We had a computer at our house, and I feel like we always, like—we weren't, like—it wasn't ever a top-of-the-line thing. It was, like, the same Dell for, like, nine years or something like that?

Rachel: Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: But we had a lot of floppies. And, uh, I felt very empowered by the idea of having my own floppy disc with my own, like, you know, journal, or some cool things I had painted in Microsoft Paint—

Rachel: Yeahhh!

Griffin: —or, uh, you know, a game, maybe. Uh, if I'm being honest, like—

Rachel: Or a short story you wrote about the '92 flood in St. Louis, Missouri?

Griffin: Yeah—okay! Now are you—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —it sounds like you're bought in in a way that maybe you weren't before. Uh, I'm saying, like—I'm saying this stuff to try to make myself sound good. Mostly it was, like, video game emulators. It was, like, Super Nintendo games that I would then go to my middle school library and, like, find the row of computers that were facing *away* from the front door—

Rachel: Ooooh.

Griffin: —and punch it in, and start playin' some, you know, *Final Fantasy III* or whatever. Uh, and for me, there was something so, like, futuristic and gratifying about having this, like, little sliver of technology, like, all to yourself, uh, that you could do, like, whatever you wanted with.

There was something so, like, cool about that, and I think it's just because of the novelty of it. Like, that—that 3.5 inch floppy—I forget, like, the actual storage size of it. It wasn't big. It was quite little.

Um, but, like, writing something to a disc like that felt so, like, uh, complicated and impossible, because, like, that—that technology was just, like, not really there in the 90's. Uh—

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: —and that was very, very, very cool to me. Um, I also—we bought a CD burner back when, like, that tech first became sort of publicly available, and, like, I of course loved, like, burning MP3 CD's—

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: —that we could listen to in my friends' cars, and I could, like, share my music with them. But you—

Rachel: Can you share your DJ name?

Griffin: Uh, there was a few, uh—uh, DJ Taco was, like, there for a bit, but then there was DJ Griffy, uh—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —was in the mix for a while. I had a lot of different, uh, sets that I did. But I also liked, uh—you could burn, like, audio data Cd's that you could fit, like, way, way, way more music on. And I would take those to school and, like, in TV news class just, like, pop it in [holding back laughter] and drag and drop all the music from it—

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: —and then, like, just have that. Uh, now that I'm thinking about, like, most of these examples are me, like, finding ways to slack off at school because of—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —it's like the equivalent of having, like, the comic book inside of the textbook.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Uh, is essentially what I'm talking about. But, like... it felt like—I felt like this renegade slacker hacker in way that was—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —that, like, made me feel very, very, very cool. Um, and the very first, like, flash drive I got, again, was, like, very, very small. Uh, I got it from the MTV internship thing that I did, and again, like, I just put everything on it.

I put in every MP3 that, like, I owned and I would just go over to friends' houses and, like, plug it in to their computers, and we would listen to music off of my—off of my flash drive.

Um, and—like, I look back on those days, like, very fondly. Uh, and have been looking back on them since I've been, like, prepping this topic. But when I think

about it, like, it really actually represents a fairly, like, narrow window of my life, because that technology sort of became a thing, and then followed—do you know what Moore's Law is?

Rachel: No.

Griffin: It's this technological concept, uh, and I forgot who, like, the author of it was, but it basically states that the number of microchips, like, on a processor or whatever, doubles every two years, or something like that.

It's, like, a way of sort of exponentially tracking the increasing capability of computer technology, and that is absolutely for sure true of, uh—of, you know, personal data storage.

Now, like, it's to the point where it's exponentially growing to, like, degrees that I can't even envision. Talking about, like, cloud computing and—I don't know what a zettabyte is—

Rachel: Whoaa.

Griffin: —and I'm too old to, like, learn?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, but I just really like the idea of having a virtual footprint of some sort. Uh, and I've talked a lot about, like... the importance of having personal ownership over spaces when you're growing up, and, like, how formative that was for me, and how I prioritize that.

And, like, having this little floppy drive with some of my favorite, you know, Nintendo games, or music, or my journal or whatever was just, like, so... intoxicating. And I don't know if I'll ever feel that way [holding back laughter] about, like, a piece of technology again, but I—I treasure those, uh, beloved floppy disc memories.

Rachel: Yeah. What do you do now? Like, 'cause for me I have a disc of all of my creative writing from college, and I have no idea how to ever access it again.

Griffin: I think have some—I think I have, like, an optical drive—

Rachel: Do they sell, like—okay.

Griffin: —that can plug into—yeah.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It's weird.

Rachel: It is.

Griffin: It's very strange. I wonder how far removed—I am not one to, like, reflect on Gen Z versus Millennial shit, but this is the kind of stuff that because it was such a, like, quick progression from "I am writing these floppy discs" to "I have this hard drive that I can store a billion gigabytes of shit onto," like, that's probably just a thing that people completely missed.

Like, the idea of CDs not—the—the idea of CDs being important to your—to your life, uh, is one thing. The idea of, like, not even being able to create CDs, like, not having the power to create them is, like, also kind of wild. The lengths that you had to go through to burn a CD, like...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's the kind of stuff that I think about when I think about sort of the generational gap.

Rachel: Yeah. Hey, Griffin, before we go on with the show, can I tell you a little bit more about the Max Fun Drive?

Griffin: I mean, I know, because, like—

Rachel: Oh.

