

MBMBaM 390: Singing to the Bean Box

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

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

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

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

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

Justin: He's back on his grind!

Griffin: Back on. I've been chomping down those [with New Zealand accent] vitamins...

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: [normally] ...as my friends in, you know, New Zealand call them, "veetamins." And uh...

Justin: Veetamins.

Griffin: It's such a fun little turn of phrase. And yeah, I'm powered by the D and by the E and by the C. So, feeling great.

Travis: Excellent.

Justin: Uh, such a proud moment today. I activated uh, on Hulu an episode of *Sailor Moon Crystal*, the sort of revamp, relaunch uh, on Hulu. And I started the English version...

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: ... because my daughter speaks English, and...

Griffin: Primarily. We—we've—

Justin: Primarily.

Griffin: I've been trying to teach her Icelandic, but she's...

Travis: She also claims to speak baby whenever she hangs out with Henry and Charlie, so...

Griffin: True.

Justin: Yes, that's true. And she has picked up a good amount of, uh, Spanish from *Dora*. I started this episode of *Sailor Moon*, and my daughter loudly announced – and I don't know where she picked this phrase up, I can only imagine – she loudly announced [holding back laughter] that she wanted subs, not dubs.

Griffin: Well, wouldn't—yeah, that's a... I mean, she's a purist, and the best...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: That's uh, that's very, I mean, good. You should—you need to nurture that small flame into a raging bonfire of, sort of, righteousness...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: ... about, sort of, anime... how they sort of get their info across. Uh, w—

Travis: I like how you said you don't know where she got that from, as though it wasn't from Teylor.

Griffin: Yeah. Or from—she doesn't—she's not on, like, Tumblr, is she? God, I hope not.

Justin: No, she's not on Tumblr.

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: She's on Tumblr Junior.

Justin: Yeah. She's on Toddler Tumblr. Uh, whoa! Toddlertumblr.com, let me just see if I can get that one real quick.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, here's a—uh, so I'm very proud of my daughter, and she said that she—[laughs] she wanted to watch it so she could learn Japanese, which I told her that that...

Griffin: That's exactly how it works, actually.

Justin: ... [crosstalk], so I don't know.

Uh, so this concludes...

Griffin: [laughs] Everything we know.

Justin: ... all—no, this concludes all the discussion we ever wanna have about anime. So please... sa—

Griffin: I mean, I could go—I can go hard, if y'all want.

Justin: Nah, you got Twitter up right now at home, you're ready to tweet a great bon mot about—just... maybe don't. I don't actually want to talk about anime [laughs] uh, anymore. So that's all the anime discussion that we're ever going to have. So this is not a continuing bit.

Griffin: I mean, I will continue to reference *Yuri on Ice* wherever and whenever it is, uh, even remotely appropriate. So look—look forward to that, but yes.

Travis: Do the cool kids ever call that *Yuri on the Rocks*?

Griffin: Uh, no, that's a different show, where it's two, um, you know, rock climbers, but they're very much in love.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Very, very deeply in love.

Justin: Uh, here's a new, um, segment on the show. Um, just want to—it's called Domain Renewals, and these are domains that uh, I have now owned for over a year, and are still operational, I just wanna remind everybody. These are just from this month, the ones that um, I—the domains that uh, I own that are up for renewal, just to remind everybody about these great domains.

Uh, renewed this month: dadyelp.com.

Travis: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: So a lot of our business seems to be, like... a—type of age of person, and then existing—existing brand.

Travis: Can we remember, was dadyelp a Yelp for dads to use?

Justin: For dads.

Travis: Or was it, like, a Yelp to rate dads you've experienced?

Justin: Uh, I think it was a Yelp just for dads. Um, I—I actually—thinking about it, I made—uh, teengoogle.com goes to *Still Buffering*, the—a podcast about the teenage experience. And uh, I have been thinking about it. I think dadyelp should probably go to *We Got This with Mark and Hal*.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Like, that's basically [laughs] like, dadyelp, right?

Griffin: More or less.

Travis: I do like, Justin, how your domains have become, like, the Christian Mingle of, like, I guess weird comedy pod—of, like... it's just always 'something' mingle.

Griffin: What I love is that um, I forget the jokes that we tell more or less as soon as we publish the episode that contains them.

Justin: Sure.

Griffin: And yet you pay an annual fee to remember our half-jokes.

Travis: It's as though our dumb, dumb jokes cost you money to make.

Justin: Yeah. That's—

Travis: You are paying a premium for our dumb, dumb jokes.

Justin: Yeah. Just some other ones that have come up, like, literally just this month—I guess in January, I go hard on domains. Just this month, illegal.horse is back up for renewal.

Travis: [laughing quietly]

Justin: Uh, [holding back laughter] sexymugshots.com.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: That auto-fills every time I press S, and I have to remind myself that I'm not, like, a deep web pervert.

Justin: [through laughter] Sexymugshots.com is back up for renewal. That goes to our YouTube channel, for some reason.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Also, uh, other domains that have just popped up. Myyoungestsonsseventhwordhyphenmyyoungestsonsfifteenthword.pizza.

Griffin: Wow. Holy shit.

Justin: Is uh, back up for renewal. That—that deep cut from the *MBMBaM* ARG—TV show ARG. And uh, I think those are all the domains that are up.

Oh, boob—booboonanny.com.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Do not know—do not remember why booboonanny...

Griffin: So that's like, 500 dollars that you're paying... to keep these—these balls in the air.

Justin: I keep waiting for the offers to come in on these domains. For someone to try to buy them out from underneath me. But it has not happened yet.

Travis: Do you claim those on your taxes as expenses, and are you worried about getting audited? [laughs]

Justin: Um, I mean, they're a legitimate—it's a legitimate business expense, I think.

Whichonevapes is broken now.

Travis: Oh, no!

Justin: Which is—I know.

Griffin: Got too hot. Got too hot. Um—

Justin: Whoever created whichonevapes, please fix it.

Griffin: Should we answer some questions, do you think?

Justin: Oh, that sounds actually really nice, Tra—Griff. You're Griffin, yeah. That sounds nice.

"One of my friends recently got really into baking loaves of bread, and likes to share them with me. Problem is, they all taste *super* bad."

Griffin: "It's a bad bake, Barry."

Justin: "It's a bad bake."

"How can I be gracious in accepting his gifts without wasting a bunch of bread? I don't wanna tell him the bread sucks, 'cause he's very proud of them, but what do I do?" That's from Thanks—that says "Thanks." Awkward in Philly is who that's from. Mm...

Griffin: Uh, can you waste bad bread, is the question.

Justin: The bread's wasted. Like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: The bread is wasted.

Griffin: Well, what has been wasted here? Is it the flour, the yeast, the water and sugar? Perhaps.

Travis: The time.

Griffin: The time, especially. Um, the heat from the oven, like that energy can't be—could be created or destroyed, but it can't be wasted, uh, you know, firming up some bad bread. What I'm talking about—

Travis: That energy is trapped in that bread, and if you free it...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... it's just trapped there forever.

Griffin: Well, you free it by giving it to a duck, who then turns it into, you know, dookie. And...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ... duck flight, and so...

Travis: Ducky dookie, yes, yes.

Griffin: So the ducks—the ducks fly, it makes all the wind. But sometimes the wind gets to be too bad, and we get, you know, hurricanes, tornadoes.

Justin: Dry it out.

Griffin: Mm.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Put it in the uh, food processor, whiz it into breadcrumbs. And then take a coffee can, and cover it in peanut butter.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: And then put the breadcrumbs all over that, and then hang the coffee can outside, and you got yourself a nice little birdfeeder.

Griffin: And then you—and then you wait for them to fall into your trap!

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I—I do like, Awkward in Philly, that you have failed to see that there might be a middle road between accepting the bad bread and saying, “This bread sucks!”

Griffin: And that is not returning your friend’s calls ever again.

Justin: Right.

Travis: Well, no, but like—it’s—it’s a pretty well-established practice to say, like, “Oh, this is great!” and then give, like, a tiny note. Like, a tiny—tiny note.

Griffin: Oh, is that established? Is that something I can do in my day-to-day?

