

## MBMBaM 532: The Spooky 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:** Okay, this is the introduction to the program. Uh, we've been doing our introduction the s—like, the very beginning, the same way for 500 and however fucking many episodes.

**Travis:** Wait, are we in it now?

**Justin:** Yeah, this is the show.

**Travis:** Oh, boy.

**Justin:** I wanna start—we're gonna start the show.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** But we're gonna do it different.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** And we have to organically find out. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Alright! So—

**Justin:** And it can't be a bit! It can't be a bit.

**Griffin:** No.

**Justin:** It's gotta be, like, practiced, sounding good, but it's just gotta [laughs] organically happen without me sort of taking control and steering, as I have, as the cap-i-tan.

**Griffin:** Sort of a—

**Travis:** Okay, can I try something? Can I just pitch something right off the bat?

**Justin:** If you're gonna make a strategy or a plan for how to cope with this...

**Travis:** Okay, you're right.

**Justin:** ... you can't. It's just gotta be like...

**Griffin:** We feel it.

**Justin:** We talk in our book, *Everybody Has a Podcast (Except You)*, in theaters January 2021...

**Griffin:** [snorts] If you sneak it into the theater, technically, that's...

**Justin:** You gotta have a plan for—

**Travis:** It's the only book that also works as a mask, so you can just wear it when you go to the theater.

**Griffin:** That's probably—

**Justin:** People think it sounds organic when you start um, you know, doing a show that sounds natural and organic, and I just wanna see what organically happens without a strategy for how to begin the program.

**Travis:** Well, who's that talking? That's my older brother, Justin McElroy.

**Justin:** [inhales] Hey, Trav, thanks for uh... see, I buckled.

**Travis:** No, you fucked it up.

**Griffin:** Alright, time—

**Justin:** No, I fucked it up.

**Griffin:** Justin, it's time for the weekly joke! It's time for Justin's joke of the week!

**Justin:** Now, we would definitely introduce ourselves in this new introduction.

**Griffin:** Well, this is before Travis and I introduce ourselves, you—historically have done Justin’s—Justin’s—it used to be called Justin’s naughty joke of the week, and it was usually—

**Justin:** [laughs] It was— There is no realty—

**Griffin:** [crosstalk].

**Travis:** It was ribald. It was ribald.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** It was like, a sexual joke.

**Justin:** There’s no reality in which—

**Griffin:** Like, dirty as fuck. Like, some real [crosstalk].

**Justin:** [laughs] There is no reality in which this podcast, this new podchast—pack—podcast intro that we’re forging would start with—before our names, a naughty joke [crosstalk].

**Travis:** Well, not anymore. Now it’s just a regular joke.

**Griffin:** No, we’re gonna do—me and Trav—I swear to Christ, Justin, me and Travis are gonna say our names. But f—but first, we do like, “Hey, and this is our oldest brother, Justin!”

And Justin, you swing in there, and you’re like, “Haha, that’s [crosstalk]—”

**Justin:** Here’s a joke—here’s one I heard—have you heard this—here’s one I heard this week.

**Griffin:** Dirty. Dirtier.

**Justin:** This isn’t a joke, it’s just a s—

**Griffin:** Dirtier.

**Justin:** No, it’s not Justin’s dirty joke. It’s not that anymore, just a regular joke. Hey, um, this isn’t a joke, but just—

**Travis:** Sorry, just to clarify, it can still be dirty, it just doesn't have to be dirty, Justin?

**Griffin:** Doesn't have to be.

**Travis:** I want to give you room to work.

**Justin:** I just wanted to start with a fun fact.

**Griffin:** Okay!

**Justin:** Did you hear about that um, the sarcophagus over in Egypt that they found that hadn't been opened for 2,000 years. Did you hear about this?

**Travis:** No!

**Justin:** Yeah, there's this uh, sarcophagus. Had been—they opened it, it's been closed for 2,500 years, and here's the wild part.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The body inside was uh, covered in chocolate and nuts. They think it might've been Pharaoh Rocher.

**Travis:** Huh!

**Griffin:** So that's... I did like them better when you were like, "What's the difference between—"

**Travis:** Could you say, like, "And he had a boner—" Sorry, 'cause you mentioned nuts, and that was really close...

**Griffin:** Yeah. Yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** ... but if he was covered in chocolate and nuts, and he had, like, a boner...

**Griffin:** Oh, sorry, let me set you up for that, Juice, and we'll cut all the stuff between this out.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** [exaggerated sarcastically] Did you say nuts!?

