

MBMBaM 399: Stink Bar

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Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme music plays]

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

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

Griffin: I'm that sweet baby and 30 under 30 media boy, Griffin McElroy.

Justin: I've got it.

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: The next branch of the expansion of the McElroy brothers franchise... we of course are going to premiere in the *Trolls 2* film coming out in April 2020. Uh, we got that already sort of locked down...

Griffin: It's in the bag. That's in the bag. It's practically in the can.

Justin: We didn't mention this; we got a new episode of that show up, if you want to listen to that, about how we're gonna be in *Trolls 2*.

But that is then, and happening.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: That's already in the books. The important thing is that you don't question your morals.

Travis: It's the future-past participle. It will have already been done.

Griffin: We're basically in *Trolls 3* at this fucking point.

Travis: Yeah. Well, with the continuity in the story and shit, you know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Do—we do—for what I'm talking about, we do need to sort of watch on the profanity for a little bit.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: 'Cause my thing is, the la—a couple weeks ago, Nickelodeon announced that he's coming back. Who? Blue. Or she. Blue's a she. Blue's coming back, folks, and that's the important thing that we wanna talk about here.

Travis: Blue of *Blue's Clues*?

Justin: Blue of *Blue's Clues* is coming back, and they're looking for new Steve.

Griffin: Ohh!

Justin: Yes. So you see, sort of... where I am talking about now. They're looking for new Steve.

Now, I know what you're saying. Joe is already new Steve. Well, that's... that's fine, but Joe is Steve 2. Now they're walking for Steve 3, the third Steve.

Travis: Joe's out?

Justin: Joe's been out since aught-seven, when the show was cancelled.

Travis: Ah.

Justin: Yeah. So—

Griffin: They solved the case. Blue got all the clues. They solved the murder.

Justin: They finally caught the murderer that murdered Blue's family. [laughs] And now they're back for a new, like, run at *Blue's Clues*, and who's the new Steve gonna be? And I submit it as us, the McElroy brothers.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Now, when you say you submit, did you actually take any steps to actually submit us?

Griffin: Is it like a vision board, you submitted it to God and the universe and stuff?

Justin: I feel like I'm using all of my sort of, like, God and vision quest praying... that energy, I'm using on *Trolls 2* currently.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: I want Nickelodeon to do this one, 'cause it's gonna make 'em a lot of fucking dosh.

Griffin: Okay, Justin, what did we *just* say? What did we just say?

Travis: We can't curse!

Justin: Damn it.

Griffin: Yeah, again.

Justin: Double damn it. Agh!

Travis: Ah. We'll just have to replace him with, like... [imitates Blue barking]

Griffin: Yeah, or like the mail—every time we cuss in this episode, I'll edit in the mail song.

Justin: Probably you won't do that, I would think. [laughs]

Travis: No, 'cause then the show would end up being four hours long.

Griffin: It's a long-ass song. It's a long butt—see, there it is. It's a very long—[singing] Here's the mail, it never fails. It makes me wanna wag my tail. Um...

Justin: [singing] When it comes, I wanna wail... maaail!

Griffin: See, we got it.

Travis: It might be a little soon to start this, but let's start the negotiation with Nickelodeon. We will cut it back to one F-word per episode.

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah.

Travis: We will—we will restrain ourselves to one F per episode.

Griffin: And sometimes, we'll hide it. We'll do it real quiet and fast, and so the kiddos may not even—so it'd be like... [singing] Here's the mail, it never fails, fuckin' makes me want—[speaking] And they may never even get that it was there at all.

Travis: They won't care.

Griffin: Now, one problem... that I found with this...

Justin: Just the one?

Griffin: With Steve quest, there are... three... boys... on this show.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: On this one, there's three.

Travis: Oh, you know, I never think of us as separate people.

Griffin: I know, but there's three boys, and only—the Steve—the Steve is only the one boy. So...

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: ... solve for X.

Justin: So we're gonna have to solve that first.

Travis: Do you think we can do an Olsen twins thing?

Justin: No, let's see who's gonna be the best Steve. Uh, I'll be Blue first, and Travis, you be Steve, and Griffin, you be a clue. Okay. Whenever you're ready. [imitates Blue barking]

Griffin: Ugh...

Travis: What's that, Blue?

Griffin: I'm a skull on the ground.

Travis: What's that, Blue? A vicious murder?

Justin: [imitates blue barking]

Travis: What do you smell, Blue?

Justin: [barks]

Travis: Semen? Oh, no.

Justin: [barks]

Griffin: Semen... someone got semen on the dang skull.

Travis: Someone got semen on the fucking skull?! That's my one.

Griffin: There's your one.

Justin: Okay, very good. Alright, now I'm Steve, and Travis is—

Travis: I was about to have a big, dramatic monologue about how my parents were killed, and this is bringing back too many memories...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... but then I was gonna *CSI* that stuff, and like... ugh, you interrupted me too soon.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: I had a monologue memorized.

Justin: Oh, great. Well, go ahead and perform that now. I'll give you complete silence.

Travis: Thank you. Oh, no!

Griffin: I don't want this.

Travis: The semen! It reminds me...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... of that terrible day in the alley...

Griffin: Yeah, okay.

Travis: ... when that person tried to mug my parents...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... and killed them, and on that day I became Steve. I became the thing that scared me, so that I could scare villains! Steve!

Griffin: Kind of a Batman...

Justin: You look to the mirror, and you're like, "What scares me? Well, Steve."

Travis: Steve! A Steve blew into the room.

Justin: [laughs, coughs]

Travis: I found a Steve trapped inside that old grandfather clock.

Justin: I found—it fell into the old Steve Guttenberg cave behind our house.

Travis: There were Steves everywhere!

Griffin: Chockablock with goots.

Travis: Steves—and on that day, that's when I became Steve!

Justin: Okay, that's very good. Griffin, do you wanna try being the Steve, and I'll be a clue, and Travis, you be Blue?

Travis: Yes. I'm gonna be the reboot Blue, though.

Justin: ... Okay.

Griffin: This feels okay, but you saying that makes me think that this is gonna be sort of a Travis-led skit.

Travis: What?! How dare you, sir?

Griffin: Yeah, I—no, I kind of feel like—

Travis: I took three classes at UCB.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I'm ready to "yes and" you, I'm going to build you up...

Griffin: This really feels like it's gonna be a Travis skit, featuring Griffin.

Travis: Okay. To be fair, my Blue is going to speak English, but I will...

Griffin: Yeah, again, that...

Travis: I will do basic Blue.

Griffin: Alright.

Travis: I will be a basic Blue.

Griffin: Let me try. Alright.

Hey, you kids wanna learn some maths? Today, we're gonna be talking about multi—

Travis: [questioning Blue impression]

Griffin: Hey, stop it. Get out of here. I'm teaching the kids about today.

Travis: [imitates Blue whimpering]

Griffin: Dog!

Travis: [imitates Blue questioning voice]

Griffin: Dog, I will not with you again. Not today. It's math day.

Travis: [imitates Blue barking]

Griffin: It's math day, dog.

Travis: [barks]

Griffin: You get—get—get.

Travis: [makes Blue questioning voice]

Griffin: I love you, but get. It's math day, not dog day.

Travis: [Blue disappointed voice]

Griffin: That's mine. I'm done.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: That's very good.

Griffin: Yeah, it's like, he's very focused, mine is. And he doesn't have time to—oh, wait, hold on. Fuck!

Travis: Okay, great. Thank you.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Justin, you wanna play?