Griffin: —I have a sheet of, like, information here right in front of me, and also it's, like, my 10th Max Fun Drive? But if you wanna tell the *audience* about it...

Rachel: Can I tell *you*, our listener, you, right now, listening—

Griffin: Oh, you want me to step into the shoes of our listener.

Rachel: No, I'm talking directly to the listener right now.

Griffin: Uh—I—

Rachel: Actually, if you could leave the room—

Griffin: Okay!

Rachel: —so I could just talk to the listener right now.

Griffin: [imitates footsteps and a creaky door sound] [muffled] I'm eating lunch!

Rachel: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Did you like that?

Rachel: [closer to the mic] Hey, listener. Griffin's gone now. It's just you and me. Let's talk about the Max Fun Drive.

[pauses]

Rachel: [quietly] Was that weird?

Griffin: [through laughter] Yes!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: The face Rachel was making during that was hugely upsetting!

Rachel: [laughs] Um... Max Fun Drive is something we do every year. Obviously this year is a little different than previous years. Um, we know a lot of people are not in a financial position to be Max Fun members, uh, and we completely understand that.

Uh, Maximumfun.org/join shows you the different ways you can give, uh, and most people choose \$5 or \$10 a month, uh, and that is more than enough for us, and we would love to tell you a little bit about the gifts that you can get if you are able to join at that level.

Griffin: Five bucks a month gets you—

Rachel: Oh, Griffin's back, by the way.

Griffin: Hello! [imitates running footsteps?] I jumped in through the floor. Smash!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, five bucks a month gets you, uh, bonus content, not just from our show but from all the shows, and not just from this year, but for all years. It has been four months since we put up the original bonus content for this show, and I forget... what it was. What—oh, Animal Crossing!

Rachel: [simultaneously] Animal Crossing!

Griffin: Oh my God, what a fuckin' trip. It was Rachel's first exposure to Animal Crossing: New Leaf, uh, before the new Switch game came out. What a weird—you've played that game, like, every day—or the—the—

Rachel: The new version.

Griffin: —Switch version, like, every—it's so wild to think of how recently you had no exposure to that world?

Rachel: I know!

Griffin: Uh, that's fun. We're looking at other stuff we can put up also as bonus content.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, for this show and all the others. But it is a wild—it's over 200 hours of bonus episodes for all the shows, that is only available to Max Fun members. That's just at five bucks a month.

Uh, ten bucks a month, you get the bonus content, you get an exclusive pin for the show of your choice, designed by Megan Lynn Kott. Uh, they've been doing this for a long time now, and the pins are absolutely gorgeous, and you also get a Max Fun membership card, and also all the bo-co.

There's, like, a game pack at \$20 a month, and a rocket mug at \$35. That's really cool. Really, like, uh—it is a strange, strange time to be doing this, and we are fully cognizant of that, and we do not want you to, like, give money to our show if you are not in a position to do that. That is obviously not [holding back laughter] something that we would ever ask.

But, uh, if you do wanna, you know, invest in this show and the Max Fun community as a whole, um, it means the world to us, and you can do it at Maximumfun.org/join.

Uh, what is your first thing?

Rachel: My first thing is the classroom pet.

Griffin: Ohhh, this is great!

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Never had one.

Rachel: Really?

Griffin: Never, in all my—

Rachel: You—are you 100% on that?

Griffin: 100—100% sure. Maybe, like, some goldfish in some class, but, like... I dunno. That doesn't feel very... that does not feel especially exotic. But no, I never—never had a class pet.

Rachel: I don't think—I'm not 100% on this. I don't think I had one until 6th grade.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: And—which was kind of inexplicable, right? Because, like, middle school is the time when you start to get too cool for everything.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: For some reason, that was the year that my class had a hamster. That hamster was named Patches. It was a very, uh, roly-polly guy. Uh, and I remember—like, I remember him in the room. I remember, like, passing him around, sittin' in a circle, everybody holdin' him.

Griffin: In 6th grade?

Rachel: Yeah, I know!

Griffin: Was this, like, your homeroom, or... ?

Rachel: Yeah, it was my homeroom.

Griffin: Okay, I was gonna say.

Rachel: Yeah, and I remember, like, years later going back to visit my 6th grade teacher and him, like, sadly telling me, you know, "Patches... [sighs] passed away."

Griffin: Awww.

Rachel: Um, but my Mom always had a classroom pet.

Griffin: Always.

Rachel: 'Cause my Mom taught kindergarten, and it was almost always guinea pigs. Um, but I think she also, like—she did chickens. Like, that was a thing.

Griffin: In her classroom?!

Rachel: Yeah! You get—

Griffin: What the fuck?!

Rachel: —there was a teacher at her school that had, like, farm hookups? [laughs] Had, like, a family member that had a farm. And so she would, like, approach my Mom every year and be like, "Hey, you want some eggs this year?" [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Okay?

Rachel: And they would, like, hatch 'em! They'd get the little hot lamp and the cardboard box, and they'd, like—they'd, like—

Griffin: Incubate 'em.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Yeah. Um—

Griffin: That's weird. That seems like a weird pet to keep indoors in a school.

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: It seems like a prank that you would pull. [crosstalk]—

Rachel: Well, like, they would—

Griffin: —on rival schools, releasing a bunch of chickens.

Rachel: —they would send the chicks off to the farm, which is hopefully what actually was happening [through laughter] with these chicks—

Griffin: Sure, sure.