Travis: Yeah! When someone’s—when someone’s just starting out, when someone’s just starting out on a new, uh, hobby experience, like, to try to pretend like you nailed it 100 percent the first time, nobody expects that.

Griffin: Mm.

Travis: Now, it might be too late now, ‘cause you might’ve accepted too many—but this is more of a cautionary tale for the next loaf receiver to say, like, “Oh, this is great! Maybe a little too much salt, try less next time.”

Boom. Done. You’ve established, like—‘cause if somebody’s trying out a new experience, they want feedback.

Justin: No, they don’t.

Travis: They don’t want you to be like, “You’re the greatest.”

Justin: They don’t, they don’t, they don’t.

Griffin: No, Trav, I love you, bud, but they wicked don't. They wanna be— they wanna be—

Justin: Unless your friend has said, "Be sure to hit me with all of your great feedback after you finish consuming my gift," then they do not, in fact, want that at all.

Griffin: I back—I bake from time to time, and I know I over-knead my stuff sometimes. And all I want is for people to look at me like I'm the motherfucking Barefoot Contessa. Like, that's literally all that I need from that transaction.

Justin: Al—Also, it's like... I wish this person had been a bit more specific with the problems in the bread.

Travis: Mm.

Justin: Because the—your friend, like—unless you're a bread expert, maybe you're not gonna know that, like, "Hey, you had too much leavening in here." Like, "Hey, like, the—you added a little bit too much, you know, milk, and you made the batter too wet." Like, you're not gonna know that from eating the bread. I think—

Griffin: You gotta watch your friend bake the bread step-by-step.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And then you'll see the process, like, you got—pour the yeast in, pour the water—you want that water to be between 100 and 110 degrees. Activate the yeast for about five minutes.

Justin: The yeast.

Griffin: And then you're gonna add your dry ingredients, incorporate those in.

Justin: [kissing noise]

Griffin: A little bit of egg, and then I'm gonna dump in a two-liter Mountain Dew, and then move it—oh, wait, wait, wait. Hold on, hold on, hold on.

Travis: Wait, wait, wait! Wait, wait, wait!

Griffin: I think I see the problem.

Travis: Oh, the two—the two pages stuck together in the book, you were making Mountain Dew cake.

Griffin: It's different. It's a different one. You weren't using Diet Mountain Dew. And that's where the flavor sleeps.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: Actually, if you want a fucking cake, you m—you take cake mix, mix it with 12 ounces of soda, and you got yourself a fucking cake going. That's a cake right there. Make a Mount—Mountain Dew with a little bit of lemon cake mix, Mountain Dew.

Travis: Now, do you bake that, or just like eat it with a spoon? [laughs]

Griffin: While crying and also getting psyched up to play esports?

Justin and Travis: [laugh]

Justin: Uh, how about a Yahoo, Griffin?

Griffin: I would love to give that to you. 'Cause here's one from Level 9,000 Ya-Drew Druid Drew Davenport. Thank you, Drew. It's Ya-Drew Answers User Let's Kick it After School.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Who asks, "Should I punch Tyler in the face if he insists on calling eating 'refueling'? He's annoying me." End of question. Now, no. You shouldn't punch your friend Tyler in the face. But I think if anybody in your life refers to the act of eating food, whether it's a big sloppy joe or rack

of ribs, or some weird, bad Mountain Dew bread, and they called that “refueling,” they need to be punished in some—some way.

Travis: Unless...

Griffin: Mm, this is gonna be a tricky needle, but unless...

Travis: They’re a robot.

Griffin: A robot who eats...

Justin: Is your friend Tyler a robot?

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: I mean, you—what, it’s 2018. We’re just gonna toss out the fact that it might be a robot?

Griffin: No, there’s a good chance that it is a, uh, you know, some sort of frame.

Travis: Is Tyler maybe a medium wonder?

Griffin: Not a—not a small one, but an okay size.

Travis: Yeah, it’s an okay size one. It’s a medium wonder. “Oh, alright! And I’ve gotta refuel.”

When you say, “eating,” do you ever see the food actually go into Tyler’s mouth? And then defecate that food out later, maybe he just dumps out his chest cavity? Have you followed it, start to finish?

Justin: Is his—is his head a Mr. Fusion machine like in *Back to the Future 2*?

Griffin: Another possibility.

Travis: These are all good questions.

Griffin: These are the people, and these are the exact circumstances those people can be in... in which you can refer to eating food as refueling. If you are a snowboarder who is on the slopes...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ... and you've just carved a very, very sick line, and you've done all the tricks, and I'm talking about Olympic-level, you know, grabs and spins, and then you get to the bottom, and you pop into the—into the lodge, and you grab a quick, like, um, you know—no, I think you just maybe even pull some jerky out of your um...

Travis: Yeah, I was gonna say.

Griffin: ... your fanny pack, and you eat some jerky, and you say, like, "Gotta refuel." That's okay, 'cause you've just done things that I think could necessitate fuel.

Um, or a mountain biker. If you're a mountain biker, and you just—really, any sort of downhill activities, and you reach the bottom of the hill and you want to go again, any food you eat at that point, I think you can say, "Time to refuel, bro."

Surfers, I think, can also—you pat the tummy after doing a good pipe, and then you pat—pat the tummy, and you say, "Gotta refuel before I can get out there." And that's about it.

Justin: Query for you, Griffin.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Query. I am a blue belt in taekwondo.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Ooh...

Justin: My body is legally classified as a weapon at this point.

Griffin: Yeah, you are—you're on the registry somewhere.

Justin: Master Kruck at Tri-State Taekwondo says that my, uh, my reaction time at this point is probably five percent better than somebody who hasn't studied as long as I have.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: So I'm basically a weapon.

Travis: And a wonderland.

Justin: If I—if I eat foo—like, when I eat my Quest bar, can I say I've gotta reload? `Cause—

Griffin: Reload or refuel?

Justin: No, no, reload. I'm reloading my weapon. If I'm just eating a Quest bar, I'm reloading the weapon.

Griffin: [inhales through teeth]

Travis: I do think, to Griffin's point, and I think in all the scenarios Griffin listed, it has to be—like, you have—like, if you flip somebody, right, then *immediately* eat it?

Griffin: There's a proximity to the event. It has to be immediate.

Justin: Okay, yes.

Griffin: You flip—you flip somebody, which, based on what I know about, sort of, the classes you attend, is, you know, a 10-year-old. And then you flip `em, and they land real hard, and then you say, like, "Haha, gotta reload!" And you open up your mouth, and you unwrap the Quest bar, and you go, "[makes gun cocking noise, then eating noises]."

Travis: And maybe, like, another combatant is coming at you, and you put your hand out for a second, take a bite of the Quest bar, and suddenly you grow, like, six inches? And then flip `em again?

Griffin: Do you get—yeah, you must get stronger after eating the Quest bar.

Justin: I eat—I eat my Quest bar right before class, usually, so could I say, like, “Sorry. Hold on, Master Kruck. Gotta cock the food gun.”

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: Yeah. Gotta stockpile some punch ammo.

Travis: Mm. Yes, yes, yes. This all works. I do think that there’s a certain amount of time after—like, you can’t finish class, go home, watch, like, an episode of drunk history...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... and then maybe take a nap, and then wake up and say, “Gotta reload!”

Griffin: Gotta refuel... you can’t.

Travis: It’s weird.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I um—I had a fun experience um, in taekwondo class a little bit ago that I wanna share with y’all. We were doing a thing, kind of like conditioning, and a lot of it’s just like, building up your cardiovascular health. That kind of thing. It’s great for you.

So we were doing this thing where we had to like, do... I think, round kicks on a bag as many times as we could in a minute. And another guy in my class, who I—is a great guy, but for some reason, it was just the two of us in class, so it got weirdly competitive. So he kicked the bag like 40 times in a

minute, and he was like, really winded. And I was like, I'm gonna fuck this guy up. So I kicked the bag 50 times in a minute.

Griffin: Whoa.

Justin: Yeah. I kicked the bag 50 times in a minute. And then Master Kruck was like, "Wow, Justin. Good job, I'm very proud of you."