Justin: Yeah. Who wants to be—

Griffin: I'll be dog.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: [makes whining noise]

Justin: And Travis, you're a clue?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [exaggerated whining]

Justin: Oh, my God. Blue, what's wrong?

Griffin: [whining]

Justin: Blue—

Griffin: [strained] I ate a Lego.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: I'm a Lego!

Griffin: My belly! Steve, say something funny!

Justin: Alright, I'm gonna draw a picture of a Lego in my notebook.

Griffin: No, a hospital!

Travis: Please, free me from this shit prison!

Justin: Guys, I'm drawing. Give me just a second.

Travis: Fuck. Oh, wait, I used yours. Sorry. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Let Justin have his. Alright. So that's fun. Yeah, Juice, I think this one's a real surefire dinger.

Justin: Who do you think should be the Ste—like, we should—

Travis: We'll have to vote. We'll put a poll up.

Justin: Yeah. Yeah. We can't decide this; we gotta leave it up to the listeners. So if you look around on the internet, you'll find a poll about which of us should be Steve. Poke around.

Travis: And then make sure to send the results of that poll to Nickelodeon.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Right.

Griffin: Um... I also have another branch for us, we can talk about it later, but I think I got an inroad at the LifeWay Christian book store. So...

Justin: Oh, nice. Okay.

Griffin: Yeah, we could rap about that later. We'll do it off the air.

Justin: Perfect.

Uh, this is an advice show where we try to help people. I'm recovering from a cold, so if you hear me drop off at any point, the coughs are rough today. They're rough and rank, and I'm just hanging in there, folks. I'm just trying to stay alive.

Griffin: Are we listing our ailment—I got two torn ACLs.

Travis: I feel great!

Griffin: Okay. Podcasting too hard, blew 'em right the fuck out.

Travis: No, you'll—Griffin, what about your scholarship?

Griffin: Yeah, I'm worried about the scholarship, Trav. I don't think Perdue's gonna have me.

Justin: What about your Steve audition?

Griffin: Yeah, I don't think Perdue's gonna have me on that one, either.

Justin: "So as a result of my wife's employer's strange bonus slash giveaway strategy, I am in the possession of 30 five dollar gift cards to a grocery store chain, and I don't know how to spend them. If I spend them all at once..."

Travis: [groans]

Justin: "... I will surely earn the scorn of the cashier and impatient customers waiting behind me in the checkout lane, as the checkout process is already stressful enough. Any advice on how to use these gift cards in a respectful, yet efficient manner?" And that's from *Gotta Get Rid of These Gift Cards* in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Griffin: Y'all, I went to that combination Babies"R"Us and Toys"R"Us, over the weekend.

Justin: How are things going over there?

Griffin: Oh, have you seen, um, *28 Days Later*?

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Wait, that's not the romantic comedy with—

Travis: No, that's *28 Days*...

Griffin: Okay, okay, okay.

Travis: ...with Sandra Bullock and Alan Tudyk.

Griffin: Talking about *28 Days*—

Travis: I mean, I'm sure there's other people in it too, but those are the only two that matter.

Justin: *28 Days Later* is the sequel.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: The zombies in it.

Travis: Where Alan Tudyk is a zombie and eats Sandra Bullock for the entire two hours. Just that scene.

Griffin: We go there to get baby food, 'cause they got the choice selection. They got that gourmet shit, that Wolfgang—

Travis: They got that dank baby food.

Griffin: That Wolfgang Puck genuine baby food that he cooks up in his kitchen full of love. And we pulled up in the parking lot, and were instantly like, "Oh, no!" And we went ahead with our mission, 'cause baby gotta eat. Baby gotta eat. You can't just give a baby a hamburger from a Wendy's. You have to give them the special stuff that Wolfgang's made for 'em.

And that checkout process... folks were bringing out some gift cards from 1983 that they have just been chilling on. I watched somebody buy a stroller with approximately 15 gift cards. It was horrible. It was a "get out of line and just go start over someplace else." Nomadic, sort of Oregon trail method of finding a good aisle.

It was so bad. Please do not be this person. You have to find another strategy.

Travis: To continue a conversation that Griffin started long, long ago on this show, it is only at those points where I seriously consider just shoplifting...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... mostly just to make it easier on the cashiers. Like, you know what, you're doing enough. I have this one thing, I'm just gonna take it.

Griffin: They're not gonna do any—

Justin: Very considerate shoplifting.

Griffin: Yeah. This—it's—

Travis: Well, especially, they're going out of business! What are they gonna do with it?

Griffin: Going out of business, and they got fucked over by the whole—the whole corporate sort of architecture of Toys"R"Us. And Geoffrey, he was in on it too.

Travis: [gasps] No!

Griffin: The execs got themselves a 14 million dollar bonus, just made sure to get themselves a little... a little thing.

Justin: A little taste.

Griffin: A little taste of it.

Justin: And then they like—I mean, I think you can track it back to the fact that Toys"R"Us belligerently didn't open a website for about 20 years. Just like, "Nah."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Nah, the web's a flash in the pan. Kids are always gonna want to come into the store."

Griffin: And then Geoffrey did it, and it—

Travis: You can't ride a bike around the web!

Justin: This is from a former Toys"R"Us employee. If you're a Toys"R"Us staffer who's about to lose their gig, I fucking hear you. Listen, it's not your fault. I want you to leave that place with your head held high.

Travis: You're great.

Justin: And if you have any training tapes there that you can steal for me, they were fucking hilarious.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: If you steal some of those, that would be glorious.

Griffin: I mean, we know whose fault it is, 'cause Geoffrey... it wasn't Geoffrey, it was some executive in the company, but I think that's just sort of, um, shadow organization for Geoffrey's dark machinations that everybody did blame millennials for not having enough kids, who buy all the toys, so thank you on that one. We made sure to get that one in there right—oh, that's three seconds left in the last round! Geoffrey comes out swinging with one last punch!

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: At millennials, for not buying enough toys. Eat my entire asshole, shithead giraffe.

Travis: Especially, hey, Geoffrey? Millennials don't need kids to buy toys. They buy toys for themselves.

Griffin: Buy 'em like wild.

Justin: Okay. Griffin, I need you to clarify something. Take me inside the bit for a second. You seem to be getting pretty worked up about an interview you imagined that Geoffrey the giraffe gave.

Griffin: It wasn't Geoffrey the giraffe. Like, the CEO of Toys"R"Us or whatever actually said this. Actually said this—said this thing. Said this dumb little thing.

Justin: Oh, okay, now I understand. Hey, your website fucking sucks, and you didn't open one for a hundred years.

Griffin: Okay, okay.

Travis: Also, adult toys.

Griffin: Adult toys, yeah.

Travis: You have Babies"R"Us, you have Toys"R"Us, how about, like, Sins"R"Us?

Justin: Where are the—

Griffin: Don't go down that aisle. There are—there are—

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: You stay away from the curtained aisle, Derek. That's for Mommy and Daddy.

Travis: That's toys for us!

Griffin: That's Toys number 4 Us. And there's a bouncer, and it's a person in a big Geoffrey outfit who's got a nightstick, 'cause the kids are curious.

Justin: How is this person gonna spend their gift cards? I mean, you can do it very slowly. Just every time you go into the grocery store, you burn—I mean, I think you can burn three, right, and not be too much of an impediment. Right? Three is fine?

Griffin: Three is still pretty bad.