Rachel: —once they hatched. [laughs] Um, but it was—it was—

Griffin: I just pantomimed eating—like, your Mom would be like, "Okay, these are all hatched up!" And then she would just eat—

Rachel: [simultaneously] And eating a chick?

Griffin: —the chick whole?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's not what happened. Your Mom would not do that.

Rachel: Uh, no. But there was a series—there was a series of guinea pigs. At one point, I had a guinea pig in college that was, I believe—

Griffin: Your own personal guinea pig.

Rachel: Yeah, it was junior year of college and I went and got a—a guinea pig, that I then passed on to my Mom, that my Mom, if I remember correctly, studded out to another... guinea pig. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Wh—wh—stop! *What?!*

Rachel: [laughs] The big thing was that they would try and have, like—get guinea pigs pregnant so they would have babies—

Griffin: What?!

Rachel: —during the school year.

Griffin: And that was, like, their class experiment?!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Was b—was breeding these guinea pigs and making them get horny and have sex? *Rachel?*

Rachel: Guinea pigs—so, guinea pigs are, like, social animals. Like, anyone that has spent a lot of time with guinea pigs know that they actually, like, prefer the company—

Griffin: Loooove—

Rachel: —of another guinea pig.

Griffin: —to get down. These nasty little pigs.

Rachel: [laughs] Um, and yeah. And then they would—the guinea pig babies are the cutest thing.

Griffin: Oh, sure. I love a guinea pig.

Rachel: Especially if they have the spiky hair—

Griffin: Oh!

Rachel: —and it, like, sticks out in all the directions?

Griffin: Just these little tubes of—

Rachel: So good.

Griffin: —meat.

Rachel: Um—but—so the reason that a lot of teachers don't do classroom pets is obviously this is another, like, out-of-pocket expense for the teacher, right? Like, they are investing—

Griffin: Oh, do they have a lot of those?

Rachel: Yeah—[laughs quietly]

Griffin: I'm kidding. Of course they do.

Rachel: Yes. Um... they, uh—they have to not only, like, pay for all of the supplies and the animal itself, but then they have to, like... take care of it.

Griffin: Sure.

Rachel: Um—

Griffin: Maybe the most—arguably the most high stakes pet to keep alive.

Rachel: [through laughter] Yes. Um... and, uh, it has a big impact, actually, on classrooms. So, there was a study—when I was researching this, there was a study during the 2016-2017 school year, uh, American Humane in partnership with Human Animal Bond Research Institute and the Pet Care Trust did a study of classroom animals for 3rd and 4th grade students across the United States.

Uh, and it was—it showed a significant impact on the social, behavioral, and academic development of the students by having that classroom pets.

Uh, they did a study where 20 classrooms had a pet and 21 did not, and then the teacher would complete a survey. And these pets could be, like, guinea pigs, reptiles, whatever.

Griffin: It sounds like the kids were the guinea pigs, in this experiment... that was being run.

Rachel: That was pretty good.

Griffin: [effusively] Thank you!

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, and so every sub-scale of social skills measurable, which was, like, communication, cooperation, responsibility, empathy, engagement—uh, they showed increases in all of those areas—

Griffin: [quietly] Wow.

Rachel: —and a, uh, decrease in hyperactivity and withdrawal in their students as a result of the pet.

Griffin: Did they discover that there was a cap on that where there's—now there's too many animals in the room?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Was there a classroom with 20 kids who were like, "Well, if one guinea pig is good, 70 guinea pigs is even better! Oh shit. Nope. This is [crosstalk]—"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "—this now has a detriment on their social skills, 'cause they're knee deep in guineas."

Rachel: Uh, we saw this in our—back when Henry was attending his day care, they had a classroom pet in each room.

Griffin: Yeah!

Rachel: And it was, like, a big draw!

Griffin: They had a few—it certainly made—there was a long stretch there where Henry's drop off—by which I mean my drop off experience—was *very* bad. But then they got this snake? And he was very interested in this snake, and it was like—

Rachel: It was a way to, like, get him in the classroom in the morning.

Griffin: And he felt more comfortable.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Like, being—like, he—the transition was much easier 'cause here's a—like, an animal that he thinks is cool.

Rachel: Yeah. It—it's also—it gives the teacher an opportunity to kind of, like, as I mentioned, teach about the life cycle, and teach about habitats, and—

Griffin: Yeah!

Rachel: —you know, all the different, um, you know, science-related facts when you have a pet. Um, so, yeah. I think—I think it's really cool. I understand why a lot of people do it. I—honestly, if I were teaching, I don't know that I would... want to? Because there's always the issue of the summer, you know? Where, like, what do you do with this pet?

Griffin: And how do you keep 'em alive by themselves for three months.

Rachel: [simultaneously] So you have to bring it home.

Griffin: Oh. You take 'em home?

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: I thought you'd just, like, leave a *lot* of food with a note—

Rachel: A huge water bottle and a giant cube of food.

Griffin: With a spreadsheet that's like, "Okay, take two bites... on Thursday."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "Thursdays are your—your double bites days." No, don't do that. That's obviously quite bad.

Rachel: Uh, and I think it's—you know, I mean, you see a lot of kids that may be really shy or, as mentioned in the study, really kind of have difficulty focusing, and this is like a—a cuddly way to kind of keep their attention and keep them engaged.