And then I took four steps away and threw up on the floor. [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: What's great—okay. That's amazing. I was also about to ask, "Do you think that your master was about to be like, 'You are the chosen one,' [laughs] and then you vomited," he's like, "Wait—"

Griffin: Probably for about four seconds, he was like that.

Now, Justin, I gotta say, right there is a perfect refuel opportunity.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: That is a—that is a—the things—the things I wanted to refuel on, though, was like, oxygen. [laughs] Like, I don't think...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: That's what I didn't have enough of in that moment.

Griffin: Oxygenated—oxygenated blood would be great to reload that in the chamber.

Travis: I joined a—when I was living in LA, I joined a gym, and along with it came, like, one free consultation with a personal trainer. And the personal trainer was talking to me, and they were like, “So what’s your level of—”

And I was like, “Let me stop you there. The answer is not.”

And he was like, “Well, hol—let me run you through some stuff.” And we did 10 seconds of, like, these jumping things, and I went in the bathroom and threw up. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I came back, and he was like, “Are you ready to keep going?”

And I was like, “In what way is me throwing up not the end of this?”

Griffin: Well, they were called “burpees,” Trav.

Travis: “Like, I’m done.”

Griffin: They’re called burpees, Trav, so you really should’ve seen it coming.

Travis: I mean, I guess.

Griffin: My problem is to—

Travis: I never went back, and he like, called me once a month, like, “Hey, just wondering if you wanted to pick up—”

I was like, “I am all set. Thank you very much.”

Griffin: To continue the metaphor, my nonexistent exercise regimen... is as such that I am essentially standing at my own fuel pump, just letting the thing overflow.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I am—I am—if anything, I am over-fueled, and there's about ankle-high sort of uh, pool of fuel just laying on the ground that I am just not burning. And really, that's in preparation for you know, if shit goes down, my—my body will be, you know, just crazy and wild, and just ready—ready for action, but um, it's really a fire hazard.

Justin: Uh, how about another question?

Griffin: Please do this.

Justin: "My friend is a very kind person, and she got a cute poster for me as a gift. Or else, I think it was meant to be a gift." A lot of bad gifts this week, huh?

Griffin: Well, it's not the gift that was the problem this time, if you read on.

Justin: "The thing is, we were both so socially awkward, I'm afraid she might've just been showing it to me, and I assumed it was a gift, and she was too nervous to say that she was just showing it to me. My question is this."

Griffin: [shaky breathing]

Justin: "Is there a socially acceptable way to ask someone after the fact whether or not something was actually a gift or not, or am I doomed to live out the rest of my days, wondering about whether or not I'm a socially awkward poster thief?" That's from Possible Poster Pincher in KCMO.

Um, you've actually come to the right place.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Because literally every time we have ever done a signing or, like, just sign stuff for people after a show, like literally four to five times I will be presented a picture or, like, art or something, and it's always beautiful, and I'm always running the math in my head, like, "Am I to sign this, or is this a gift to me?"

Because if I ask, "Is this a gift?" I cannot—

Griffin: It sounds terrible.

Justin: It sounds terrible! Because it's like—

Travis: Well, and this did—this did happen to me once.

Griffin: Yeah, we actively took something.

Justin: It happens to me all the time.

Travis: Somebody—somebody showed me a thing, I was like, "Oh, this is great!" and I went and handed it to Teresa.

And then they came back, and they said, "I do need that back." [laughs]

And I was like, "Oh, yeah! Of course!"

Griffin: After a live—after one live show, I was, like, doing my usual running along the front of the stage, you know, high-fiving people. And somebody pointed to a hat they had? I think the hat said, like, "sweet baby brother" or something like that on it. I forget what it said.

But I took the hat. And I took it, and I was backstage, reading Twitter, you know, seeing how people thought the show went, and I got a tweet from somebody who was like, "Jeez, I'd love that hat back."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [coughing laughter] "Jeez Louise, I'd really love that hat."

Griffin: And really, that is maybe the worst offense of all, is—there was no body language there to suggest, like, "Here's a hat for you." Although it did say something that is, like, one of my titles on it, so, um...

Travis: It might have well have said, "Griffin's hat."

Griffin: It—

Justin: It was your IP.

Griffin: It was my IP, and that—

Justin: That's very different—

Travis: He didn't take it to wear it. He took it because it was copyright infringement.

Griffin: No, and I immediately incinerated it.

Justin: That's a very different situation from when, uh, Christian novelty music artist Mark Lowry stole my hat at a concert, because he wanted to wear it. He knew—it was an Atlanta Falcons hat, and that's his... I guess, his team as well. So he thought that he had dominion over my hat.

Travis: He did it on purpose? He coveted your hat?

Justin: He did it on purpose. He coveted my hat, which is a sin. Thank you, Travis. And then he threw it into the crowd, like, "Oh, wild show, Mark. Can I get my hat back?"

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: He threw it in the crowd, as though he could not return it to you. Like, what an... asshole!

Justin: Yeah. He was, like, halfway down the arena at that point, and he just chucked it into the crowd, like, "Aw, man, what a fun show." And there's, like... it's a weird thing of statistics. Because, like, statistically, nobody cared about that hat. [laughs]

Like, if you weigh the statistics of the crowd, statistically everybody thought, "Oh, man, that was just like a fun interaction that he had." And if you did the stats, it'd be like 1,999 percent of the people did not care. And then

there's like, one statistical outlier that was me [laughs] that would like his hat back, please, Mark.

Griffin: Now, what I will say is, I think this is, like, a very funny situation. Like, we have a good laugh about this after, when we're debriefing about the many, many sort of... societal norms we fucked up during each and every signing, 'cause it's—it's incalculable how many times we goof up, just uh, talking to and interacting with other humans.

Um, and we have a good laugh. Oh, boy, can you believe you tried to steal that person's hat, and you know, either failed or succeeded? Um, and so I don't think there's any problem with you going to this person, and being like, "Hey, I have a weird question, but was that a gift, or were you just showing it to me?"

'Cause there's no—there's no, like, bad—if they're like, "No, it was a gift, you goofus," you can say, like, "Okay, well, I didn't know, and I was worried about it," then I think you can kinda laugh it off.

Or if they say, like, "Yeah, I was just showing it to you, and you took it, and I didn't know how to respond." And that's kind of funny too, and they will get it back. I don't think you have to worry too much about bringing this up.

Travis: You could also just like, find a copy of the poster and get them one too, and be like, "Now we're poster buddies!"

Griffin: Yeah, it's like if you steal a car, as long as you buy them another car that looks like the car, then you're totally fine.

Travis: Wouldn't you want—wait, hold on. Though—honestly. If someone stole your car, and you were like, "Ah, someone stole my car," and then you went outside the next day, and there was a brand-new version of that car sitting in your driveway...

Griffin: Yeah, no, I mean, the thing I said was nonsense. The thing I said was absolute dookie nonsense, and I wasn't expecting one of you to call me on it. But I guess you did, and now this is where we're at.

Justin: My assump—this is my question. My assumption is that Mark Lowry probably doesn't remember stealing my hat.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: “[narrator voice] The day that Mark Lowry stole your hat was the most important day of your life.”

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “To me, it was Tuesday.”

[normally] [laughs] I've always assumed that. But like...

Griffin: [coughs]

Justin: We have very clear, visceral memories of every time we've ever fucked up.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Do you think that, if I were to grill Mark Lowry, he'd be like, “Aw, Justin.” [laughs] “Aw, man.”

Griffin: “Hey, bud.”

Justin: [laughs] “I think about that hat every day.”

Griffin: If you really wanna Zapruder this, this event that happened—this shared event in yours and Mark Lowry's life, the only reason he would wander back into the crowd and throw the hat to a random person is A, he didn't know where you were, but B, he knew he couldn't keep this hat. He had absolved himself of the hat theft guilt...

Justin: [coughs, laughs]

Travis: It was a *Serendipity* moment, where he knew someday that hat will make it back to you.

Justin: That is—

Travis: And if you're listening to this right now, and you're looking [crosstalk]—

Griffin: And you're at a Mark Lowry concert, and you got hit in the face with the sharp bill of an Atlanta Falcons cap, and kept it out of spite.