Travis: What if you did it like a bit? Like a magic trick, where you're like, "What?" and you just keep pulling them from different pockets—

Griffin: Oh, my God, Travis, that would make their... ram-ability with my shopping cart full of baby food so much higher, if they—

Travis: But if you did it well, I think the cashier would enjoy it, at least. Like, "How many more can there be?"

And then at the last one, you look them square in the eye, and say, "That's it."

Justin: Oh, shit! You got 30 gift cards.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: The cashier isn't gonna care. I've watched *Extreme Couponing*. The cashier don't give a shit. Unless they got a break coming up, and that—you know, go ahead and ask, but they don't care! They're leaving at five, regardless! You don't—one customer, 20 customers, no skin off their nose.

So the person you gotta worry about, like, from a society point of view, is the person behind you in line. Here's what you're gonna do. Are you ready for this? You go ahead and use 10 of your gift cards. But you gift the person waiting behind you one of them.

Griffin: There it is. There it is.

Justin: You say, "Listen. I'm about to do something annoying, but I'm gonna give you this gift card. It's five bucks. If you can just kick it with me for like, five to seven minutes while I use these crazy gift cards, just a wild number of gift cards I've collected, then you are also going to benefit. So like, we're all gonna win here.

Griffin: That's good.

Justin: They've got spring in their step. "Oh, five bucks off? I could buy myself a whole box of Gushers or something."

Griffin: Sure. Um, Gushers don't come in boxes. What you just said is wild. And the other wild thing you said—

Justin: Uh, excuse me, the six-pack, 12-pack, and 20-pack of Gushers packages are all collected in one single collective box.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: As much as you, like, upend them and just have packages of Gushers strewn about your home, like some sort of pack rat, the Gushers are sold in boxes in grocery stores.

Griffin: That is fair. That is fair. You did say something wild, that the cashier won't care about this situation.

Justin: They won't care!

Griffin: I don't know if you've ever seen an episode of *Extreme Couponing*, but every episode—

Justin: I just said that I did. I clarified while I was talking.

Griffin: Every episode of *Extreme Couponing* is also, in secret, an episode of *Making a Murderer*. Because when somebody comes up to these people...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ...and says, like, "Here's 50 coupons, get to work, this is your next hour and you are not going to know how to handle this situation, and you are definitely gonna think that I am fucking taking the house on this one, and that you will definitely get fired if you scan in the wrong shit, and you will definitely get fired because you have given me all this toilet paper for free."

The look in those people's eyes is one of just, like... it's just complete murder. Just absolute murder. So you have to find a way to—maybe—first of all, let's talk about the science of these cards. If you just rub 'em all together... real hard... does the money... go from one to the other? Probably not, right?

Travis: Well, you don't know until you try, Griffin. Or what if you tape them all together? Make it one big gift card.

Griffin: Tape them all together, try to swipe 'em all through at once. I mean, I think this is what Bitcoin actually is...

Is there some way for you to slide it through a dongle, and now it's Bitcoin, and then you take the Bitcoin to the Sam's Club?

Travis: Can you use Bitcoin at Sam's Club?

Griffin: They love it, yeah. They love their cryptocurrencies. [sighs] Uh, yeah, I mean, you could just also go there—

Travis: I don't like to use cryptocurrency because it seems too spooky to me.

Griffin: Yeah, it is very spooky.

Travis: I don't know anything about it, except it's got "crypt" in there.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, they're covered in cobwebs and spiders, and each one has a little ghoul inside of it. I don't fuck with that. But can you go to the store, like right when it opens, and say, "Here's 30 five-dollar gift cards. I would like to use these to purchase one 150 dollar gift card."

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: And then you're done—and then you're free. It's gonna be a bad morning, and don't get me wrong, it will take an entire morning, nine to noon, but... and maybe you give a few to the employee. That's insulting, I feel like, maybe. You gotta throw 'em away. It is not worth it.

Justin: [laughs] There is no suggestion we can give you that is better than throwing them in the garbage.

Travis: Or melt them into some kind of beautiful statue, and know that it is inherently worth 150 dollars.

Griffin: Oh, yeah! And then it's a protest statue against Toys"R"Us. And it's the giraffe, but he looks like a big idiot.

Morgan Davy sent in this Yahoo. Keep it wavy, Morgan Davy. It's Yahoo Answers user Carol, who asks, "How come Dorothy's dress never got dirty all the way to Oz?"

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Got some answers on this one, but it's an interesting concept. This is a—this is a young woman. Lives on a farm, should've been dirty before the whole thing, before this whole zany improbable adventure even got started. Also got caught up in a tornado in Kansas. That's dusty work, friends. She should've been just sort of coated in a thin layer of grime before she even rolled up.

And then the scarecrow would've been like, "Oh, my brain, or whate—whoa, you—you got a little dirt—you got a little dirt on you. A little schmutz."

Travis: "You cool, or..."

Griffin: "You cool, or what's going—" but then certainly, as she traipsed through the poppy fields and, you know, the dirt zone, the dirt village, and muddy swamp...

Travis: The candy cane forest, and the chocolate river...

Griffin: Ima—oh, God, can you imagine the candy cane forest? The debris on one of those candy canes.

Travis: Gumdrop lane...

Justin: You don't actually see the monkeys hurling their own feces, but we do have to assume.

Travis: It's implied.

Justin: It's implied.

Griffin: I think, by the time she shows up to the Emerald City, her and her squad of companions should just be... yucky.

Justin: Uh-huh.

Travis: Well, they are! I'm sorry, I have to save us from tweets. They are! They go through a whole clean-up process at the Emerald City! The—
[singing] Wash, wash, wash, scrub, scrub, scrub. A couple of—

Justin: It's true, there aren't a lot of movies where our characters arrive at the paradise they've been pursuing and the very first thing that has to happen is like, "Y'all stink like shit."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You cannot even be in our whole thing right now.

Travis: Too gross!

Justin: Yeah, you're so disgusting. Like, we're—

Travis: Oh, hey, this is utopia, and you all are doo-doo.

Justin: Yeah, you're like, "Can we talk to the—" You can talk to no one. You can talk to this brush. Open up, 'cause you are so wack right now.

Griffin: I can taste your sweat. You have been walking through this wonderland for days, and I can taste the sweat on you. And on the tin man, which is wild.

Travis: Did trees throw apples at you and then maybe some monkeys shit on you? What are you doing?

Griffin: What are you doing here, Dorothy? I love the *Lord of the Rings* movies for so many reasons. Also, just looking at Orlando Bloom puts me at ease.

Justin: Yeah. And they're so long.

Griffin: They are very long, and you get a lot of—

Travis: One of the best naps I ever had.

Griffin: A lot of bloom out of those features. Um—

Travis: That's not to say the *Lord of the Rings* movies are boring. This one time, I went to a late-night showing, I fell asleep in the middle of the first one. It was the third time I'd seen it. And so I was sleeping, I slept so good.

Griffin: But here's what I love – end of the trilogy, climbing Mount Doom, little Sam G. and uh, Frodo.

Travis: Sam G. and Frodo.

Griffin: Sam G. and Frodo. These two boys are so fucking nasty! Do you remember? Covered in grime and stink, and I could feel the stink through the film, through the celluloid. I know these boys reek and I know they're fucking filthy pigs. And I love it, 'cause it's like, now *that's* fantasy. Now I'm taken away.