Griffin: Yeah! And also if you get a lizard, then they eat grasshoppers, and—

Rachel: Yeahhh.

Griffin: —as a—as a—a young child, I imagine that is, uh, exhilarating.

Rachel: I remember going to, like, a feed store with my Mom to get crickets for her classroom pet.

Griffin: Crickets. Probably not grasshoppers. Grasshoppers are bi—I don't think I know what the difference is between these two animals.

Rachel: Hoo!

Griffin: Grasshoppers, crickets, and locusts in my mind are, like... kinda the same...

Rachel: Alright.

Griffin: ... creature. Is that bad?

Rachel: [laughs] See, if you had had a classroom pet...

Griffin: A—a—yeah, maybe.

Rachel: You would probably know the difference.

Griffin: Yeah. And their sort of, like, taste profiles, I imagine. Um—

Rachel: Have you ever had a—a cricket before?

Griffin: Have I ever ha—like, eaten a cricket?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: Yeah, me too.

[pauses]

Griffin: I was lying!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's gr—no, I'm just kidding. Uh, no, yeah, I think I've eaten a cricket—I feel like they're—at the Cincinnati Zoo you could, like, get, uh, bugs? To eat?

Rachel: As I recall, they tasted kinda like sunflower seeds.

Griffin: No, yeah, it was—it was good. I'm not here to... bug shame.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Great—great source of protein. Delicious. Uh, can I steal you away?

Rachel: Please.

Griffin: Here we go.

[ad break stinger plays]

[advertisements play]

Griffin: Got a couple Grumpotrons. Can I read them? Or one of them? And you can read the second one, and we'll share them?

Rachel: I love it.

Griffin: This one's for Cecil, and it is from Billy, who says:

"Hey, Cecil! You are my tall wonder every day." Ooh, let's explore that. We should talk about that. Uh, "We are currently separated by quarantine, a real modern day Romeo and Juliet. Can't wait for the plague to be over so I can lovingly hit you with pillows. Monoraiiiiiiii!"

A tall wonder.

Rachel: Yeah, let's go back and forth on some tall wonders. I'll start. Basketball players. Go.

Griffin: Ben—Benedict Cumberbatch.

Rachel: Ohh, wow, that was ever better. Uh...uhhh...that's...that's all I got—

Griffin: You lose.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's the only tall thing you could think of?

Rachel: Basketball players. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Not, like, Mt. Everest?

Rachel: For some reason, "tall" made me think it had to be people.

Griffin: Okay. That's interesting.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, do you wanna read this other one?

Rachel: Yes! This message is for Tommy. It is from Mel.

"Hi Tommy! I did a thing! I wanted you to know how special I think you are, and what better way than via my favorite podcast. I'm sorry you have to work nights right now, but at least you get to be on cool planes. I can't wait to marry you next May, you big goofball. Here's to a life of love and many cats."

Griffin: Hopefully cool and not entirely filled up planes, although I'm wondering what a cool plane is.

Rachel: Hmmm.

Griffin: I think, like—cool-ass, like, um—

Rachel: Like, lights? Like, cool lights.

Griffin: Like, it has cool lights on it. Or maybe not—maybe it's just, like, a biplane, like, old—old-ass, vintage plane, but it has *flames* on the sides of it.

Rachel: Maybe the seats feel cool when you sit in 'em.

Griffin: And it has NOS. And you can turn on the NOS?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And your, like, little Wright Brothers biplane, like, starts bl—blasting—

Rachel: There's one seat in the plane that controls the NOS, and if you get that seat, you get to make the decision.

Griffin: You get to make the—that would be fun.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: They should really democratize the process of flying the airplane.

Rachel: 14C gets to decide.

Griffin: 14C gets one. 21B can, like, turn the lights on and off. Like, that's funny.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, I think, like, 3A can, like, do the announcements. Like, they have to—you know what I mean?

Rachel: Yeah, I like that!

Griffin: Let's just open it up.

Rachel: It's like a co-op.

Griffin: And give our flight attendants a break. Like, just let them sit there and watch and just, like shake their heads. Like, "No, that's not—"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "[long-sufferingly] That's not how to do it. Ugh, God."

Speaker One: I started listening to *Oh No, Ross and Carrie!* shortly after I broke my arm, and the doctor had told me I'd never walk again.

Speaker Two: I couldn't get my book started.

Speaker Three: I was lost, honestly.

Speaker Four: I knew it was time to make a change.

[inspirational music plays in the background]

Speaker One: There's something about *Oh No, Ross and Carrie!* that you just can't get anywhere else.

Speaker Two: They're thought leaders, discoverers, founders.

Speaker Three: I'd call them heroes.

Speaker Five: Ross and Carrie don't just report on fringe science, spirituality, and claims of the paranormal. They take part themselves.

Speaker Three: They show up so you don't have to.

Speaker Four: But you might find that you want to.

[music swells]

Speaker One: My arm is better. I can walk again!

Speaker Two: I wrote an entire book this weekend! It—it's terrible, but I did it!

Speaker Three: Just go to Maximumfun.org.

Together: Thank you, Ross and Carrie!

Speaker Six: [sped up] *Oh No, Ross and Carrie!* is just a podcast. It doesn't do anything. It's just sounds you listen to in your ears. All these people are made up. Goodbye.