Travis: Somewhere, there's a huge fan of Mark Lowry who has saved this hat as a memento of the greatest day in their life...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... when Mark Lowry threw a hat to them. And they're listening to this right now... Give that to Justin.

Justin: It is a pretty damning comment—or, I guess, darning comment on Mark Lowry – 'cause he's a Christian music artist – uh, it is a pretty damning comment on Mark Lowry that his—the way his brain worked was, "Well, I took it from *the crowd*."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "And I gave it back to *the crowd*, so I guess I'm okay!" Mark.

Travis: "Go back from whence you came, hat!"

Griffin: I think—I think Mark suffers from the same awkward, sort of, social issues that the three of us have, where if somebody—I took somebody's hat from the crowd at a live show, and then wanted to give it back to them, but did not know where they are, I absolutely would just ultimate that motherfucker right back down the center aisle as hard as I possibly could.

Because at that point, I know I've still fucked up, but I at least will not have this... this reminder on my dome, constantly. I think that Mark did the only logical thing, and I think we need to cut him some—some fucking slack.

Travis: Well, he did what me McElroys would've called "yours now."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Which, the last person to be touching the thing just inherits the responsibility of having to deal with the repercussions of having that thing.

Griffin: Sure.

Um, I got a quick Yahoo real quick before we get to the Money Zone.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: It was sent in by—

Justin: Do we not wanna talk about Mark Lowry anymore? 'Cause—

Griffin: No, I think we've lost ourselves and our audience enough for one episode.

Travis: We'll do that in the after show, *My Brother, My Brother and You*.

Griffin: Um, Hannah Troxel sent this one in. Thank you, Hannah. It's Yahoo Answers User Serve the Servants, asks—this is a quick one. Just looking for a quick answer from you guys. Straw poll.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: "If Jurassic Park was real, would you go?"

Justin: Ooh!

Travis: Hm. Okay, wait. There's a very important factor here I need to know, and maybe we can just acknowledge this and then put it away. Is Jurassic Park real in a world in which we have all seen the *Jurassic Park* movies?

Griffin: I would think no.

Travis: Then yes, I would go.

Griffin: Eh, then what if the answer's yes?

Travis: Then no, I would not go. I have seen—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I have seen what happens when we meddle in God's play place. And—

Griffin: I do not know—

Justin: The more interesting question is, you see a news stor—you're—you're you, okay? But it's tomorrow.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: And you see a news stor—

Travis: Wait, slow down. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. You're you, but it's tomorrow, and you just see a sign that's like, "Real Jubrassic Park open, believe it or not."

Griffin: Did you say "Jubrassic"?

Travis: He did!

Justin: No—[laughs] the real jabroni park is open.

Travis: [crosstalk].

Griffin: These dinosaurs are real jabronis.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: I'm gonna crotch-chop all these T-Rexes.

Justin: [wheezes, coughs] It's real Jurassic Park, except they're aware also of the films. So they're like, "Listen, [through laughter] it's not gonna be like that."

Travis: "We know how this sounds."

Justin: "We know how it sounds. It's not gonna be like that. We've taken every precaution."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "This is—listen, can't stress enough, we've also seen the movies. We have been so careful."

Griffin: "We know. We know about our brand."

Justin: I guess I'm—I am describing *Jurassic World* at this point, I guess.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But—yeah. So Jura—but it's like, "Yes, we know, we get it. We get your hesitation, but it is real as *Jurassic Park*, and we fixed it." And Travis, you have the—the only—okay. Here, let me sweeten the pot for you.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: It's not sweetened, it's like sweetening the question. You have a ticket, but it's for opening day...

Griffin: [laughs] You do not wanna know [crosstalk]...

Justin: ... at real Jurassic Park, but they *swear*—but they *swear* they're like... [laughs]

Travis: Well, I'm more likely to go on opening day, 'cause that's when they're gonna be most on point.

Griffin: I guess so.

Travis: You don't wanna go two years in, when they start to get lax with it.

Griffin: Yeah. You get fucking... Chester the townie watching the fucking raptor cages, like, "Aw, come on, boys. I just got a text. Uh-oh, I turned my back on the raptor cages! Now I've been destroyed."

Justin: That—that logic doesn't hold, Trav. You look at opening day of, like, um... Magic Kingdom or Epcot...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: When those open—and they were up against the clock, but you had huge breakdown in rides, Space Mountain...

Travis: And Mickey ate all those people.

Griffin: Mickey did eat all the kids, yeah.

Justin: ... was broken down more than it was open. I mean, but both of those were because they were so taxed by the crowds of people that were there.

Griffin: Snafus.

Justin: So like, you—yeah. Like, I don't—I don't think that you could—that doesn't inoculate you, I think. Because they're not ready for that number of people.

Griffin: Let me hit you with this plot for *Jurassic World 2*.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Uh, me as John Hammond Junior Junior...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ... and I'm like, "I got it this time. I'm gonna do it again."

And then I'm gonna have, like, a board of people who are like, "No, so so many people have died."

Travis: "You've done this eight times, John."

Griffin: "It's never worked."

And I say, "Don't wor—first of all, shut up. You don't tell me what to do. My family made dinosaurs happen again." New *Jurassic World*, and you're gonna love this: it's just all brontosauruses. Roll credits. No action, don't worry about it.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: Never been a brontosaurus-based death in those movies. These gentle giants would never step on a toddler.

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: I love these gentle giants. They're not going—unless the toddler is made of leaves, or maybe—the only thing is just like, you open it up, and it's all brontosauruses, and then you're like, "Oh, it'll be totally safe."

And then, you know, fucking Andy from *Parks and Rec* is there, and he's like, "I don't know about this. I think it's gonna go bad."

Justin: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: And everybody else is like, "Don't worry about it. It's all brontosauruses."

And it's like, "Okay, here they come." Open up the gates, everybody comes in. It's like, "Hi, welcome to Jurassic World. Here's your ghillie suit."

And it's like, "No!" Chomp, chomp, chomp, chomp, chomp.

Travis: Oh, no!

Justin: It is—it is—it is wild when you think about the original Jurassic Park, first time, right? There was definitely [laughs] a moment where somebody, like, knock, knock, knock, on John Hammond's door. He looks up from his dope ice cream, spared no expense. Looks them—looks them in the face, and they're like, "Hey, um, should we make a T-Rex?"

And he was like, "Aw, hell yeah!"

Travis: "Yeah, definitely!"

Justin: [laughs] Like—

Travis: "Well, John, hold on. I know I asked, but you can see how this goes bad, right?"

Justin: "Can we make—should we make velociraptors?"

"Aw, yeah, yeah, sure, yeah."

Griffin: "Definitely."

Justin: "That'd be great."

The logic there is that like, if you made a park with dinosaurs, people wouldn't come unless it had dope ones that they liked? Are you kidding me, John?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: No, okay, hold on. I would like to—this is my plot for *Jurassic World 2*, right? Open it up, they have made one triceratops. Big initial—big initial opening. Everybody goes. Then two years in, it's like, "Well, we're

bankrupt.” Roll credits. [laughs] Nobody came anymore. Everybody got bored with dinosaurs.

Justin: “Everybody saw the one triceratops we made.”

Okay, here’s my—here’s—

Griffin: What if you got to keep—what if you got to keep a triceratops when you left?

Travis: Oh, you go—that is, I will say, my one logical problem with *Jurassic World*, is there is a line, I think, where Bryce Dallas Howard says, “You know what people want? Bigger dinosaurs.”

And I said, “I don’t think that’s true. What everybody wants is, like, a tiny T-Rex they can keep in an aquarium on their desk.”

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, that would be sick. If you’re gonna manufacture different-sized dinosaurs, make me a really tiny brontosaurus.

Griffin: Give me a Digipet, is basically what I want.

Travis: Right?

Griffin: And also, Bryce, I think you’ve misunderstood what the audience for this amusement park wants, and that is to visit it, and not be destroyed by a powerful dinosaur jaw. Is my number-one thing.