They would get filthy, nasty, dirty, eating raw fish with their friend Golem. Filthy, stinky, gross pustules of boys. Stinky, gross, nasty pigs. And I love that. And I love it. Orlando Bloom, they never get him dirty, and I also think that's a good creative choice from Peter Jackson, because I think they did put the stink makeup on him, and Peter Jackson was like, "Nobody's gonna fucking—"

Travis: "No, no, no, no."

Griffin: "Nobody's gonna fucking believe this."

Travis: I want that, actually, in every movie, the effect that they do in *Lord of the Rings* where it's like, they cut between, you know, dirty ranger man, and then like, the elves. And the elves are like, glowing. They are transcendent. And it cuts back to dirty man.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: And then it's like—this is very clearly like, this person has not been stinking themselves up for the last 24 hours.

Griffin: It's a shame that there's no way to communicate the stink through the film.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And I'm not—I think that smell-o-vision is a bad joke, and I think that stink lines, we reference that in virtually every episode of every podcast we do.

Travis: What about a filter? Like, just a brown filter?

Griffin: Oh, a stink—well, the whole movie kind of has a stink filter on it already.

Justin: Gandalf stunk so fucking bad...

Travis: Oh, God, so bad.

Griffin: Oh, God.

Justin: ... that in order to communicate it, they had to kill him and then change his name. He's like—they're like, "Hey, it's Gandalf the Gray."

"Don't call me by my stink name. I have a new clean boy name that I want you call me by, Gandalf the White. 'Cause I smell great, and I'm not filthy anymore." They had to make a plot point out of how much that dude stank.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: From his tobacco smoke.

Griffin: And his big fight with the fireman.

Justin: Adventure dirt. I mean, all of it.

Travis: Don't you guys think, by the end of a *James Bond* movie, James Bond probably smells like shit, right?

Justin: [holding back laughter] He fucking stinks, absolutely!

Travis: So many of these characters, we don't talk—I'm sorry. Don't get me wrong, you probably still has a hint of aftershave, and deodorant and cologne and stuff. But also, like, he's been tied up, he's been sweating. He's been fighting people in like, the mud and dirt and stuff. He probably, underneath his veneer of grooming, stinks like shit.

Griffin: Let me hit you guys with this. I just had a killer idea. The McElroy brothers... movie... UI. And this is a UI that you will put onto movies...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ... and not as, like, a fun thing that you get and you download it, and you listen to it later, like riff tracks. I'm talking about this as baked into the cinematic release.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: And it shows a stink meter on the screen that fills up as they go along. And we can do this with other stuff, too.

Travis: You can drop it back down, like if there's a scene of them washing their hands, or washing their—that scene, you know, that always happens where it's like, "Oh, I'm so stressed out by these terrorists or whatever," and they go splash water in their face, it just drops down like five percent.

Griffin: The stink meter goes down a little bit.

Travis: And then, like, we can have, like, kind of pop-up video implied between these two scenes, they change clothes.

Griffin: And that—*Lor—Lor—Bor—Borl—Lord of the Rings...*

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: These two boys are climbing up the mountain, and they're crying because they love each other so much, and their stink meter is all the way full. And imagine the—[gasps] Ooh. Sorry. I'm getting choked up, thinking about it, the emotional impact... knowing these boys stink so bad.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And the journey they've gone through together, and the way they support each other... it's powerful. And then you watch—

Travis: And they still hug. Even though they stink like eight kinds of shit.

Justin: I think that would make the end of *Die Hard* even more sort of moving. Because if you watch *Die Hard*, before Hans Gruber even hits the ground, Holly basically is like, envelop John McClane in the most passionate embrace. This motherfucker has been crawling around a dirty building, bleeding everywhere...

Travis: His tank top literally goes from white to, like, green by the end of the movie.

Griffin: It is kind of the first stink meter. It's his tank top in that movie.

Travis: It's like a litmus test of stink like shit.

Justin: There's just no... the only movie I've ever seen actually... *The Jerk* deal with this, I guess, a little bit, when Bernadette Peters reunites with Steve Martin. She tells him he fucking stinks, and he needs to go sit in a different car. Thank you. Thank you, Bernadette...

Griffin: For being brave enough.

Justin: For keeping it real.

Griffin: And then you watch a movie like *Hope Floats*. That's—and that stink meter never really...

Travis: What if it started off high, and you're like, "Oh, it turns out this whole time, Harry Connick Junior's character stank like shit from the beginning of the movie on."

Griffin: I think it's just love the whole time, but it is there, letting you know... these characters do not stink.

Travis: What if about if like in *Phenomenon*, right, like, "Oh, it's amazing. John Travolta's character can like, levitate stuff. But also, he does stink like doo-doo." And it's just things that we don't know—things we never knew about the characters that gives them a much richer story.

Griffin: And then we could do this with all kinds of meters. We could have full-blown *Sims* moodlets on the screen, where it's just like a horny meter, and that one's going up, and you're like, "Uh-oh. Here it comes, here it comes, here it comes."

Travis: And hungry meter. Hey, why is Hans Gruber being such a dick? Oh, he's hungry.

Griffin: Or he sees John McClane shoot three guys, and his horny meter goes up. And it's like, damn, John, what?

Travis: Whoa-ho-ho!

Griffin: "Hey, Johnny?" He's climbing through the vents, and you're like, "Oh, man, this seems really scary," but his horny meter is off the charts, and it's like...

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Being in this small vent makes you very horny, John?

Travis: Oh, no, Gruber's gonna kill Ellis. John? Hey, John, what's up, dude?

Griffin: Uh, dude?

Justin: [laughing] I shot a kid!

Travis: Whoa! Okay!

Griffin: His hog is wild right now!

Travis: John! Oh, no!

Justin: [laughing] He is. Everything you hear is just—

Travis: And as Hans Gruber's falling to his death, it's just getting higher and higher and higher.

Griffin: It catches him. He hits himself—

Justin: Like, "I was the kid! That's why I did all of it! It turned out!"

Griffin: [laughs] Hans Gruber hits the horny meter on his way down. Bounces off.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That's so great. Oh my God, we can include this in every film. And then, *Die Hard 8* when he's fucking tied to a chair or whatever, and there's a room full of bad guys, and he's like, "You're outnumbered."

And he breaks the ropes, and like, "Okay, you broke the ropes, now what?"

And he reaches down, and he grabs the horny meter in one hand and the stink meter in the other hand, and he kills them all with it.

Justin: [through laughter] You can do that once—you can do that once, in like, *Hot Sharks part trois*. Like, in *Scary Movie 13*. Like, you can do it once before the whole convention's like, "Yeah, we get it. We've seen that before."

Griffin: Fuck.

Travis: So good.

Justin: Anyway, let's take a quick break right now to hear from our sponsors in a little segment we like to call... the Money Zone!

[theme music plays]

Griffin: Hey, I wanna tell everybody about Blue Apron, if you wouldn't mind me talking about Blue Apron for a little bit.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: They're really cool, they deliver you boxes, and the boxes got stuff in 'em, and you use that stuff to cook meals, and uh... I've used it for a while, and it taught me how to cool, and that's a very valuable skill that I treasure, and so I treasure Blue Apron. And the meals are very, very tasty, and I like it, just, a lot. You open up each box, and you're like, "What's even in here? I don't know."

Except you do know, because you pick it—you can pick it from a list of recipe options. But anyway, they're the leading meal kit delivery service in the US. They've got incredible ingredients and chef-designed recipes like quick bucatini with broccoli and pecorino cheese and Italian-style shrimp and sweet pepper. They let you see what the power of food can do.