Griffin: Hey, can I tell you about my second thing?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Uh, it's a band? Uh, a band that, uh, you and I have enjoyed for a while and... I don't know. I've kind of, like, fallen off, 'cause they haven't released anything in a long time, and as is usually the case when I talk about a band or artist on this show, I've been listening to them a lot, uh, since I decided to talk about them, and holy shit, I've been really enjoying my—my dive back into their body of work.

It's TV on the Radio.

Rachel: Ohhh!

Griffin: Uh, I—I'm all about, like, bringing artists and bands to this show that, like, don't sound like anything else?

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Like, any other—other artists, and there's something just, like, super attractive to me about that that, like, makes me want to listen to that band, uh, especially when that, like, novel sound really rips ass, uh, like TV on the Radio does.

Uh, TV on the Radio is a rock band that just draws on so many different, like, disparate sound inspirations. Um, I have a list of cited, like, inspirations that they've talked about that I pulled off Wikipedia.

Uh, Bad Brains, Earth, Wind & Fire, Nancy Sinatra, Serge Gainsbourg, Brian Eno, and The Pixies. It's like a peanut butter and pizza sandwich? But, like—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —it tastes incredibly, incredibly good. Uh, and it just, like, all comes together to create just a whole, uh, just musical cannon that is just kind of unforgettable. Um, it's also one of those bands whose body of work, like, feels recent, but then when I was looking at the release dates of these albums [laughs] that, like, I love, I was like, "Oops! I'm old."

Uh, specifically, like, *Dear Science*, which was such, like, an important album to me—

Rachel: I love that album.

Griffin: —is [distantly and loudly] 12 years old! Ooh, I'm a ghost!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm a skeleton and a ghost. Uh, also, we got to see them for free at ACL, because ACL hands out free tickets to their tapings, and it was—

Rachel: Yeahhh.

Griffin: —one of the best concerts I have ever been to in my entire life.

Rachel: Yeah, it was very good.

Griffin: Uh, so TV on the Radio got started in New York City in 2001, uh, with two members: Tunde Adebimpe, who was the vocalist, and David Sitek, who was,

like, guitarist, keyboardist. Uh, and they—they have expanded to, like, be a four-piece group. Uh, and they have released five studio albums, the most recent of which is called *Seeds*, which was really good. It came out in 2014, so that was six years ago.

Rachel: Whoaa.

Griffin: Um, they, like, uh, you know, went sort of on-again, off-again in the early years and made, like, a big deal of going on this, like, one year hiatus, and now it's been, like, kind of six years, and I think they've done a little bit of touring since then, but, uh, uh, I very much miss them, especially after listening to and falling back in love with them.

Uh, and if you don't know TV on the Radio, I would almost guarantee you have heard this first song I'm gonna play. It is by far their, like, breakout hit, uh, called "Wolf Like Me."

["Wolf Like Me" by TV on the Radio plays]

Griffin: Holy shit, what a bop "Wolf Like Me" is. Uh, it is—like, I get why it is just their—their biggest hit, because it just, like, goes so hard, and I get so pumped when I listen to it that I wanna just, like, kick—kick a hole in the wall—

Rachel: Yes!

Griffin: —or several holes?

Rachel: It's one of those bands where you hear a song and you think, "I would love to see that live," and it does not disappoint.

Griffin: It does not disappoint at all. It's got this just constant kind of, like, ballroom blitz percussion energy to it that, like, just builds, with these endless screeching guitar riffs. Uh, I am kind of wild about it. Um, it's maybe not the best sort of expression of their—their range, of their, like, different genres that they tackle and, like, the big sort of rich sound that I'll sort of demo here in a second.

Um, I think that that sound—that, like, strange, novel sound, uh, is—is at it's best in *Dear Science*, which was their 2008 album. Uh, which is so critically acclaimed. Um, I forgot just how sort of, like, widely beloved it was. Uh, it was named best album of 2008 by Rolling Stone, The Guardian, Spin Magazine, The AV Club, MTV,

Entertainment Weekly, the Pitchfork Media's readers poll, uh, and a couple others. It was named second best album of 2008 by NME and the fourth best album of 2008 by Planet Sound. *Really* a good album.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, if you've never listened to TV on the Radio, just start listening to this one. Not the—there's, like, a bonus expanded edition with, like, 20 tracks of... weird sounds at the end—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —you don't necessarily have to listen to those. But, like, I had forgotten how good it is. Uh, "Halfway Home" is the opening track, which, like, is probably my favorite song off it, but what I really want to play is, like, the song that I feel like I am made happiest by by them, uh, and it's called "Golden Age." Uh, I'm gonna play it right now.

["Golden Age" by TV on the Radio plays]

Griffin: It's just so fuckin', like, funky—like, it—it rules! Like, it rocks, and I love, like, a good brass section in a song.

Rachel: Yeah, me too.

Griffin: But that, like—that funk energy is, like, so heavy here, in a way that, like, I listen to this song and I have to listen to it, like, all over again. Uh, I am, like, wild about "Golden Age." It's such a good song.

Um, yeah! It's—I feel like there are a lot of artists that I was getting into around this time. This when I was—*Dear Science* was when I was a junior in college. Like, I was just about to graduate, and I feel like I had a musical explosion—

Rachel: [through laughter] Uh-huh.

Griffin: —as everyone does in college—

Rachel: Uh-huh, yeah.