**Justin:** [laughs] Boi-oi-oi-oi-oi-ing!

**Travis:** There it is.

**Griffin:** What—and what was that sound, Justin?

**Travis:** Was it the mummy's boner?

**Griffin:** Was it the mummy's boner? Was it your boner? What was that?

**Travis:** He couldn't—oh, oh, okay, wait. Hold on.

**Griffin:** Let's do it again. Let's do the—

**Travis:** Well...

**Griffin:** I'll go, and let's just keep it smooth.

Did you just say nuts!?

**Justin:** Boi-oi-oi-oi-oi-oi-ing!

**Travis:** Why was—why was the teenage mummy so nervous in class?

**Justin:** Why?

**Travis:** He couldn't keep his boner under wraps!

**Justin:** Okay! Okay.

**Griffin:** Alright, so you're kinda—stop. Stop.

**Justin:** [sighs]

**Griffin:** That can't be your thing too, Trav.

**Travis:** I know, but...

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Your thing can't also be dirty mummy jokes.

**Travis:** But it's all I know, Justin. Or Griffin? Maybe you're Justin now.

**Justin:** This—nobody knows, 'cause we haven't introduced ourselves?

**Griffin:** Well, you've introdu—we know one thing: I'm not Justin. I don't—they don't know who the fuck I am, but they know I'm not Justin, 'cause I haven't been telling dirty mummy jokes. That's something that's exclusively Justin.

**Travis:** Are you the teenage mummy?

**Justin:** Why did you guys decide putting me on blast would be the bit for the introduction? My introduction that I wanted to do was coming up with a new introduction for the show.

**Travis:** Justin, you put yourself on blast. I teed you up, I said, "This is my older brother, Justin." And then you choked, and as punishment, we tried to make you shine.

**Justin:** Okay, I've paid my penance. Starting fresh.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** The person has just pressed play on their podcatcher, and... action.

**Travis:** Why was the teenage mummy nervous in class?

**Justin:** Now, wait a minute. Why the fuck—wait—

**Griffin:** Wait, are you trying to poach—

**Justin:** Cold open. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Are you poaching the mummy boner sort of—

**Travis:** Well, if we're restarting now, we've edited out when Justin was, like, the starting mummy—

**Justin:** We've edited out all of it!

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Justin:** This is just the introduction for the podcast, do you understand?

**Travis:** Justin isn't the dirty mummy boy anymore, so I saw an opportunity to take it, and now I—

**Justin:** But you haven't said your name!

**Travis:** It was cold open!

**Griffin:** It's a cold open.

**Justin:** [laughs] We don't have a cold open!

**Griffin:** Justin, they don't fucking open up *Saturday Night Live* like, "Hey, everybody, it's me, Skellen Jokesman, and today I'm going to be doing, ha ha, Reince Priebus!"

**Justin:** [laughs] Reince Preibus back in the news.

**Travis:** Did you hear about this?

**Griffin:** You hear about this?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs] That's—I call dibs on that. My thing is talking about what Reince is up to...

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** ... and—yeah.

**Travis:** I hear he drives a Prius.

Okay, let's uh—let's cut all this.

**Justin:** [laughs] Cut all this.

**Griffin:** Let's cut all this. [crosstalk].

**Justin:** The person's just pressed play, and action.

**Travis:** Why was the teenage Reince Priebus nervous in class?

**Justin:** [laughs] Okay, stop!

**Travis:** What?

**Justin:** You can't—you—we haven't—

**Travis:** He couldn't keep his boner under wraps.

**Justin:** Okay. Okay. Uh, you know what? I'm gonna grant you that. That would be the cold open.

**Travis:** Oh, Reince—Reince Priebus was a mummy, too. [laughs]

**Justin:** Okay, Trav. Do your—do your joke again.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** I'm gonna lean into it a little bit better.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** And I'm sorry for shutting you down. The person presses play on their podcatcher, and this is what they hear.

**Travis:** Why was the teenage Reince Priebus, who is also a mummy, nervous in class?

**Griffin:** Because he couldn't keep his boner under wraps?

**Travis:** [shouting] Fuck!

[light rock music plays]

**Justin:** Welcome, everybody, to *My Brother, My Brother and Me*!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** We—okay. [music stops] You're right. Okay.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Trav, that didn't work. Griffin, I'd love for you try one.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure. So—



**Justin:** And the person presses play, and action.

**Griffin:** [shouting away from microphone] Did you guys hear about Reince Priebus?

[light rock music plays]

**Justin:** [laughs] No. It didn't—[wheezes]

**Travis:** I don't think we got it.

**Griffin:** I think I did it too fast.

[music continues]

**Griffin:** Did you guys hear this latest—

**Travis:** Wait, I kinda like that. Start the music, and Justin, cut the music, and Griffin will come in strong, like a hee-haw moment.