They got fresh, non-GMO, pre-portioned ingredients and step-by-step recipes. They deliver right to your door and can be cooked in under 45 minutes. There's 12 new recipes each week, based on what's in season, and all the recipes are designed by Blue Apron's in-house culinary team.

They are treating *My Brother, My Brother and Me* listeners to \$30 off your first order if you visit BlueApron.com/mybrother. So check out this week's menu, and get your \$30 off at BlueApron.com/mybrother. Blue Apron: A better way to cook.

Travis: I was gonna make a joke about like, "What's in the box?" and then I started thinking about the stink meter on *Seven*.

Justin: Oh, come on.

Travis: Oh, my God. It'd be off the charts!

Griffin: They would need a second stink meter. It would be like, stink meter, and then right below that, "I don't know, guys. It was too big. It was just—"

Travis: The limit-break stink meter.

Griffin: The limit-break—yeah. Someone did an omnislash to the stink.

Travis: I want to tell you about Stamps.com.

Justin: Do you?

Travis: Yes, I do, because it brings all your needs and services of the US postal service right to your fingertips!

Listen, I'm lazy. I have—I'm, right now, looking at a thing I need to send that I keep forgetting about. But with Stamps.com, it makes it easy. You could do it right from home. You could print official US postage for any letter, any package, any class of mail, using your own computer and printer. They send you a digital scale, and it automatically calculates exact postage.

And Stamps.com will even help you design the best class of mail based on your needs. No need to lease a postage meter or anything like that, and there are no long-term commitments. Stamps.com has got you covered.

So right now, you can enjoy the Stamps.com service with a special offer that offers a four-week trial, plus postage, and a digital scale. Just go to Stamps.com, click on the microphone at the top, and type in "MyBrother," all one word. That's Stamps.com, and enter the code "MyBrother," all one word.

Justin: Friends, has your life become a little mundane?

Travis: Yes!

Justin: Then join us for a bit of the arcane!

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: *The Mundane and the Arcane* is a homebrew D&D 5e podcast focused on expansive world building, intensive roleplaying, and very good puns. Now, I hear what you're thinking. Blugh. But trust me, maybe it'll be good. Have your imagination tickled by a—

Travis: [laughs] Now, that was—

Griffin: [laughs] How fucking wack, dude.

Justin: A tickled dungeon master, clever girls, and troublesome twins with sticky fingers. No, the joke there was that we—we used to do that.

Griffin: Also do one of these, yeah.

Justin: We used to. We used to do a D&D podcast. That was the joke, 'cause we used to do one...

Travis: Ohh!

Justin: You know what I mean? It wasn't a great joke, but there'll be better ones on *The Mundane and the Arcane*, which you can find anywhere that you find fine podcasts.

Griffin: Uh, they come out every other Wednesday.

Justin: Do they?

Griffin: They do, it says that here. Geez, Juice, swing and a miss, bud. Just...

Travis: Our boy is sickly!

Griffin: I know...

Justin: I'm trying to—I'm hanging in there. Give me another shot. Please, put me in, coach.

Griffin: No, I'm gonna read this next one. I don't trust you anymore.

This is a jumbotron. It was for Anna Whiteside and Michael Watson, and it's from Loretta and Atticus, who say, "Meow, meow, meow, meow, meow." And there's a translation here, but I don't think we need to read it, because I feel like folks really sort of got the nug of that one. But I'll do it anyway.

"Translation: Happy two-year wedding anniversary, and thank you for feeding us so much. We are both overweight."

Travis: Now, here's the weird thing: Loretta and Atticus are their kids.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, they're feral—no, these are two kitties, and I think these kitties are beautiful and I think love the skin you're in. Or the fur that you're in. And that's all I have to say about that.

Travis: Please don't talk about skinning cats, Griffin.

Griffin: You're the one who did that, so...

Travis: What? This message—this next message is from Kelly and it's from Maureen.

Griffin: It's not from both of them, so it's to—it's to one of them.

Justin: Oh, God.

Travis: We are really firing on all cylinders.

Griffin: Don't say "we." Don't say "we." I'm bringing my fucking A-game 100 percent batting average, and you two are just dropping the ball.

Travis: Do you wanna start the episode over again? I'm your middlest brother—this is *for* Maureen. It's from Kelly.

“Hello, beautiful. Happy two-year anniversary. I’m so lucky to be your girlfriend. I wouldn’t trade a moment of our time together. Thanks for putting up with my haunted doll collection. It’s hard to believe that by the time the brothers read this, we will have seen them in person at least once. Lots of love, Kelly.”

Griffin: LOL. You said you wouldn’t trade a moment of your time together, that’s fine. But what about for these eight rubies?

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: And I hold out eight magic rubies.

Travis: Not—not the magical rubies, Griffin! Those are our family’s inheritance.

Griffin: I will take your most precious day. It shall be mine. Taste the rubies; they’re real.

Travis: They’re Skittles. [laughs]

Griffin: Tastes like rubies, don’t it?

[advertisement plays, relaxing music in background]

Adam: My name is Adam, and I love *Story Break*.

Megan: I’m Megan, and I love *MBMBaM*.

Adam: What really first got me into the show was the idea of creating a whole story out of a very simple concept.

Megan: I super love Haunted Doll Watch.

Adam: I’d love to see what they come up with next.

Megan: I realized I loved listening to almost every podcast you guys put out, but when I realized I was consuming almost everything you produce, I felt that it was, like, unfair of me not to give you something. Because you're giving me so much.

Adam: Honestly, Maximum Fun, they get me through my work week. They make me laugh every day, and nearly getting several cries. [laughs] That's on me.

Speaker: These are listeners just like you, and they support *Story Break* and *My Brother, My Brother and Me* with a Max Fun membership. The 2018 MaxFunDrive is April 2nd through 13th, and if you wanna support your favorite shows too, it is the best time to sign up or upgrade your membership.

Just tune in, starting April 2nd, and we'll give you all the details.

[advertisement ends]

Justin: Um, here's another question. I—man, we only did one question last time.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Well, we talked a long time about the stink UI on movies.

Justin: Well, I'm gonna stop feeling bad about stuff like that, because honestly, like, that's valub—that's valuable. Right? That's where our profits are gonna come from.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Do you know what I'm saying? Like, that's something.

Travis: Are you talking about, like, our question-to-minute ratio, we need to get that...

Griffin: As low as possible.

Travis: ... like, that's where the profit comes from? 'Cause we're only spending money on one or two questions an episode now. You know, it's got low overhead.

Justin: Yes. Like, those we have to pay so much for...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ... and the fewer we use, the better—um, the better it is.

"I work at a job where I'm often traveling for long periods of time with my boss in the car. I'm not a chatty guy, so this often means long stretches of time where we sit in silence. I'm actually okay with this, but I still feel like I should probably do something about it. How can I make our drives more interesting without jeopardizing my career?" That's from Taciturn in Transit.

Well, maybe there's something you both could listen to that you would enjoy both sharing and enjoying.

Griffin: This is literally it. This is why we—this is why we do what we do.

Justin: This is why we do the thing we do. Like, do you want us to—

Travis: Are you talking about, like, a book on tape, or—

Justin: No! No! No!

Travis: 'Cause there are some good, like, *Star Trek* novels. There's one, I think are all about The Q Continuum that Dad made us listen to once.

Justin: Sorry, can you just say that word one more time?

Travis: The Q Continuum. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: You know.

Justin: Yeah. There's the *Red Rising* series, new one of those. *Iron Gold* just popped off, fourth one in that series, it's great. They got four different sort of narra—no, podcasts! Just get a podcast, listen to it. Find some shared interests, and enjoy it together.