Griffin: —and there's a lot of that music that, like, I still really like, and I will go back to from time to time. I have albums from era that, like, I really, really love. And, like, a lot of indie rock stuff that, like, I return to.

I feel like TV on the Radio is the one that has aged the best, because I genuinely think it's, like, some of the best music... ever made?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, and I'm—I'm j—I'm sort of fired up right now, because I know I'm going to be, like, hot on them again for a while—

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: —and that makes me—it's like when you, like, rediscover an old TV show that you love and you're like, "Oh, I'm gonna watch this whole thing." Like, I'm—I'm at that level right now with TV on the Radio. And, uh, they've also provided some of the best live—I've seen them in festivals too, a couple times. Like, they— [holding back laughter] they're just so fucking good!

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: They're a really good-ass band. I don't really have much else to say.

Rachel: And it's like there's this, like, metric, right? Of, like, would I play it at a party? Yes.

Griffin: [simultaneously] Yes.

Rachel: Would I play it while I was driving a car? Yes.

Griffin: [simultaneously] Yes.

Rachel: Like, would I play it if I were goin' on a run? Yes. Like—

Griffin: Would I play it on a bus? Yes.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Would I play it... when I cuss? I forget how that book goes. I don't think it's on a bus, when you cuss.

Rachel: No. But it should be.

Griffin: But it *should* be. There should be more profanity in Dr. Seuss books!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You know? Um, hey, what's your second thing?

Rachel: My second thing—now, this is kind of like a fun journey that I went on. Uh, do you want me to explain how I got to this thing?

Griffin: Always. I wanna—I always wanna hear about a good journey.

Rachel: So, a lot of times, I start with The Muppets, right? Like, I start—

Griffin: [distantly and emphatically] *Yeah*.

Rachel: Like, I start with the Muppets, because I think—there's a lot I like about the Muppets. Maybe I should do another Muppet topic.

So I started reading a little bit about *Labyrinth*, which is a superior Muppet movie—

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: —uh, and it led me to something that I only found out about a few years ago. Uh, in 2015, our friend Stephie wrote an article about the Unclaimed Baggage Center.

Griffin: Oh—how did—[exhales shakily]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: How on Earth did you get there from *Labyrinth*?

Rachel: So, the Unclaimed Baggage Center, uh, is a result of the, like, .5% of bags that are on planes and never find their way back to their owners.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: It's a very small percentage. Um—

Griffin: Which is a—a bad thing. It's not good when you lose luggage.

Rachel: No, no. The Unclaimed Baggage Center, which is located in Scotsboro, Alabama, uh, makes it a big point on their website to say, like, "After a three month search for the owner, that is when an unclaimed bag is deemed truly orphaned, at which point the center will—"

Griffin: Orphaned?!

Rachel: Orphaned. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Is that their word?

Rachel: That's their word!

Griffin: Like, your—like, your... Samsonite bag is fuckin' Batman?

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: [doubtfully] Okay...

Rachel: [laughs] This is serious business, here!

Griffin: I guess so!

Rachel: Um... they—it ends up in the Unclaimed Baggage Center, which now has relationships with all domestic airlines. Uh, and it is a 50,000 square foot facility. Uh, and they—they sell the items, and they make the point to say that for every item that is sold, another item is donated.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: So—so it's not like the—I mean, it is—it is a retail business. They are making a profit. But for every item that is sold, they donate an additional item so

someone in need. So they—they make it a point to kind of 50% balance their profit with donations.

Griffin: I guess the thing I'm struggling with is that it's not their—I feel like it's not their stuff.

Rachel: True. But the airline has taken every measure possible to... to reunite it with its owner, and it's only .5% that doesn't...

Griffin: .5%'s quite a lot. I feel like .5%—you're saying if I ride on a plane and I check my bag, there's a .5% chance that my bag [through laughter] will be sold at auction by... by—if it does—if it doesn't get to me.

Rachel: I mean...

Griffin: That seems quite high. That means if I fly 200 times, one of those times... my bag's gonna end up... in—being ethered away.

Rachel: Well, no. I'm saying that after the bag goes missing, there's a 99.5% chance—

Griffin: Ohhh, okay, okay.

Rachel: —that it will be reunited with its owner.

Griffin: I gotcha now. Okay.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: That's much—that makes me feel much better. I've probably flown close to 200 times, so that was a scary statistic for me.

Rachel: I know. I understand. Uh, so, the reason that I got there via *Labyrinth* is that, uh, one of the items that was found in an unclaimed bag was a four foot tall Hoggle from *Labyrinth*!

Griffin: What?! What the f—why?!

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Who was flying with that?!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, an authentic movie prop? Like, a real-ass Hoggle?

Rachel: It—it wound up at the Unclaimed Baggage Center in 1997.

Griffin: That must've been quite a scare.

Rachel: So, this is well after the movie was created, so somebody must've just been traveling—

Griffin: Doin' a little Hoggle s—

Rachel: —with Hoggle. [laughs]

Griffin: —just doin' a little Hoggle smuggle.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Can you imagine be—working at that facility and being like, "Let's open up the—let's see what electric toothbrushes I have to—" and then there's a four foot Hoggle just, like—

Rachel: Right?

Griffin: —its big dead eyes just kind of staring at you as you open up the bag. Can you explain what a Hoggle is?

Rachel: [hesitantly] Um... I mean, it's—it's a puppet goblin from *Labyrinth*. Uh, it's one of the main characters. It's in almost every scene with Jennifer Connolly.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Uh, and he kind of serves as her guide through the labyrinth.