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah.

**Justin:** So the very first thing they'll hear is this uh—uh—uh, this intro music that comes loaded on the RODECaster Pro.

**Griffin:** But d—no matter fucking what, we aren't doing another take. This is the intro, right here, no matter what, swear it.

**Travis:** This is it.

**Griffin:** Justin, swear it on your life.

**Justin:** I'll swear it, but...

**Griffin:** No restarts.

**Justin:** Let me just get the flow. Walk me through it. Because I think we're so close to something new.

**Griffin:** You do the—you do the fucking music, I hop in there with a sick-ass joke...

**Travis:** And there's gotta be a hard stop. No fadeout. It's like, [singing] music, [normally] and then Griffin.

**Griffin:** But no matter *what*, this is it!

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Alright.

**Justin:** Okay, so I start the music.

**Griffin:** Yeah. And then I'll do my joke, and then we'll go from there.

**Justin:** Fade it down, you bring in a joke, I fade it back up...

**Travis:** No, no fade i—no fade out. Hard stop.

**Griffin:** Fade it louder and louder and louder, until it comes to a dead stop.

**Travis:** What?

**Griffin:** And three, two, one, play!

[music continues loudly, over conversation]

**Griffin:** Did you guys see here? This one—[banging and rolling noise] Ah, fuck!

[music, rolling and banging continue]

**Griffin:** It's here—hold on! Stop it! Don't stop it, don't stop it! Fuck me, what is going on?

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** [banging and rolling stop] Did you guys hear about Reince Priebus? He's a mummy now.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** He's a mummy now! Couldn't keep his boner under wraps.

**Justin:** [wheezes]

**Griffin:** Say your name! I'm Griffin McElroy.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Travis:** Are you on mic, Griffin?

**Griffin:** [close to microphone] This is Griffin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

[music stops]

**Griffin:** I think in post, that's gonna sound really good.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Yeah. We'll just gotta tighten it up and sweeten it a little bit.

**Travis:** Yeah. There's a little dead air, but I think if we could get out some of the tinniness...

**Justin:** I did not notice the dead air, Travis. I'm so glad your ear is in the show, 'cause I—I did not notice it.

**Travis:** I noticed it, only because Griffin had to specifically call my name to tell me to talk.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** That was the only reason I caught that there was some dead space.

**Griffin:** Almost—almost always a bad sign!

**Travis:** Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** For the flow of the show.

**Justin:** Mm.

**Griffin:** Alright, let's do some fucking questions.

**Justin:** Fuck yes! Yeah, I bet people thought that was gonna be the whole episode. I bet it can feel that way, sometimes.

**Travis:** Yeah. Sometimes.

**Griffin:** Mm. But it never—never is!

**Justin:** That's a sca—I think that—I think that—can I say something? I think that part of the reason people struggle with introductions to this program sometimes, and why it is uh, put off, I would estimate at this point innumerable listeners...

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Uh, new listeners to the program...

**Travis:** And old listeners!

**Justin:** Yeah, I'd like to think some got off uh, the ship at some point.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** But you know. I think a lot of people try their, like, "I've heard about this show. I'm gonna start it." I think the pro—part of the problem with the introductions is that a few times, we have started an introduction that has become an entire episode, and I think that now, when you're listening to the introduction, there's this back-of-your-throat fear...

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** ... that this could be the whole episode.

**Griffin:** And honestly, Juice, it's kind of fucked up that you are continuing to suspend those sensitive listeners to that fear.

**Justin:** You know why—I am sorry. I'm sorry. This is show. [laughs]

**Travis:** Show has... begun.

**Justin:** "Recently, a couple of friends invited me to do an escape room with them. It was kind of fun, so when they asked me again to do it the next week, I agreed to do another one. Now they're calling the three of us an escape room team..."

**Travis:** Oh, boy.

**Justin:** "... and want to do them as often as twice a week, traveling across the country to different ones." [laughs] I got a name for your team: The Super Spreaders. "As much as I've mildly enjoyed..." "

**Travis:** Oh, I get it!

**Justin:** "... doing these puzzles and unlocking things, I'm clearly not into this as the others and need a polite way of telling them I don't wanna be in the team. Note: a lot of rooms require a minimum of three people, so me not being there means they can't do a lot of rooms. Bothers..." Brother—sorry.

**Travis:** [laughs] That's probably supposed to be "brothers."

**Justin:** "Oh, bother! How do I escape from this escape room team?" Sick of Solving Puzzles in Scotland.

**Travis:** Can I just say—

**Griffin:** You know, Juice, you said that about The Super Spreaders, but I will say Scotland is, I believe, in a somewhat better place than we are.