Travis: Now, hold on.

Justin: And then afterwards, you make a little conversation about it.

Travis: It's possible, though...

Justin: It's why we do what we do! Like, I take this very personally. This is the whole—getting people out of conversations is the main thing that we do—whether it's a conversation that you will have with yourself in your brain and can't stop having no matter what, or a conversation that you have with someone else, we are there to have the conversation for you, so you do not have to do the heavy lifting. That is why we're here every single week, for you to avoid chatting.

Travis: But this is the question, or the question I have is when you say, "Sit in silence," do you mean literally? Do you—like, no music, no podcast... nothing on, or you just mean that's going and you feel like you should be talking? Because you are worried about nothing. If music or a podcast or something is playing... that's what you do.

Griffin: You say music, but is there anything...

Justin: Nothing. There's nothing.

Griffin: ... anything more touch-and-go than when you get into somebody else's car, and they're like, "I'm gonna turn on some tunes," and in that moment, I am suspended in the fear dimension. [laughs] 'Cause I don't know what the fuck they're gonna put on.

Justin: No way.

Griffin: 'Cause it's not—it ain't gonna be mine. It ain't gonna be my music. And the inverse is maybe—it's fear dimension—the fear dimension inside the fear dimension, it is the Sunken Place of just like, "Hey, put something on!"

And it's like, "[scared] Do you like chiptunes? [makes scared noise]"

Travis: And not only that, I also guess that when it comes down to it, listening to music is rarely, like, a passive thing with another person. It becomes performative so quickly.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Of like, "I am enjoying—see how much I'm enjoying this!"

Griffin: I uh, have a friend named Batkins, and I remember distinctly, he was at our place in Chicago, just visiting, and my roommate had a record player with like an AV you hook up, and I had my iPod or whatever plugged in, and he was like, "Hey, play something."

And I was like, "Okay. My friend Batkins is kind of a music aficionado, let's see what I should put on." And I put on what I was most recently listening to, which I think was one of those old *Team Teamwork* mashups. He takes, like, cool game music and then puts, like, hip-hop and stuff over it.

And I put it on, and he was like, "Aw, this stinks!"

And I was like—

Justin and Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: This is the first time that I've ever been like, in a situation where somebody's like, "Hey, put on some music," and I put something on, and they were instantly like, "You picked—you chose wrong. You picked wrong. This is bad."

Justin: My—the first time I ever went on—and this is more about us than the Smirls, really, but the first time I went on a road trip with them, they didn't... turn on... the radio.

Griffin: Ohh.

Justin: Because... they were... And it took me a while to understand, like, why no one turned on the radio literally before you pull out of the driveway or engage the parking brake or anything. Like, you just disengage the parking brake. You turn on the radio. Nothing. Like, they didn't turn it on at all.

And eventually, I realized, I looked around in sort of dawning horror as they continued to chat idly, and not turn on the radio, that the plan was...

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: ... to chat idly!

Griffin: Ohh, gotta have my—

Justin: For the entirety of the journey!

Griffin: Oh, God!

Travis: No, where's the buffer? Where's the buffer?

Griffin: Where's the Buffett?

Justin: Where's the Buffett? I mean, anything!

Griffin: I gotta have my tunes, man! How am I supposed to jam back here?

Travis: This does make sense to me. Maybe this is about us, because like, even now, when Teresa and I get in the car, even if we're going somewhere five minutes away, I won't move the car until a podcast is playing or music or something.

Justin: Or something!

Justin: And she's like, "We're only going five minutes!"

And I'm like, "Yes, that is five minutes of my life! That's five minutes of crushing nothingness."

Griffin: Music's my soul, dude. I've been thinking about it, music's my fucking heart and my soul.

Justin: Thank you.

Travis: I mean, I—

Griffin: I live for the tunes.

Travis: I just like podcasts, I guess. I'm relistening to *Magic Tavern*, started at the beginning, and in like a week, I'm 75 episodes in. And that drive time—hey, that drive time, that's time when I can be accomplishing my listening goals, you know?

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: They can buy a fucking Jumbotron, for as much free advertisement you do.

Travis: Well, I was on an episode of it, so like...

Griffin: Okay. Um, here's a Yahoo. This Yahoo is sent in by Lauren McGregor, and if this is too similar to the one we did last week, please just let me know.

Travis: I can't remember last week's episode!

Griffin: Okay. Yahoo Answers user Brianna asks, "How did the person that invented the microscope think of the microscope?"

Travis: [gasps]

Justin: Whoa.

Griffin: We had the one that was like, "How did the person who invented the clock know what time it was?" And I'm just so curious, I guess, about inventions. And this one really drills down into it, in that somebody invented a microscope, and then...

Travis: It's like they looked at something, and thought, "I wanna see that bigger, but I'm not gonna move my head closer."

Griffin: Yeah, it's like somebody made the telescope, and they're like, "This lets you look up at the stars, but it makes 'em real big in your eye, and you're like... "Well, I wanna do that for my blood."

Travis: That's cool, I guess.

Justin: What I assume is that—what I assume is that they—they got a telescope, and they were like, "This looks at big stuff that's far away." And they looked at a slide that they had prepared. And why did someone know how to prepare a slide before the invention of microscopes? Don't worry about it.

So they just got the telescope, they turned it upside-down, and then they looked at it, and they were like, "Well..."

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: This is nothing, and nothing happened, but there's something like this we can definitely make... work.

Griffin: But they had to know that there was something in there. So like, they had a slide with blood on it, and they were like, "I bet there's—this is just full of li'l guys.

Travis: I bet this is full of shit. Look at it.

Griffin: I bet there's, like, little guys in there. I'm gonna call them amoebas for no reason.

Travis: I bet that, following the invention of both the telescope and microscope, there was a lengthy period of time of trying to convince somebody that it wasn't a prank if you put your eye up against it. Like, it probably was like—

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: Like, it probably was like—"Yeah, look through this."

"I'm not gonna look through—I'm gonna through that, and like, something's gonna like, poke me in the eye, and there's gonna be something in there that's spooky. No thank you.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean—

Travis: No, really, look in it!

Griffin: Whoever invented the microscope the day after definitely invented a prank microscope that like, you look through it and it's their butt.

Travis: Has anyone ever asked you to look into something, and you've thought, "This is probably fine"?

Griffin: No. There's always a fear moment.

Justin: They probably invented the prank microscope first.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: And people were like, "Um, no? Like, it's obviously a prank of some sort." So they had to invent the microscope.

Travis: "Aw, we forgot to build a setup! Augh."

Justin: Yeah, yeah. It's like they had the punch line first, and they were like, "Well, we gotta have something we're pretending that it is. What if we could, like, look at cells close or something?" And then they did.

Griffin: And you know... telescope gets invented, probably a week later, microscope gets invented, and then a week later after that, some dude named Jeremy or something was like, "I got a new one, and it's called a middlescope."

"What's it do, Jeremy?"

"It lets you look at middle-sized stuff. They just got the one for big stuff in the heavens and like, moon, and then we got the one for blood and amoebas and stuff... but what about, like, a nice shirt? Don't have one for that. I'm Jeremy. This is my middlescope."

And it's basically just a toilet paper tube. And it doesn't make things bigger or smaller. Just—

Travis: But it just—it lets you focus on it a little bit.

Griffin: It really lets you dial in, Travis.