If I heard, “We gotta do Jurassic World, and here’s the attraction that you’re just gonna go nuts for. We’ve made bigger, more deadly dinosaurs.”

I would say, “Boy, you all have really lost the—I can see the review on, you know, *The Verge*,” like, I feel like their heart’s in the wrong place on this one. I feel like they should maybe focus more on dinosaurs that won’t destroy the children with their powerful jaws and claws.

Travis: Tiny dinosaurs like the ones from *Pee-wee's Playhouse*. That's what I want.

Griffin: Those are fun. Now we're talking.

Justin: Here's—here's my pitch for *Jurassic Park 3*. Even though they already made one, here's what I would do, probably, if they let me remake *Jurassic Park 3*.

I—still Griffin is John Hammond Junior Junior.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Justin: 'Cause I love this character of John Hammond Junior Junior. Sort of a petulant descendant who—

Griffin: He's a real pissy—real pissy mess.

Justin: Yeah, and he's inherited—

Travis: And there's just so many merch opportunities.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. He inherited the whole thing, and *Jurassic Part 3* is about him going to Isla Sorna, 'cause they wiped out all the ones on Isla Nublar. But he goes to Isla Sorna, and he just is gonna take them all, 'cause they're his.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: So the movie is about "These are my dinosaurs... "

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "My pap-pap made 'em... "

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "... and I'm gonna put 'em—[laughs] I'm gonna put 'em all on my boat, and take one to my house." So he's just liter—

Griffin: Yeah, and tech—"You can't eat me, T-Rex. I'm your uncle, basically."

Justin: [laughs] "I'm basically your uncle."

Griffin: "You wouldn't eat your uncle, would you?"

Justin: "And I'm gonna put you in a boat and take you to my home, 'cause you're my dinosaur, 'cause my pap-pap made you."

Griffin: And now it's *We Bought a Zoo*.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: It's like we bought a Jurassic Park. And it's like, "I don't know. This is really gonna put some stress on the family."

"Like what, having a bunch of velociraptors around? Come on, Susan. These are my velociraptors. They're my nephews, and I love them."

Travis: "They listen to me."

"They don't."

Griffin: "They listen to me."

"They don't. They super don't."

Justin: Just stop putting meat-eaters in your p—stop putting carnivores. Just put herbivores. I would've gone to Jurassic Park for the opportunity to meet Wayne Knight. Like, you don't need to put a bunch of dinosaurs in there.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: Okay, wait, hold on. What people want is bigger Wayne—what I have done, I made a 10-foot Wayne Knight. And he is an herbivore.

Griffin: He's an herbivore. We got him eating kale, and he's just crazy about it.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: We keep him in this big pen, because he's—

Travis: We've cloned a bunch of Wayne Knights. I found a Wayne Knight in a piece of amber.

Griffin: Oh, boy.

Justin: Um...

Griffin: Oh, my God, Wayne Knight is pregnant. Nature finds a way.

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Justin: Nature finds a way. Uh, let's go to the Money Zone.

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

Griffin: Just added "pregnant Wayne Knight" to my Tumblr tags... and we're good to go.

Travis: Hey, everybody. Do you wanna make a fansite for pregnant Wayne Knight? The pregnant Wayne Knight fansite? Sure you do. We all do! But how? You don't know anything about coding. You don't know shit.

Well, with Squarespace, you can! You can... make a cool website dedicated to just about anything you want. And you can publish content there, links to videos, sell products and services. Um, great for if you wanna, like, keep people up to date for uh, announcements or upcoming events or anything like that.

Squarespace is perfect. I've made a couple websites on Squarespace now, and I don't know anything about building websites. But Squarespace makes it so easy to just, like, add in the elements that you need, and anything you don't understand, they have 24/7 award-winning customer support, and, I will say – and the copy doesn't say this, but I found it so useful – there are like, countless YouTube videos that are like, "Oh, you wanna do this? Here's how." So—

Griffin: Yeah, it's super easy. I made—Travis made mcelroyshows.com, I made griffinmcelroy.com. It took, like, an hour. It's so easy.

Travis: And there are so many different, like, options for stuff you can do. And if you do know about coding, there's also areas where you can add html and that kind of thing to customize it even more! And you can find your own domains, like Justin does, and make the website really your own!

So if you want to check it out, go to squarespace.com for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "mybrother," all one word, to save 10 percent off your first purchase of a website or domain. That's squarespace.com, and enter the code "mybrother," all one word.

Griffin: I wanna tell you about stamps.com. Uh, here's a New Year's Resolution you can actually keep – I know this is still on the forefront of everybody's minds, is these resses – you can add stamps.com to your business, and you can save time and money this year! Because stamps.com brings all the amazing services of the US postal service right to your computer.

You can use your computer to print US postage for any letter or package, any class of mail, and then the mail—the uh, mail carrier comes and picks it—picks it right up from ya!

Stamps.com can also send you a digital scale that automatically calculates exact postage. It's really very, very convenient. Um, sometimes, you know, you're not able to leave the house and go—run to the post office, and so they bring the magic of the post office to you. So right now—

Travis: If anything, I would say that it's too convenient. Sometimes I just mail stuff 'cause I can, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah.

Travis: I just pick up a piece of paper, stamps.com it, put it in the mail. Get it out there. And the people are like, "There's nothing on this."

Griffin: I mailed Travis some garbage that I just didn't feel like, you know, standing up and going to the... um, trash can to throw—

Travis: That was garbage? I framed it!

Griffin: Yeah, it was garbage. Yeah, well, you're the trash king.

Anyway, right now you can enjoy the stamps.com service with a special offer that includes a four-week trial plus postage and a digital scale. If you're ready for a happier new year, just go to stamps.com, click on the microphone at the top of the home page, and type in "mybrother." That's stamps.com, enter "mybrother."

Travis: All one word, "mybrother."

Griffin: All one word.

Justin: "You're wondering if Torsey would win in a knockdown drag out brawl against Dunkey?" Those are characters that we created, so this is a IP-violating Jumbotron message. "Maybe you've pondered if tit-liquid," okay, "would emerge victorious for a back-alley free-for-all?"

Griffin: Absolutely would. No question on it.

Justin: No question. "On the *Ultimate Showdown* podcast, we don't debate those specific fights – sorry – but we do debate other great match-ups for the ages, like Punisher versus Beatrix Kiddo, or Fezzik versus Jaws. Join Tristan the Marine... "

Griffin: What's up!

Justin: "... Cheryl... " What's up! "... Cheryl, Cannon, and Fowler each week as they debate the age-old question, who would win in a fight?" And that show is called *Ultimate Showdown*. You can look for it wherever you download podcasts, and remember, fight it out, but be excellent to each other.

Griffin: Uh, do you want me to read this next one?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Yes, I do.

Griffin: Uh, this message is for Sunflower Station and it's from Sunflower Station, who says... aw, man. "Hewwo? Hewwo, McEwoys? This message comes from Sunflower Station, Viron's band of meme criminals. Thank you, Viron, for creating a space where we can all support each other on our art and daily worries, play D&D, and watch *Flintstones*. *Viva Rock Vegas* together." Oh, that's the name of the movie. I don't know why I added a period there.

Uh, "Here's to many more great memories and internet friends. PS, Hamtarobot still sucks." Well, Hamtarobot has feelings. I don't know why you would say that. I also don't know if I said Viron's name correctly, but I sure hope that I did. Um, this is—this is a wonderful little crowd, it sounds like, and I'm sitting here, trying to think if I've seen *Flintstones Viva Rock Vegas*, and the answer is uh, no.

Travis: Is—wait, is that the one with Kyle McLachlan? Or is that the first one?

Griffin: Um, I think they both have him in it.

Justin: The second one is the one with um, Alan Cumming as the Great Gazoo.

Travis: Oh, of course.

Justin: So if you had that—you would not forget that.

Griffin: Yeah, [crosstalk].

Travis: [crosstalk], which Barney is it?

Justin: Uh, it's still the orig. It's still the orig cast.

Travis: Are you sure? 'Cause I think one is Rick Moranis.

Justin: No, no, no, no, no, no, no, you're right. It's not Rick Moranis; it's, uh, a Baldwin.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Dick Moranis.