**Travis:** Everywhere is.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Um, I—why would an escape room have a minimum of people that can participate?

**Justin:** They charge per head, eh? So—

**Travis:** Well, I mean, at that point, just charge a minimum. Say like, "Hey, if you wanna come, Travis, and do an escape room by yourself—"

**Griffin:** Who's that asshole—well, I guess it's—I mean, you did say your own name.

**Travis:** It would be me.

**Griffin:** I did wanna say, before I knew that you volunteered for this, who's that asshole who's like, "No one else... come in. I'm going to do this one by myself!"

**Travis:** Well, if they're gonna do a bad job! Listen, this is the thing. I have done—I have done many, many escape rooms.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And I would say, specifically, Adal Rifai and I have done a lot of escape rooms together.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** If we are at a convention at the same time, we will do escape rooms. Now, have we done escape rooms where there have been, uh, let's say some dead weight on the team? Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Totally, totally, totally. But the two of us can carry it, you know what I mean? I don't know where I'm going with this, I just wanted to brag about how good Adal Rifai and I are at escape rooms.

**Griffin:** Good. People love that.

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** I think that you're very uh, lucky to be—if I could be—if I had the kind of life where I could even entertain the fucking idea of being part a, quote, "escape room team," end quote, I would celebrate! I would celebrate, I would say a thank-you prayer every morning and every night before bedtime for the cool life that I had, where I could go and solve the puzzles of puzzle masters across this great country of ours—or world—the fucking globe of ours? I know this isn't helpful, but change your whole fucking outlook! Because you should like this more!

**Justin:** I mean, it's something, isn't it?

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Justin:** If you go into an escape room—you know what the nicest thing about escape rooms are?

**Griffin:** What?

**Justin:** If you go into an escape room, by definition, you haven't been... there before. You know what I mean? Like, at least it's new room.

**Griffin:** Wow.

**Justin:** That's the—I never want to leave. This is new room.

**Griffin:** Mm-hm.

**Travis:** This—

**Justin:** I'm so excited to be here.

**Travis:** Let me—let me reframe your thinking, question-asker...

**Justin:** How dare you.

**Travis:** ... of why escape rooms are the greatest fucking things in the world. All around us, in what I am going to call real world, non-escape rooms... there are problems that are completely unquantifiable. In escape room? What's this? Red book goes in the green bookshelf and something opened? That is a quantifiable, solvable problem...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** ... that when you've solved it, you can feel a little bit better about life!

**Griffin:** Anything. Feel *anything*. Feel *anything* in the escape room. Ooh, that's a good tagline! For Griffin's Escape Rooms. Come in, feel something!

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Feel it!

Switch that light switch on and off three times, and I'll come on over the loudspeaker, and I'll be like, "You fucking did it! Feel it!"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "Embrace this novelty!"

**Travis:** "Did you hear that box click open? That's joy in your heart, my friend!"

**Griffin:** It would be me in the escape room with a group of super solvers with—like, my fam. We did an escape—I can't even remember. We were on tour last year. We did a escape room, back when tour was a thing we could do, and escape room and leave house was things we could do.

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** And we solved it real fast. We got out of there, like, 38 minutes, and there was a lot of time left. I—

**Justin:** Which one was this?

**Griffin:** This was in—this was when we were on tour in Milwaukee at the City 13. City 13.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** That was a good—fantastic.

**Travis:** And it was that kind of like uh, post-punk, like, kind of diner—

**Griffin:** Cyberpunk bar diner shit, yeah, it was dope. We got out of there real fast, but these days, I probably would've had a hand on the doorknob at 38 minutes, like, "Do you guys just..."

**Justin:** [close to microphone] Wanna just...

**Griffin:** "... wanna fucking kick it for the t—we'll do 21 minutes and 50 seconds left in here... "

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** "... and then leave when we absolutely have to, but maybe we could just like, explore the space! It's here!"

**Justin:** It's new. It's new.

**Griffin:** It's new!

**Travis:** Maybe we can leave more problems than we solve.

**Griffin:** That's cool.



**Justin:** Ooh! Create some new ones.

Do you think it's a hard—you know how bad a real dangerous situation is when there's a fire at an escape room place. Not 'cause the doors are locked or anything, 'cause as we all know, the doors are not locked. It's the biggest lie they ever told. But—

**Travis:** Wait, what?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah, you can just open it.

**Travis:** Huh.

**Justin:** So if the fire alarm starts going off, and you're doing an escape room, you're gonna be like, "Huh... okay."

**Travis:** "Huh, what's that mean?"

**Griffin:** "Is it part of the—"

**Justin:** "How did I—hey, Valerie, do that again? Step on that again, 'cause maybe it'll turn it off. I don't know what it means. Count the flashes."