Griffin: Okay. [pauses] That's still not something you wanna open up and see—

Rachel: [laughs] No.

Griffin: —inside of a bag.

Rachel: —no, he's got a very scary face!

Griffin: Yeah. It's not great.

Rachel: Uh, other things that have been found are a human-sized paper mache Tinkerbell.

[pauses]

Griffin: Was it empty?

Rachel: [bursts into laughter] Were you afraid there was a human in it?

Griffin: I don't know, man... I've seen *House of Wax*. I know how people do it sometimes.

Rachel: Uh, they found a 43 carat raw emerald, appraised at \$32,000—

Griffin: "[loudly] This is ours, now!"

Rachel: [laughs] And a live snake! [holding back laughter] In a dufflebag.

Griffin: That's—that—holy *shit*.

Rachel: Yeah! I mean, snakes can live a long time without eating. I didn't think they could live that long, but here we are.

Griffin: And also, don't do th—like, clearly don't do that!

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Clearly don't fly like that.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, the emerald is sus to me, because it's like, "Oh, this one got lost."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "Of all the ones—" it could've been a bag that had, like, an electric toothbrush in it, but instead it's the fuckin' heart of the ocean. "Oops! Guess we lost it. Anyway, money please!"

Rachel: Um... the reason I like this—I mean, by nature I feel like I'm kind of a snoop, you know?

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: It's like the same reason people like going to, you know, yard sales or garage sales sometimes. You just kinda want to see what people's stuff is?

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, it's why people watch *Storage Wars*, right? But, like—

Rachel: Yeah, exactly.

Griffin: —*Storage Wars* is a bummer in a way, because it's like a lot of the times it's like, "Oh, those people couldn't afford to get their stuff back... "

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: "And so you just lose it." This is—maybe—

Rachel: Yeah, that's a lil—

Griffin: —this is maybe one more degree removed from that where it's like, "It was a whoopsie! And now you've lost your possessions."

Rachel: Yeah. And, like, why was somebody traveling with this emerald, you know?

Griffin: Oh, so you're gonna put it on them.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: For flying with the emerald. Why was this person flying—I'm more curious about more than the snake, more than the emerald, more than the Hoggle, the human-size paper mache Tinkerbell.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: What's a human-size piece of luggage look like?

Rachel: I also read that they had—they found a pair of McDonald's golden arches, which I can't exactly figure out.

Griffin: How do you pack that?

Rachel: Right? It must've been shipped, and then just—it never made its way to the... the franchise? I don't know. I—it's fascinating to me.

Griffin: I get it. Like, it's not good that they lose and resell these things, but it is fascinating to have what is essentially a drain at the bottom of the entire sort of, uh, plane transit system that, uh, things run down into. Uh, yeah.

Rachel: Um, so, here's the thing that kind of appealed to me as a—as a, uh, voyeur. Uh, every day at 2:30, they pick a lucky guest to open a bag.

[pauses]

Griffin: What?

Rachel: So it says, "Every day, we invite one lucky visitor—" this is off the website— "to sort the contents of a fresh bag. Join us in the center of the store at 2:30 PM and you may get the chance to experience [holding back laughter] the thrill of it for yourself."

Griffin: But it's not always a Hoogle, huh?

Rachel: No. It's not always a Hoogle. Probably a lot of times it's just, like, a pair of swim trunks and a towel.

Griffin: That's a weird—this—okay. I have actually turned against it now.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's fuckin' weird.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's fuckin' weird and bad.

Rachel: How is different than going to, like, a... a resale store?

Griffin: It—because a resale store typically it's not that somebody took a big bag of clothes to the resale store and then lost it there.

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs] That's fair.

Griffin: To have somebody sort of, like, sell—like, I get it. The curiosity of it. But, like, may—the—the—it got—it just—at the tail end, babe, you snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, 'cause it got gross again.

Rachel: [laughs] Um, I—I get that it's a little suspect, right? Like, this is obviously, for a lot of people, would not be, like, a pleasing, adventurous, you know, discovery. Like me goin' to a TJ Maxx. Um—

Griffin: [spluttering]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [through laughter] What?!

Rachel: Like, part of the reason I like going to those stores where you kind of never know what the merchandise is gonna be, and it's, like, cast off.

Griffin: Oh, sure, sure.

Rachel: Is, like, the thrill of finding something that you're not expecting to find.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: So for me, that's the way I'm approaching this.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: But I see your perspective also, that, like, this is—this is something that was supposed to belong to somebody, and now they don't get to have it—

Griffin: Rrrright.

Rachel: —because it's being sold at this—

Griffin: The Tommy Hilfiger boxes that have colognes *and* wallets *and* belts all in one boxes that they sell at every TJ Maxx—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —in the country, Tommy Hilfiger himself wasn't carrying a bunch of those boxes and then set them down somewhere, and then turned to take a phone call, and turned back and, "Oops! I lost them!"

Uh, they were—they were purchased, I imagine, at a discount price, maybe in bulk, from Mr. Hilfiger himself.

Rachel: Yes. Uh, so the Unclaimed Baggage Center is a family business. It was started—

Griffin: What?!

Rachel: [laughs] Yes! It was started by Doyle Owens in Alabama. He borrowed a pickup truck and \$300 to drive up to Washington, DC., and bought a load of unclaimed baggage from Trailways bus line, which he then sold on contents of card tables in an old rented house. This is how he started.