Travis: I also think, probably, the person who invented the telescope, when they saw somebody be like, "I invented binoculars!"

And it's like, "You just taped two of mine!"

Griffin: "That's two of mine!"

Travis: "You taped two of mine together! You asshole!"

Griffin: Well, here's a three-eyed uh, binoculars. They're trinoculars. One million dollars, please, patent office. Oh, you don't want this one? Okay. What about a quadroscope, so you and a friend can get cheek-to-cheek and really check out some birds?

Travis: Really get up in those birds. Find out—do you think the person who invented the magnifying glass was mad at the person who invented the microscope? Like, “I did this already.”

Griffin: “I did this already.”

Travis: We finished this.

Griffin: Fat chance. Amoebas? [chuckles arrogantly] Oh, there are? Well, fuck!

Justin: Well, shit! I don’t know why I did that.

Travis: Should’ve put two of these together.

Justin: “At my office, there’s a room called the wellness room. It’s a small room near one of the break rooms. It has a comfy chair and a lamp. I didn’t think much of this room initially until I overheard my boss and coworker talking about they knew someone who would reserve the wellness room for up to an hour and use it to take naps during the work day.” Aw, hell yeah.

“Now, I’m incredibly interested in using this room to get in small naps during workdays I’m particularly tired, but I don’t know how to go about getting more information on how to reserve the room. I don’t wanna ask my boss or any of my coworkers, as I don’t want to give the people in my unit the impression I’m eager to nap during the workday,” even though you totally are.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: “Help me, brothers. How do I get into this sweet nap room?” That’s from Overtired in Oklahoma.

Griffin: I mean, I don’t know what the chart looks like! You just gotta use the chart, that’s why the wellness room is there. The sort of, like... corporate way of thinking about wellness is changing in a really positive way, where folks know that you gotta take care of yourself, and they’re trying to bake that in—I mean, at like, a cool, a cool modern workplace.

Travis: With like, segues and cubicles that look like cabanas and stuff.

Griffin: And so you gotta—

Justin: When we worked at AOL—when we used to work at AOL a long, long time ago, they had a room full of uh, nap pods. And the room was called nap quest. And I got a big kick out of that? But how's it going, AOL? Well, very bad, it does seem.

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: I—I think I would be afraid if I heard somebody talk about the wellness room and they were, like, planting rumors that you could use them for naps. Because the wellness room sounds like some Orwellian shit, where I'm gonna go in there and then my eyes are gonna be held open while I watch training videos about, like, committing my time harder to working better. And so like, maybe the nap thing is just a lie that your boss said near your possible, 'cause they are a nap freak.

Griffin: Wellness room's real, and it's good, and you gotta just do it. And you gotta own it, and you gotta assert yourself, and you gotta take those good naps. And here's—

Travis: Somebody else is already using it for that! It's not like you're breaking the wellness room.

Griffin: No, I know, but they're using it for one hour of the day. There's lot of hours in the day. 24, even.

Travis: That's what I'm saying, 'cause it's not like you're cheating with the wellness room if you want to take naps in there.

Griffin: Yes. Yes.

Travis: When someone's already doing it, you should feel free to take naps in—like, if you say, "I want to take a nap in there."

Your boss'll be like, "Yeah. Yeah, that's literally why we put it there!"

Griffin: And here's the thing... about the nap room... no one's gonna fucking wake you up if your nap goes a little bit longer. Your boss isn't gonna come in and, you know, push your shoulder while you're unconscious and be like, "Hey. Hey, sweet baby, it's time to wake up. Rejoin the workforce. Hey, it's time to get going on your day."

So if you sleep through the alarm, and you make it a good three-hour nap... I don't think anybody's gonna say shit, 'cause it's the wellness room.

Travis: This actually—this reminds me of a thing that—I was working—no, fuck it, I'll say it. I was working at Sears, and it was—

Justin: Whoa! I didn't know you worked at Sears!

Griffin: He worked at Lands' End.

Travis: Worked in the Lands' End department, so this is near the end of my time there, and Griffin and I lived very close to the Sears, like a five-minute drive. And one day, I looked at my coworker in the Lands' End department in a particularly slow day, and I said, "We only get a half hour for lunch, but I'm going to leave. And you're gonna cover for me. And I'm gonna be gone for like an hour, and then I'm gonna come back, and then you can do the same, and just not tell anybody."

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: Oh, that's good.

Travis: And we did that, and the thing is, is like... the number of times I looked my boss square in the line and said, "Yeah, I just forgot to clock back in, but I was definitely here after half an hour." They kept being mad at me, but also nothing came of it?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That's where I kind of learned that, like, rules are nothing. There is no info—so just, like, go take your nap, stay asleep, whatever, don't even set an alarm, and then come back and be like, "I guess I must've slept—" You won't get in—nobody cares. Nobody cares. They'll care as much as they think they need to for a second, and then it'll be over, because nobody really cares all that much.

Justin: Uh, every office I've ever worked in has—you're right, except one person who does care a lot. And they could be—the wild thing about this person is they can be in any position.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: You don't know. At the newspaper I worked at one time? She was the photographer. And she was the one who cared very much about everything that was happening at all times, everywhere. There's one person like that at every job, I think.

Griffin: Yeah, I'll tell you one that doesn't love it... is Mr. Tommy Smirl. He really...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: He really wants you to—he really, really wants you to make sure those time cards are... legit.

Justin: Legit.

Griffin: Like, good, good time cards. Also, at the movie theater in downtown Huntington... I won't name names, but they really wanna make sure that those punch cards are really exact and... a couple minutes late, don't do that ever again, I'll put you in the stocks.

So it's not universal like you said, Travis. Tommy Smirl and the movie theatre person, really just wanna ensure that no time crime—Tommy Smirl, great dude, but also time cop, and—

Justin: But hard on time crime.

Griffin: Hard on time crime. So just make sure, if you do work at Tri-Data Incorporated, you are being... not listening to Travis.

Justin: Naps are important, though.

Griffin: They're good.

Justin: You have to take them. Carve yourself out a half hour. Get your pazizz going. And just take that nap. You do need that. Go to HR, probably. They're in control of the wellness room, I would think. Just find the chart where every day, at like, 12:00, is written on it, like, "Dave sesh" for like an hour, where Dave is gonna get in there and have his sesh. And you can just pencil in after it, "Doug sesh," or whatever. Whatever your name is.

Travis: That's what you need. You need, I think, what has made my sneaking off from work and napping possible through all of my different retail jobs was I had a partner in crime. I had somebody that was like, "You look out for me, and I look out for you."

Griffin: Mm.

Travis: "I'll go take a nap behind the refrigerator boxes at Best Buy, and you do my work, and then you can take a nap behind the refrigerator boxes, and I'll do *your* work.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Travis: You have to coordinate a little bit. So I think that maybe that's what I mean when I say nobody cares. You just need enough plausible deniability.

Griffin: Man...

Justin: It's also important to note that like, after they do that once, they're dirty.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And once they're dirty, they cannot bring you—they—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You've got the juice on them, and even though they got the juice on you, they can't bring you down. You know what I'm saying?

Travis: It brings you closer as friends and criminals. Time criminals.

Griffin: Y'all ever—man, you ever watch *The Office*?

[pause]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah? It's on Comedy Central now, 24 hours a day.

Griffin: It's funny.

Travis: I don't think it's funny, Griffin. I think Jim is very mean to Dwight.

Griffin: Yes, good.