**Travis:** That is a thing about—I wonder how—there's gotta be a study somewhere on how doing fire drills has ruined anybody's reaction to actual, like, fire alarms.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** 'Cause now, as an adult, if I'm in a place and I hear a fire alarm, the first words out of my mouth are, "It's probably not real."

**Griffin:** "Oh, what an asshole."

**Justin:** Mm.

**Griffin:** "What asshole did this?"

I think, if I ran an escape room and I was staffing up, I would hire somebody, and their first day would be business as usual, I'd be like, "You lock up tonight! And then when they tried to leave that night, they would find that the front door was locked from the outside."

**Justin:** Okay!

**Travis:** Huh!

**Griffin:** The test—the true test begins now. I am almost certain I am describing the plot of the *Escape Room* horror movie.

**Travis:** I think it's true. If I was—

**Griffin:** Let's move—let's move on.

**Travis:** If I was hiring for an escape room, I would hire a plant that any time started, you know, they go in there with 10, suddenly there's 11 people, but there's a lot going on, so maybe they don't notice the extra person. And the extra person's job is to just go, like, "I don't think we're gonna solve this one, guys."

**Griffin:** Mmm.

**Travis:** And just, like, really talk up how hard the puzzles are, and like, "Oh, wait, hold on! No, nope, this isn't doing it. Fuck! I thought we had it."

**Griffin:** That's good.

**Travis:** "I don't think we're solving this one, guys."

**Griffin:** And they could—at some point, they could pretend to die.

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah, yeah!

**Justin:** Yeah. Yeah. And they would use their chlorophyll to turn sunlight into energy.

**Travis:** It's not a real plant, Justin.

[singing] Goes to visit his mommy.

**Justin:** Can I say one other thing—can I help a person?

**Griffin:** Can we do one thing?

**Travis:** [singing] Has concerns he forgets them.

**Griffin:** It's really—I think, Juice, can I say? You can't. It's rea—it would be fucking wild to interrupt Travis now.

**Travis:** [singing] And remembers beings small.

**Justin:** It feels wrong to do, but I did wanna say something, just so the team will know if you don't wanna do it, 'cause your puzzle performance will...

**Griffin:** Will suffer.

**Justin:** ... be—will suffer.

**Griffin:** Yeah. In fucking memoriam.

**Travis:** [singing] Laying under the table and fishing! [normally] Welcome to Under the Table and Fishing.

**Griffin:** Was he eating a sandwich? Was Dave eating a full turkey wrap?

**Travis:** Uh, always!

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Always. "[impersonation] I was eating a salad. It was an egg salad."

**Griffin:** Can you—Trav, and this is just a—

**Justin:** [laughs] Gross.

**Griffin:** This is just a really good opportunity for you to bust out like a, "I eat too much... "

**Travis:** "I eat too much... drink too much."

**Griffin:** Wow, fuck. [laughs] What is happening?

**Travis:** "Want too much, too much!"

**Justin:** How did Dave Matthews' picnic get ruined?

**Griffin:** How?

**Travis:** Wha—how?

**Justin:** All the ants marching. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Alright!

**Travis:** And they had boners?

**Justin:** All over it. Their dicks were out. Their little ant dicks.

**Travis:** So—

**Justin:** Yeah, dude!

**Travis:** In Under the Table and Phishing, I'm gonna read you some lyrics. They might be Dave Matthews, they might be Phish. And this week, special twist, there's one by Third Eye Blind.

**Justin:** Okay!

**Griffin:** Alright. I know I'm gonna fucking—I'm gonna bloodhound that one out.

**Travis:** So let's start. "Don't let it get away. And if we did, we're gonna get it back. And in time, you and me? We will, we will, we will, we will be over and again and again."

**Justin:** That's Dave.

**Griffin:** That feels... Phish? That feels Phish.

**Travis:** That is Dave Matthews. Again and again.

**Griffin:** Fuck.

**Justin:** Mm!

**Travis:** Alright. Let's uh—

**Justin:** I've been prepping for this segment by listening to every Dave Matthews song and every Phish song, and does anybody have an Advil?