Travis: [laughs] Uh, we have another message—

Griffin: "I'm Dick Moranis, the evil Rick Moranis!"

Travis: "But also Rick Moranis is my brother! He's cool."

Griffin: "Honey, I shrunk the kids!"

"Who fuckin' cares? I'm Dick Moranis!"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: This is a message for A., from H.

"To my wife and best friend, thank you for giving me *TAZ*, and then when I ran out, *MBMBaM*, even starting at episode 1 when you said I shouldn't. I can't believe how much we've accomplished in 'time period' but only together could we get it done. So let's have these good, good boys tell you

how much I love you, and it's a lot. You are my everything." It's very nice, and also vague.

Justin: That's so sweet. That's so sweet. I think it was Stephen Baldwin, for the record.

[relaxed music in the background]

Freddie: Hey, everyone, Freddie Wong.

Matt: Matt Arnold.

Will: And Will Campos.

Freddie: Here to tell you about *Story Break*, a writer's room podcast where every week we, the Hollywood geniuses behind *Video Game High School* have one hour to turn a humble idea into an awesome movie.

Matt: Thrill as we weave the tragic tale of *Jar Jar: A Star Wars Story*.

Will: We're gonna double down on everything that made the prequels great. Jar Jar, Trade Federations, politics!

Matt: [crosstalk]!

Freddie: [laughs]

Will: Gasp as we assemble a pantheon of heroes for the Kellogg's cinematic universe.

Matt: We could get rid of Snap, Crackle, Pop. I wouldn't even miss them.

Freddie: You're crazy.

Matt: They die in the second act.

Freddie: Oh, come on!

Will: And join us as we make fun of Matt as he struggles to name a single Beyonce song.

Matt: Well, yeah, "Put a Finger on it." Sure, she wants to be Beyonce.

Freddie: "Put a Finger on it," Beyonce's famous song.

Will: [laughs]

Freddie: Will we break the story?

Matt: Or will the story break us?

Freddie: Find out by joining us in the writer's room every Thursday on maximumfun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

[music and advertisement end]

Griffin: Here's a Yahoo. It was sent in by Merit Palmer. Thank you, Merit. It's uh, "I've noticed a strange habit I have. If I'm at a coffee shop, I will take sips out of my empty mug. Nervous habit, or what?" And that was asked by me, in college. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: It's actually an anonymous user, but we'll say it was from me, in college. Additional details: "I do it more when I'm staring around in space."

The coffee shop is a real performative battleground, isn't it? 'Cause you wanna look like you're enjoying the coffee shop the best and most. And you sit there, and the coffee's empty, but you still wanna look impressive, like you understand the complexity of each beautiful bean.

And so you sip it, and I would often say things – usually under my breath, but – you know, akin to like, "Mm, exquisite beans today." Or, "Mm, what a fascinating bean." Usually something complimentary about the bean, or like, "Mm, I can really tell the—where the beans came from," and say stuff

like that. "Spicy note to the beans today, Michael!" And usually, I—there wasn't a Michael, but...

Justin: One thing I like is complementing the roast, like, "Oh. What a flirty roast. What a flirty roast that is."

Travis: "What a juicy roast."

Griffin: "You really roasted the piss out of these beans."

Travis: "Oh, yeah, he roasted the shit out of these." [laughs]

Griffin: "These are—these bad boys are toasty and roasty. And I can really taste the complexity of the notes."

Justin: One thing to do that's good at the coffee shop that they actually like, is before they bring your coffee, ask if they can take a handful of beans, and roast them more.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: And they'll do—they can. So they just scoop some out of the machine, and then they put them in the oven that they use to heat up the turkey and cheddar sandwiches.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: And they'll just roast them more.

And they'll like—at first, they might kinda be like, "Huh?"

But then the more wizened, like, pros at Starbucks would be like, "Oh, he's been around. He knows that these beans need just a second longer."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And it's—it's good if you wait to do this until you—after you sort of, like, examine the beans? So it's like, you've made a judgment call that, like, they could probably go back a little bit.

Travis: And get out your, like, little jeweler's, you know, kind of glass.

Justin: Oh, that's good, yeah.

Travis: So you'll be like, "Oh, no. One more minute."

Justin: Chomp one up, and crunch it until it's just coffee grounds, and then go ugh, blech, blech, blech! And then spit it in the trash can. 'Cause you're not gonna eat it.

Griffin: No. But it is, I think, nice to s—ask for your coffee to have a little bit of pulp.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Just say, like, "I—give me some of the beans sort of in there. I wanna strain it with my teeth."

Justin: Everybody filters out the pulp. Thank you, Griffin. Such a good note.

Griffin: It's so—that's where all the nutrients are, is in the pulp. Otherwise, it's just—

Travis: And make sure you—make sure you ask them to leave room for the Holy Spirit.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, you want room for cream, and you want a little bit of Holy Spirit in there. And then other—if you don't got pulp, we're basically just talking about hot bean water.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And that's not—that's not what God wanted.

Travis: You need a better mouthfeel. That's—that's always my problem with, like, the—that weak, just—it's just liquid coffee. Like, what's that? You know what I mean? Like...

Justin: One—one good thing to do at the coffee store...

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: Is ask for room for cream. And then when they give you your coffee, turn on your heel and walk out the door. And they're gonna take a second and be like, "Wait a minute."

Travis: "Hm."

Justin: "Do they know about some other kind of cream that we don't have here?"

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Like, do they have a secret, good, new cream that we don't have here at the 'Bucks?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And that's gonna drive 'em crazy all day long.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You'll have a little less coffee, but that'll be fine.

Griffin: Oh, you guys uh, [pretentious chuckle], you don't know about dog cream yet? Oh, boy.

Travis: Ew.

Griffin: Uh, well, joke's on you, I guess. You don't—you do boneless coffee, and you don't use dog cream. Boy, that's a real shame. Anyway, bye. I'm very smart.

Travis: You know what I like to do? I like to order coffee, but then ask for it in a bread bowl.

Griffin: Mm!

Justin: [laughs] That's nice. That's a breakfast, right there.

Griffin: It's fun, and it's also, um... I don't like it when I am drinking my coffee and I don't feel an enormous amount of pressure to drink the coffee extremely quickly, before it gets everywhere. [laughs]

Travis: Well, and the nice thing is once you're done drinking it, you can then—you have a little, like, coffee-soaked snack.

Griffin: Mmm.

Travis: Get a nice little burst of extra coffee there at the end. And you know what? If you eat it fast enough, you can get another cup in there, and they just keep refilling it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Does anybody do coffee in, like, a biscotti mug? Is that something you can order?

Travis: So wait, the biscotti is shaped like a mug, and you pour the coffee in it?

Justin: Yeah, yeah, yeah! Can I do that?

Travis: Holy shit.

Griffin: I mean, you would more or less have to shotgun that bean water, or else...

Justin: [laughing quietly]

Griffin: I mean, the burns would be significant.

Justin: You'd want a cold brew, for sure.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Um, is it possible to go up to the counter, and say, like, "Before you grind these little bastards down, do you mind if I sing to the beans a little bit?"

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: "Can I sing at your bean box to make the beans taste even a little bit better when you roast them?"

Travis: Is your shop not offering that? You have to ask for it? Where are you going?

Griffin: It's so rare that they offer singing to the bean box. Um, and... yeah, I mean, I guess this is... you know, when you go to a—a Starbucks, don't even think about it. There's very little sing—'cause it's—to them, it's a quantity game.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And they can't take a minute there to sing a beautiful hymn—

Travis: They might have a radio on next to it. It is not the same.

Griffin: No, they think it accomplishes the same thing, but it doesn't.

Justin: One thing that I like to do, is say, "Before you grind the coffee, I bring some of my own personal blend with me everywhere I go. Can you grind that into it?" And then you reach out into your pocket, and you pull out a bunch of movie ticket stubs and paper clips... [laughs]

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: ... and then you hand that to them. And sort of let them figure it out.