Griffin: [sighs]

Rachel: And now, three generations later, this is a 50,000 square foot... retail store.

Griffin: This—this—this gets wilder and wilder.

Rachel: He just, like, piece by piece developed these relationships with airlines. Uh, and now—

Griffin: Right. I guess I—I wasn't thinking of it as a privately owned business. I was thinking of it as, like, a... I don't know, like, a—

Rachel: No.

Griffin: —a—wow.

Rachel: For whatever reason, like, nobody had really thought of doing this until this guy was like, "Hey, you know what? I bet some of this stuff never makes its way back. What do they do with it?"

Griffin: Yeah. I guess they can't just sit on it forever and wait for people to come pick it up. That's still so wild.

Rachel: I know! I know! It's—it's a complex, wonderful topic. I understand that. Um—

Griffin: It's one of the first wonderful topics—

Rachel: —but it's fascinating!

Griffin: —that is not strictly wonderful?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: But is incredibly interesting.

Rachel: It's kind of—

Griffin: I do remember our friend Stephie writing about it.

Rachel: Yeah. She actually went to write an article. Uh, I would really recommend you check it out. It's on Vox. Uh, it came out in 2015, um, and it is called... [pauses] "This is a Story About Loss." Uh, and I would really recommend y'all read it, if you haven't.

Um, but they are—

Griffin: She's—she is such a good writer.

Rachel: She's an incredible writer. Uh, and it is their 50th anniversary this year, the Unclaimed Baggage Center.

Griffin: I thought you were talking about Chris and Stephe.

Rachel: [through laughter] No.

Griffin: For—[laughs]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Stephe is married to, uh, my Besties cohost and former Polygon writer Chris Plant, and so I got—I don't—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —my neurons got ext—

Rachel: They have been together a long time.

Griffin: —not f—not quite—

Rachel: Not—not quite 50 years.

Griffin: —not quite 50 years, though.

Griffin: No, it's the Unclaimed Baggage Center's 50th anniversary.

Griffin: Okay. Uh, hey, can I tell you what our friends at home are talking about?

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Uh, Danica says:

"The new *Baby-Sitters Club* show on Netflix is wonderful. I didn't grow up with the books, but the show is incredibly sweet and wholesome, very diverse, with great topical messages and life lessons, presented in a kid-friendly way, and I'm not ashamed to admit that I cried at at least one episode."

You don't gotta be ashamed of that ever! Let 'em rip!

Rachel: I have heard a lot of good things about this show.

Griffin: I also did not grow up with *Baby-Sitters Club*. Was this a—was this for you—

Rachel: Oh yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Yeah, really appealed to, like, the entrepreneurial spirit of young girls. Uh, and every—every character in it had, like, their own little backstory, and you became really invested in—in their outcomes.

Griffin: Sounds good. Let's do it. Uh, here's one from Kennedy, who says:

"Hello! My wonderful thing is kolaches. Uh, and also... [pauses] kloba—klobasneks?" I dunno, I probably said that wrong. Uh, the meat-filled ones.

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: So apparently kolaches are just the fruit-filled, uh—"As a Czech American, as well as being from Austin, I often take the kolache for granted, but I love these fruity pastries. I love having a way to connect to my roots, as well as have a tasty snack that is just about everywhere in my city, or my kitchen."

Rachel: There is, like, a short list of things when I moved to Austin that I had no familiarity with, and kolaches is definitely on there.

Griffin: They are everywhere, also.

Rachel: Was not familiar before I moved here.

Griffin: They're—they're extremely good. We used to live around the corner from a kolache place, and that was a—that was a very, very nice thing to have accessible to us.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Maybe—I mean, it's not the healthiest food, so maybe we were...

Rachel: No. I mean, it's one of those—those items that you purchase for yourself, and then that's your day.

Griffin: That's your whole day.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Is the kolache. Hey, thank you so much for listening to our show. Thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, "Money Won't Pay." You can find a link to that in the episode description.

One last time, uh, Max Fun Drive is running now. You can join at Maximumfun.org/join. We know it's a weird time to be asking for money, but if you can, uh, we really, really appreciate your support. Um, and—as would the other shows on the network, uh, by—by—if you become a member.

Rachel: Yeah. Part of the reason that we've stuck with Maximum Fun for so long is that all of our content is artist-owend, and they offer that to everybody on the network, and, um, it's a—it's a great benefit. It's a great network. Um, we encourage people to support it because they let you pick the shows that you wanna support.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: You know? And all of these artists, um, really appreciate your support, and also a lot of them live off of the support.

Griffin: Of course, yeah.

Rachel: So, uh, anything that you're able to invest is appreciated.

Griffin: Yeah, and you'll get cool stuff. Um, so, yeah. That's gonna do it for us. We will be back next week, and the next episode, y'all? [fake laughter] No spoilers, but it's gonna be a real barn burner.

Rachel: Explosions! Suspense! Chases!

[pauses]

Griffin: Super, uh—

Rachel: Romance?

Griffin: —romance? [pauses] Uh, b—battle... for the ages.

Rachel: [holding back laughter] Deceit.

Griffin: S—villainy.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Kissing?

Rachel: Ooh!

Griffin: [high pitched] Oooh!

Rachel: [laughs]

[theme music plays]

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