**Travis:** Oh, that's wildly sad.

**Justin:** [laughs] Travis, can I do my joke, please?

**Travis:** Oh, sure, sure, sure, sure.

**Justin:** Um, uh, I've been prepping for this segment by listening to every Dave Matthews Band song and every Phish song, and I—I have—[laughs] now I have the Munchies! [laughs loudly]

**Griffin:** Oh, wow, man.

**Justin:** Fucking yeah!

**Travis:** Oh, man.

**Justin:** Fucking yeah.

**Griffin:** Nice.

**Justin:** Dude. Yeah.

**Travis:** I guess I just don't follow, Justin.

**Justin:** Pass the incense.

**Travis:** Okay. Okay.

Uh, here's another one. "Bang, bang, you're dead now. Could be real. I got a bag of smoke. Come on, let's make a deal. Yeah—"

**Justin:** Phi—Phish. Phish. Phish. Phish!

**Travis:** "Yeah, bridges burn, but tomorrow is another day... "

**Justin:** Dave.

**Travis:** "... to feed the world, and go outside and play."

**Justin:** No, Dave. [laughs] I'm flipping on it!

**Griffin:** [laughs] I'm gonna say—I'm gonna stick with Phish.

**Travis:** That is Dave!

**Justin:** I thought—I was gonna say—he twisted it on me.

**Griffin:** Son of a gun!

**Justin:** He thought I wanna write the first stanza as though I were Phish, and the second stanza as though I were Dave.

**Travis:** Mm-hm. "We built a kingdom out of lies, and then we blindly fanned the fires. We warmed our hands with glowing coals, but now they rain down from the skies."

**Griffin:** Third... Eye... Blind?

**Justin:** Third Eye Blind. Yeah, Third Eye Blind.

**Travis:** That is Phish!

**Justin:** Damn.

**Travis:** The song is "Leaves."

**Griffin:** I am 0 for 3 right now.

**Travis:** You are.

**Griffin:** I used to be good at this game.

**Travis:** "Because of you, girl, beautiful, beautiful girl... "

**Justin:** Dave.

**Griffin:** [bursts out laughing]

**Travis:** "... take it easy on yourself, and make it easy on me, 'cause I just wanna make you, I just wanna make you, come on, come on, come on, come."

**Justin:** Th... Thir... Third Eye—'Cause I looked [???], and said, it's not Phish.

**Griffin:** It's not Phish. I'm going to suppose that it is one of Dave Matthews's many songs about fingering...

**Justin:** Yeah, Da—it's so Dave. [laughs]

**Travis:** That is one of Dave's hornier tracks! It's called "Come On Come On."

Okay. So that's 4 for Justin, 1 for Griffin.

**Griffin:** In case you're wondering, yes, Crash is one of the fingering champs. They get to—

**Travis:** Yes. Of course.

**Justin:** Oh, 100 percent. [crosstalk].

**Travis:** "Press me down, then I pressurize, then I rise up. Like diamonds, rise up all you diamonds. So rise up, rise up, all you diamonds. Pressurize all you diamonds."

**Griffin:** Third Eye—it feel—it doesn't feel like Phish or Dave Matthews Band, so I am going to hit Third Eye Blind.

**Justin:** Uh, one uhh... Third Eye Blind.

**Travis:** It is Third Eye Blind, correct!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Travis:** "There is the tower, like a solitary flower standing in the snow, as the wolves all wait below. And you're walking on the ledge, throwing bread crusts off the edge."

**Griffin:** That feels Phishy to me.

**Justin:** I was thrown at first, because the use of "tower" and then "flower" made me feel like this is probably a phallic, sexual Dave Matthews song.

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Justin:** About sex?

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Justin:** Uh, but I am gonna switch to Phish.

**Travis:** It is Phish!

**Justin:** Yeah. Okay. Yeah.

**Griffin:** And I do wanna point out, Juice, Dave Matthews songs aren't phallic.

**Travis:** No.

**Griffin:** He only writes about fingering.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [wheezes] Well, a finger could be a tower as well, I guess.

**Griffin:** Okay, that's fine, that's fine.

**Travis:** I mean, I guess.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Justin:** I guess. No, it's not what anybody's thinking of, let's be honest.

**Travis:** "I love your hair in the mornings, you know. You love to run wild and let the mane flow. But you run away, but we meet again soon, south of the border and over the moon."

**Justin:** Dave Matthews Band.

**Griffin:** Phish.

**Travis:** That's Phish! "Shade!"

**Justin:** Wow!

**Griffin:** It was—cou—and I could tell, 'cause it was kind of horny, but not... it doesn't—Dave's gonna finish, you know what I mean?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Okay, this is my question.



**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Are all song lyrics the same, or do the two of them just have some—a lot of crossover tonally?

**Travis:** I think that the reason I do this whole segment is because they have a lot of crossover tonally, Justin.

**Griffin:** Alright, I gotta—I'm gonna do this Yahoo now. It was sent in by Merit Palmer, the Prospector. Thank you, Prospector. Uh, it is from Yahoo Answers User Christopher, who asks, and this one might be kind of quick, "Should the laugh track on sitcoms be just one person instead of a crowd of laughter?"