Travis: What I like to do, is I like to go to the—go to the counter, and say, “Hey, I would like the beans that will be in my coffee,” and then I take those home, and then I just sit on them, for like 24, 26 hours. Then, I come back...

Griffin: Incubate them.

Travis: ... they grind those up.

Justin: Grind those up.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Travis: And then I let someone else drink it.

Griffin: I like to pick each bean out of the bean box like I’m grabbing a lobster at, like, a nice seafood restaurant. I say, “I want this bean, and this bean, and I want this bean,” and I say, “This bean looks beautiful.”

Justin: “No, not that bean!”

Griffin: “Oh, here we go.”

Justin: “Next to it.”

Griffin: And then I turn to them, and I say, “How many beans does it take to do one coffee?”

And they say, like, “A hundred.”

And I say, like, "This is going to take too long." And it's gonna not be a very funny joke for the podcast. And then I stop!

Justin: Those are some other things you can do at a coffee store.

Griffin: I love these weird beans.

Travis: [laughs] I love my weird beans.

Griffin: We never talk about that part of it, but you eat beans out of the can on a campfire.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: For a good Western snack. And that's the same as what you do every morning, when you get these, uh, you know, "fast beans," is what I call 'em, 'cause they make me move just a little bit faster.

Justin: [laughs quietly]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, and you pour hot water through 'em, and you crunch 'em all up. It's—basically what you're doing is, you're—it's just bean water, folks.

Travis: Whoa, slow down.

Justin: We never think about that it's beans.

Travis: It's beans!

Griffin: But it's the same kinds of beans that you would put in, uh, you know, a chili, or, you know, a bad gumbo.

Justin: "How do I confront my landlord about frequent pop-ins? My landlord thinks it's okay to show up whenever he wants, because he thinks my roommates and I are all friends with him. In the past, he has shown up

to use our kitchen table as a desk to work on," whoa, [laughs] "laying flooring until 11:00 PM on a Monday, set up a Christmas tree without request or permission..." "

Griffin: What the fuck?

Justin: "... borrowed our kitchen for cooking, take a shower, sleep on our couch, and worst of all offenses, host game nights at our house, and then invite us, the people who actually live in the home he is renting out, to join his party merely hours before being thrown."

Griffin: What?

Justin: "I am extremely nonconfrontational and I'm about to explode at this point. Please, Jesus, help me, brothers." That's from Landlord in La La Land.

Travis: What?

Griffin: It's good that you've asked for our help, and also Jesus' help.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: 'Cause this is gonna take all four of us on deck.

Travis: Between the four of—I will say—okay, first question. When your landlord leaves, does—do they, like, walk out and hop into the back of a white, like, surveillance van? Because I guarantee this is, like, an elaborate *Big Brother*-style TV show where they can't—they can't believe you haven't left yet. You were only supposed to be the first episode. And now this had gone on for months—

Griffin: Yeah, John Quinones has—John Quinones has had you on the hook here for—for quite some time. Um, this is his longest grift ever. This is—this is wild. It's unacceptable. These are not—these are not pop-ins in the traditional landlord sense where they're stopping in...

Justin: No.

Griffin: ... to make sure everything's doing okay, interrupting your thing. They're throwing parties at your house. It is breaking and entering at this point.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: [laughs] It's—here's how I think this shook out. The landlord thought, "Man, I could use a little extra income. I'm gonna rent out my house."

And then you came over, and you signed a lease, and he gave you the keys, and the door shut, and then he was like, "Ah, shit. That's my only house!"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] So he is, I think, still living there, basically, is the—is what I think has happened. Is he has mistakenly not—he has made his own property the rental property.

Travis: This is—

Griffin: This is the first time that I think we've gotten a question where I've been excited to see how this plays out on the next episode of a *Judge Judy*. So like, there's a part of me that's kind of like, "Hm, this is in—I've never seen this before." But it's such a weird ba—I know you're nonconfrontational...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ... but I think this is one of those rare cases that requires one of those con-fron-tations I've heard so much about.

Travis: Well, this is the thing, is I get being nonconfrontational, where like, someone's like, "I wanna fight you!" and you're like, "I don't wanna fight." But this person is actively punching you in the face. [laughs]

Griffin: You may need to fight them, it sounds like. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah, it sounds like a fight may be in order.

Griffin: Um, and I—

Justin: Or—or move?

Griffin: I mean, but you signed a I—does—is there anything in the contract that says, like, “And by the way, whenever I wanna play *Carcassonne* with my buddies, you’re invited, but it’s gonna be in your kitchen, so deal with that.” ‘Cause if so, you should’ve read that contract maybe a little bit closer. Otherwise, it’s... not acceptable.

Travis: This is bad. Even if I had a friend—even if my best friend was doing this, it would be a problem.

Griffin: Yes, it would.

Alright, we talked about how bad it is. What can we and Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior, Lamb of Lambs, King of Kings, do to...

Justin: Son of David.

Griffin: Son of David do to make this better—

Travis: The Quiet Storm.

Griffin: The Quiet—[laughs] The Quiet, Raging Storm. Uh, the King of the North. What can all four of us do... to—to make this hap—a better situation?

Travis: Change the locks.

Justin: I—that’s illegal.

Travis: Is it?

Griffin: Yeah, probably not.

Justin: [crosstalk].

Travis: What if you did, and then pretended like you didn't?

Griffin: Can you invite, like, 200 people over to your house, so that um, like a, you know, a Tokyo train during rush hour. It's like, "Sorry, we're all full up. Can't get nobody else in here."

Justin: If you invite enough people over at your house, you probably won't notice that he's there, which is a very good, passive way of handling this. Because it's already so full. One more person's not gonna hurt.

Griffin: Is it possible to hire a Drillbit Taylor?

Justin: Okay!

Griffin: And that movie's so important to me.

Travis: [laughs] Uh-huh.

Griffin: For so many reasons. But there's so many situations that could be required by getting a *real* fucking hard-ass, like Owen Wilson. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: Well, what's great, Griffin, is what we're dealing with here is a *You, Me and Dupree* scenario that can be fixed with a Drillbit Taylor scenario.

Griffin: With another Owen Wilson. Yeah. And if that doesn't work, then... you get uh...

Travis: *Marmaduke*?

Griffin: With the dog—a dog—what's the dog movie? No, the other one.

Travis: The other—um, *Marley and You*.

Griffin: *Marley and Me*.

Justin: *Marley and Me?*

Griffin: But Marley is a big, vicious dog who's not gonna let this gentleman just sort of stride right in.

Travis: *You, Me, and Marley*.

Griffin: *You, Me, and Marley, the Battle Beast. The—uh—The Direhound.*

Travis: [laughs] *The Robot Dog*.

Griffin: It's c—'cause you've gotta hi—if you won't confront them, and I understand that, um, I'll do it. And I'm not—I'm pretty nonconfrontational, but it sounds like this—you're in need of somebody to step in and say, like, "Hey, dude. You can't just come over whenever you want; that's wild. You cannot throw parties at this house where we live. No, no, no."

Travis: You need to throw your hat into the crowd! You need a new third roommate to come in—

Griffin: Mark—we— get Mark Lowry! Mark Lowry won't fuck around in this situation.

Travis: Yeah, get Mark Lowry!

Griffin: It sucks, 'cause there's really no other way around it other than telling your landlord, like, "You can't just throw—" some of the—if you wanna, like rea—if you're really uncomfortable about being nonconfrontational, wait for the last thing to happen about throwing a game night at your house without telling you.

'Cause that's unacceptable by literally anybody's standards, and your landlord also knows that it sucks and is not a cool thing to do. And if you come to them and say, like, "You can't just throw parties at our fucking

house, dawg," then I th—unless they are completely, like, removed from the situation, I think they'll understand, sort of—I think they'll grock what you're putting down here.

Travis: And I think the word that you need to invoke is "boundaries."

Griffin: We gotta have boundaries.

Travis: We gotta set some boundaries here, right? Because I think... that is a term that applies to every relationship that exists. So it's not about, like, "I think you're a bad person," or "Hey, we're not friends." It's "We need to set some boundaries... "

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Like, it's one thing if you wanna come over and hang out from time to time, but you can't be here when we're not here."