Travis: Although I did have a really intense and detailed dream the other day that I was—

Griffin: No, Trav, don't—hey, Trav, let me stop—let me stop you. I don't want to hear about your dream.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: But I was traveling with—

Griffin: If you would do it, actually, that's you doing time crime on me and me and Justin. A lot.

Travis: But I was traveling with the entire *Office* crew, Griffin.

Griffin: Oh, well, I've changed my mind. Now I've gotta know.

Travis: We were trying to check into a hotel, but oh...

Griffin: Take a nap on the middle of this podcast, just take a nap under my desk.

Travis: Michael hadn't reserved the hotel, and it was all booked up, and we were—it was me, me and Jim trying to fix everything.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: For sure.

Travis: And it just didn't—it didn't pan out in the end, but—

Griffin: Didn't—didn't um, Pam out. That's funny, dude.

Justin: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: I love that shit.

Justin: [wheezes] Stanley's doing his thing.

Griffin: Stanley's off in the corner, doing whatever. I love it, man. More seasons.

Justin: They're bringing it back.

Griffin: Loving that. More of it, please.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: They're bringing it back, and they need a new Steve.

Griffin: Good.

Justin: Good. Closure. I love that, Travis. Thank you. Thank you for putting it all together.

Travis: Thank you. I love to bookend. Oh, so fun to bookend.

Justin: So fun to bookend.

Griffin: Do you think—like, they do like, Ricky come back, and does a guest spot on it, but then at some point he falls into a toilet, but in real life. Then flushed down.

Justin: Bookending is better than having a good joke. 'Cause that's just saying, like... remember, from the beginning?

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: 'Cause it's better. That's better and easier.

Griffin: Is this whole episode time crime that we did to our listeners?

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] They can't get it back, one way or the other.

Travis: We got you!

Justin: Thank you for listening! Yeah, uh, we got you.

Griffin: To our greatest heist yet. Our greatest, most ambitious time heist.

Justin: Um, we—next week is gonna be—the MaxFunDrive is gonna be kicking off next week, and we are so excited. We are going to have a—it also just happens to coincide with episode 400, which is going to be, uh, buck wild. And that's next week, right, Griff? We're gonna drop it next week?

Griffin: Yeah, so MaxFunDrive, if you're a new listener, is an annual thing we do for two weeks. All the shows on the Max Fun network are supported by members who give monthly to our shows to show their support, and help

us keep growing and trying to do new, weird stuff. It is the best time to support our show. You'll feel awesome every time you listen, 'cause you know that you're a member of the network and you'll help us reach our goal of 25,000 new and upgrading members, holy fucking shit. That's a lot. We need your help to get there.

Justin: No fucking way.

Griffin: No, we'll get there—

Travis: [laughs] Nah!

Griffin: We'll get there with your help. And we'll also have great pledge gifts.

Justin: Probably not.

Griffin: At different levels, we have different pledge gifts coming down the pipe for ya. I'm talking about stuff like exclusive bonus content. If you give five dollars a month, 10 dollars a month, you get a cool pin, and...

Travis: And that pin, by the way, the *My Brother, My Brother and Me* one, I am in love with.

Griffin: Yeah, it's from—designed by Megan Lynn Kott, it's a Stronger Together: 20-Collaborate-teen pin, it's really good, and you get a Max Fun membership card. There's a bunch of gifts, and we're going to go over those, like, during the actual drive, which kicks off next week, but... if you've never become a network, or you already are one and wanna up your donation because you've been listening to more of our stuff, or you've been a heavier listener of the shows, we would really appreciate it if you think about donating at MaximumFun.org/donate, and support us by becoming a member.

We—we say we appreciate it, and that is not nearly enough to show our gratitude for what you all have done for us in helping this thing that we started doing, what, like, eight years ago, become a career for the three of us. You've changed our lives with that, and we call on you to just to help us

keep growing. So that's next week, and we'll have a very strange episode for you next week for episode 400, but we will also have more details on the Drive then.

Oh, and thank you to Megan for the kind words in the promo that we ran earlier. Again, MaxFunDrive, starts next week, runs April 2nd through the 13th.

Travis: Um, so, I've got—let's do some plugs, I'm gonna do 'em real fast. One, we have *My Brother, My Brother and Me* and *The Adventure Zone* tour dates up on the McElroyShows.com/tours. That tour's about 75 percent sold out, like the whole thing on average, about 75 percent sold out.

So don't wait to get your tickets. However, I will say, the Houston show, which is coming up very soon, it's a little light. So—

Griffin: Houston!

Justin: Houston! Houston!

Griffin: Here's the thing. I said, "Boys, come to Texas, so I won't have to travel very far." And this is something that's very important to me, is not having to travel very far. Houston, need your help to prove my thesis correct, so please go to McElroyShows.com/tours. Also we didn't mention this last week, we mentioned it on *Adventure Zone*, but we're doing a book tour for *The Adventure Zone Graphic Novel: Here There Be Gerblins*, which you can preorder at TheAdventureZoneComic.com.

We're gonna be doing, I think, four shows across the country in July, and you can also find tickets for that, and those go on sale... this Thursday, actually, March 29th. Each ticket sale also gets you a copy of the book! So go check those out.

Travis: And that goes out at 10:00 AM local to the venue, where the shows gonna be. All those, all the dates, all the locations are at McElroyShows.com/tours. Go check it out, we're doing shows all over the country, and there's dates listed from April to September, so go check that out.

Griffin: Yeah, it's gonna be dope. Also, we have a new store for our merch. It's at McElroyMerch.com. We got a bunch of new designs up there, some old stuff too, we're teamed up with DFTBA to make this store. We're really happy with how it's looking, and we're gonna keep updating it just constantly with new designs and stuff, and I think we've already got a couple of them that are gonna be coming out pretty soon. And that's at McElroyMerch.com.

Travis: Also, I'm gonna be at c2e2 in Chicago, April 6th through 8th. Got a whole bunch of events, live shows, and signings, and panels. You can find all the dates and get tickets at bit.ly/travisc2e2. All of the letters there are lowercase. And also, April 18th, *Shmanners*, the podcast that I do with my wife Teresa about etiquette and stuff, is going to be performing at Moon Tower Comedy Festival in Austin. You can find tickets for that, find out more information at bit.ly/moontowershmanners. S-H-M-A-N-N-E-R-S.

Griffin: And hey, thanks 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. It is so freaking good, you guys. And um, and thanks to Max Fun!

Travis: Yeah. Speaking of, I always like to encourage people, especially heading into MaxFunDrive... there's a whole lot of new shows on Max Fun...

Griffin: So many shows.

Travis: ... that if you haven't listened to yet, you should go check 'em out. 'Cause we seem to be adding more and more every month, and they're all great. So go check 'em out.

Griffin: Y'all want that final?

Justin: Yeah, absolutely.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, this final, then, was sent in by Adrian Cowles. Thank you, Adrian. It's Yahoo Answers user Barrack, asks, "So why did Sir Isaac Neutron shoot that apple off that guy's head?"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] 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 plays and ends]

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[camera shooting]

Speaker: In celeb news this week, the host of *Lady to Lady* took a break from hanging with today's hottest comedians, actors, and writers, to sell a sex machine. What'd they do with all that cash? Went to party bus to go to Magic Mike live in Vegas, of course. All of this on the heels of a salacious sizzler session with Home Alone 4 star, French Stewart.

Wanna know what the f-[censored beep] we're talking about? Tune in to *Lady to Lady*, whenever, wherever you listen to podcasts.

Can you keep a secret? [whispering] Neither can we.