**Travis:** Ooh! Now, do you guys think they mean one person across all sitcoms, or one person per sitcom?

**Justin:** You mean the same person...

**Travis:** Yes. Is it like, "Dave's track"?

**Griffin:** Huh. Okay.

**Travis:** And Dave does the laugh for everyone. Or is it like, "Well, Dave goes with *Friends*, and like, Steven goes with *Big Bang Theory*."

**Griffin:** Well, I am interested in the idea of the laugher being someone we like, become familiar with as a nation.

**Travis:** Right? Like, I like—yeah.

**Griffin:** "This is Terrance, and—" but they can't—the problem is, there's never an episode of *Big Bang Theory* where the audience isn't super into it, do you know what I mean?

**Justin:** [laughs] Yeah, they're loving it.

**Griffin:** That should be a thing, is like, there's a episode of *Big Bang Theory*, where just—Sheldon does his thing—you know, he pisses his pants, and then he's like, "Bazinga!" and the audience was just like [uncomfortable laughter]

**Justin:** [awkward laughing]

**Travis:** Well, but think about that, right? Like, usually Terrance is loving it, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** But then there's an episode where the thing Sheldon did you thought was pretty funny, but Terrance didn't seem... as [crosstalk].

**Griffin:** Yeah, so what's that mean? What's that mean?

**Travis:** And it's like, "Is Terrance okay? What's going on with—"

**Justin:** That is the problem, right? Is you would start to have more insight, and probably concern, about the real man, Terrance...

**Travis:** Right.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** ... than you would about the Bazinguys, the Bazingals over at *Big Bang Theory*, if you understand.

**Travis:** And I think eventually, you would end up campaigning to get the camera back at the back of the audience, so I could see Terrance in his chair while I'm watching...

**Griffin:** Well...

**Travis:** ... them do, you know, their science and like, jokes about the *Green Lantern* and stuff.

**Griffin:** We're talking about multi-humor sitcom shows. That's gonna be a tough nut to—tough nut to putt. That's cool—that's a cool—

**Travis:** Well, just, you have to aim them all through—

**Griffin:** Can we just take a second to appreciate "tough nut to putt" as the new powerful slogan, or something?

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I think maybe instead, we just get, at the top of every episode of every sitcom, we get about two minutes, interview with Terrance...

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** ... just to see how he's doing. And most of the time – and I imagine this is sort of a poet laureate position, sort of venerated, where we can trust his sort of opinions about comedy and jokes and laughing at stuff.

So when he sits up there, and he's like, "Hey guys, it's me, Terrance, all strapped in, ready for another fucking great episode of *Big—*" he wouldn't say fucking, but—"Ready for—ready to laugh at another great episode of *Big Bang Theory*."

**Travis:** Maybe with Terrance, there's no censorship.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's interesting!

**Travis:** We want unbridled, unfiltered Terrance.

**Griffin:** Okay. But then you know, like—okay, so if Terrance laughs during this one, then it's okay for me and all my pals at this *Big Bang* party that I'm throwing...

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** ... um, which is gonna—which is a *Big Bang Theory* watch party, and then we're all gonna have—we're all gonna fuck later. It's okay for us to laugh, but then if you see an interview with him before, an episode of *Frasier* too, and he's like, "Ugh, hey guys. Yeah, my cat's sick. Anyway, let's get on with the show!"

**Travis:** Oh, boy.

**Griffin:** Then you know, like, "It's okay that I'm laughing when Terrance doesn't."

**Travis:** Do you think that the risk would become that TV shows would start to be developed specifically with Terrance in mind? Where it'll be like, "What's Terrance like? What's Ter—we gotta get in front of Terrance, people! Tell me the name of Terrance's third grade teacher. Give me all the information you can on Terrance."

**Justin:** Do you—[sighs] Do you guys think there is a static number of days after the series finale of *Big Bang Theory* at which point we will stop referencing *Big Bang Theory* as an ongoing concern?

**Griffin:** Well—

**Justin:** Because currently...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** ... by my math, it has been roughly... [pauses] um, maybe 450 days, by the calendar?

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** Just since the final episode on May 16th, 2019.

**Travis:** Can I tell you the problem here, J-Man? Problem is...

**Justin:** I think I know the problem, Trav.

**Travis:** Is that I can't think of another TV show? Yeah.

**Justin:** Right. Are there other ones that are going on right now?

**Travis:** Not on that scale. I mean, listen, we can talk about *Supernatural*, but that's not a multi-camera comedy.

**Justin:** Again, please don't talk about *Supernatural*. I'm just saying it's been a year and a half since—first off, do you guys feel like... [laughs loudly] Okay. Do you feel like the nation mourned *Big Bang Theory* enough?