Griffin: Yeah. And again, like, if you're uncomfortable with it, hire Owen Wilson to set up these boundaries for you, and he'll just be like, "Sure. [Owen Wilson impression] Oh, wo—wow! You can't throw a party over here. Wow!" [normally] So that's Owen—

Justin: Pretty good.

Griffin: That's Owen Wilson. Yeah, I've been working on it, me and uh, Brian, my voice teacher. We've been working on Owen lately. Um, I'm gonna do some ADR work. I'm moving to Hollywood to become, sort of, his uh, verbal stuntman.

There's a lot of times they want Owen Wilson to say words, like potty words that he doesn't wanna say. He hates saying these potty words. But I'll say `em, I don't care. Uh, things like "bastard" and "piss." But I'll—I've learned to say them in his voice, so that when he's on the set, and he's like, "[Owen Wilson impression] Aw, I'm really [beat] off!" And then I'll get in there, and I'll be like, "pissed!" and just say the potty words for him.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Is a new thing that I'm doing. So if you want, I can do that.

Travis: Do you do parties, too, Griffin? Like, you just show up, and you do Owen Wilson, like...

Griffin: Yeah, I show up to kids' parties, and I say the words "piss" and "bastard" and "ass" and "shit."

Justin: [wheezes, through laughter] Just like Owen Wilson would say them.

Griffin: But I say them in Owen Wilson's voice, and... I don't dress up or anything, I just look like me, but I, you know, roll up, and then, you know, the 10-year-olds are like, "Do piss again!"

And I'll be like, "[Owen Wilson impression] Piss."

Travis: [laughs] It's so good! I've never heard Owen Wilson say that word, so I don't know how accurate it is, but it's—

Griffin: He doesn't like saying it, Trav! It's a toilet word, and he hates these words.

Travis: But it sounds like, I would imagine, he would sound saying it. You know?

Griffin: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you.

Travis: You're welcome.

Griffin: Then these—I've spent 30,000 dollars on these lessons, so [crosstalk].

Travis: It's paid off. It's worth it. You're gonna make that back just on the circuit.

Justin: I wanted to say—I wanted to end this episode with something that I wanna talk about real quick, 'cause I was looking at other Owen Wilson movies...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: ... trying to see if there might be some funny—funny, like, back catalog stuff that I could pull out. I'd forgotten he was in *Armageddon*. I was like, "Wait, Owen Wilson's in *Armageddon*?"

Griffin: Yeah, he gets got, I think, pretty quick.

Justin: So I clicked—I clicked through. Um, just a—just, like, as a closing meditation, the character names in the movie *Armageddon* are fucking buck wild.

Griffin: Oh, give me some of them!

Justin: Uh, okay, so Bruce Willis plays Harry S. Stamper. Okay. By itself, that may not be very buck wild. Billy Bob Thornton? Dan Truman. Okay. Still alright. Ben Affleck plays AJ Frost.

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: Will Patton plays Charles "Chick" Chappel. Steve Buscemi's name is Rockhound.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: [laughs] He's a Transformer.

Travis: Mark—Michael Clarke Duncan Recipes, his—he is J. Otis "Bear" Kurleen. Bear is his nickname, J. Otis Kurleen, nickname Bear. And uh, Owen Wilson, his character's name is Oscar Choice. It actually isn't. It actually—that doesn't—

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: [crosstalk]. That was his long con to try to win an Oscar.

Griffin: Yeah, but they chose—they were like, “Thank you for the choice, Owen. We’re gonna pass on this one, I think.”

Justin: [laughs] “Our answer is no, to the choice.”

Uh, folks, that’s gonna do it for us. Thank you so much, uh, for listening. We very much appreciate you.

Um, I wanna give one quick plug—you know, you can watch our TV show on Vrv. That’s vrv.co, *My Brother, My Brother, and Me* the show is there. You can watch all six episodes, plus all the extra stuff.

While you’re there, you can check out a new show that um, I was on. It’s called *Slug Riot*. It’s an animated series. I play a character named Very Deadward. He’s a bassist of this, uh, mold core band called Slug Riot. And it’s a—there’s only one episode up so far, but it was really fun to do. Uh, and the um—oh, it looks like two and three are up, too, so you can go watch those too!

Vrv.co, I believe they’re free – at least the first one is – to watch. But uh, *Slug Riot* is the name of the show. And it was really fun to make. And the episodes are just like, three minutes long, so go check that out, ‘cause it was really fun.

Travis: Um, I wanna do just a couple quick plugs. Um, one, this uh, I think it’s Thursday? The 25th? I’m gonna be at the John Hodgman and Jean Grae Show, the John and Jean Show, uh, at the Bell House uh, that night. Uh, you can get tickets to that at bit.ly/travisjandj. And that’s in Brooklyn, New York. And before the show, I’m gonna be hanging out at the Hinterlands, so if you wanna come, uh, say hi there, grab a drink, uh, help support, uh, Stuart Wellington and co., come do that and then come over to the show.

I also wanna say, speaking of John and Jean, um, so Hal Lublin and I have a charity fundraising podcast called *Surprisingly Nice*. And it’s been a while

since we've put an episode out, but we just recorded a new one with John Hodgman, and then special guest Jean Grae shows up.

And we've changed our funding model, but basically how it is, is we're raising money. We set a goal for 500 dollars for this first episode. And when we hit that, we will publish the episode. And that money goes to World Central Kitchen, um, which is a uh, like, food charity that makes meals. Specifically, right now they're working uh, to provide meals for Puerto Rico.

And Hodgman has said that, on top of that, every dollar raised for World Central Kitchen, he will match that and donate to Planned Parenthood, because that was his second choice for charity. So every dollar you donate is going to actually benefit two different charities. Uh, you can donate at [paypal.co](https://paypal.com)—paypal.me/surprisinglynice. Um, so far we've already raised about 250 dollars in just, like, three days. So I think we're gonna get—

Griffin: That's awesome.

Travis: Yeah, I think we're gonna hit that 500 dollars, and you can help with that. Um...

Griffin: Isn't the uh, the JoCo Cruise also coming up?

Travis: Yeah, JoCo Cruise! I'm not gonna be mentioning it much longer, 'cause it's in like three weeks, but I'm getting really, really amped for it. It's gonna be a super fun time, and I'm really looking forward to it. Um, and you can find out about that at jococruise.com.

And one more kind of a "coming soon," um, I'm putting together a show here in Cincinnati that I'm calling the Cincinnati Underground Society Show. And it is a secret show, in that I am not going to announce who the guests are ahead of time, but for this first show, I've already got five people coming, and it's going to be a really good time. Uh, so tickets are gonna be coming soon for that, and I have made a website for that that I'm going to look up right now.

Griffin: Can I ask if you call it the Cincinnati Underground Secret Society, which is a little bit redundant, just so the acronym can be “cuss”?

Travis: Yes, absolutely. It’s the Cincinnati Underground Society, and this is the Cincinnati Underground Society Show. And yes, it’s uh—the website I am currently working on is cuss.live. Um, and so that is where I’ll be putting out—it’s—right now, there is literally nothing to the website, but it is on Squarespace.

Uh, but that is where I will post ticket links and stuff, and hopefully I will have that up soon. Um, and then our first show is going to be March 30th, here in Cincinnati. And then my hope is to make it a monthly show with different guests every time, and like, Secret Society pins, and that kind of thing. It’s gonna be a real fun time. But more information about that will be coming soon.

Griffin: Uh, 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’s a fantastic album that you should get, if you don’t already have it.

Thanks to Maximum Fun for having us on the Network. There’s so many great shows and a bunch of new shows that you should check out. Uh, shows like *The Greatest Generation* and *Tights and Fights* and *The Beef and Dairy Network*, and so many more, all at MaximumFun.org. And uh, as we’ve mentioned a couple times, all of our stuff is also at mcelroyshows.com.

Do you guys want that final?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: It was sent in by Leslie. Thank you, Leslie. It’s Yahoo Answers User Fozzie B., asks, “Can Jell-O steal my energy if I am an Aquarius?”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [snorts] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

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

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[relaxed music plays in background]

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