**Griffin:** I don't think—yeah.

**Justin:** Because everyone has been very excited about *Big Bang Theory*'s existence, but did the nation mourn...

**Travis:** No.

**Justin:** ... *Big Bang Theory*'s passing? Because I feel like I didn't see the sort of funeral for a friend proceedings that one would expect from—you know, saying goodbye to... characters here.

**Travis:** Well, I think we're in the stage where, you know, a loved one passes, and you spend a lot of time watching old home movies.

**Justin:** Mm.

**Travis:** And just remem—except in this case, it's like 800 episodes of reruns. You know?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** So it takes a while to get through those home movies before you're like, "Aw, you know what? I don't really miss this loved one anymore."

**Griffin:** That's it. It's gonna come to us uh, 2035, when someone's gonna accidentally say, "Bazinga," and it'll be like—and then the cavity, we'll feel it.

And Justin, just to answer your question with another perspective, it has been, to my actual math, nearly 6,000 days since *Frasier* went off the air.

**Justin:** [laughs loudly]

**Travis:** Fair.

**Justin:** But I think, when we talk about *Frasier*, it is tinged with a ache that—where the age is folded into the rhythm.

**Griffin:** Right. Right.

**Justin:** [laughs] And I feel like *Big Bang Theory* is a reach for current [through laughter] avant-garde.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** [laughs] I see.

**Travis:** This is a fair point, Justin, because I did go—when I first started this, I said something about *Friends*, and I thought, "But *Friends* is canceled! I need to talk about an ongoing show. I know, *Big Bang Theory*."

**Justin:** But I really blame—I don't blame me or you. I blame the nation for not mourning the gang.

**Travis:** I agree.

**Justin:** I feel like the gang passed—here's an inter—can I tell you guys an interesting fact?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Please.

**Justin:** 12 and a half million people...

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** ... watched *Big Bang Theory* on May 9th, which was the week uh, before the show ended, okay?

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** The finale episode, 18 and a half million people tuned in for that final ep. So... that means that here in this great nation of ours, there are 6 million discrete humans, give or take, who are like, "Listen. I don't watch *Big Bang Theory*, but I'm gonna be there when they put it in the fucking ground."

**Griffin:** [wheezes]

**Travis:** Yeah. "I wanna make sure you stay dead!"

**Justin:** "Stay dead, Sheldo! Stay dead, glasses! Stay dead, other girl!"

**Travis:** I—I just don't get, with numbers like that, why they canceled it.

**Justin:** Why did they even cancel it?

**Travis:** Why did they cancel *Big Bang Theory*? Why did—

**Justin:** Well, because they wanted to rope in those 6 million people who are like, "I don't watch the show, but I will be there when it dies."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "I wanna be there when the plug is pulled on uh, mu—on Green Lantern, and..."

**Travis:** I think The Flash is on there.

**Justin:** The Flash shirt guy, and... everybody.

**Travis:** Why do they cancel shows like *Big Bang Theory* and *Friends*...

**Griffin:** Alright. Guys...

**Travis:** I don't get it. Now, listen.

**Justin:** Travis, you're being silly.

**Griffin:** You know I'm going to be more... savvy about what happens behind that beautiful lens that makes the *Friends* and the *Frasier*.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** And so... this is how they do it.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** "Hey, everybody. Come with us to CBS as we mourn the passing of *Big Bang Theory*, a show you don't watch, but you should—you—"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** "People are going to ask you, 'Where were you when *Big Bang Theory* went off the air?' so please come and watch it."

And then you—people—11 million people were like, "Yes! Yes! It sounds like a Friday night to me!" And they showed up, and they watched it, and then at the end, everybody else dies, but Sheldo crawls inside of his reverse-chrysalis, and becomes Young Sheldon.

**Travis:** Huh!

**Griffin:** And now that's 11 million built-in viewers of *Young Sheldon*. *Big Bang Theory* never went off the air, 'cause it's carried on in the memories of the past of the Sh—of Sh—the character of Sheldon.

**Justin:** The chrysalis is reforming around Sheldon. He will reemerge with a new *Big Bang Theory*...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** ... once he has matured.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** You know, I was gonna point out that after *Cheers*, they spun off a series called *Frasier*, and that was also popular, and I thought, "Why doesn't

every popular sitcom do that?" And then I remembered that *Joey* was a concern for a while.

**Griffin:** [sarcastically] Love Joey!

**Travis:** Um, and that kind of answered my question. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Love—love *Joey*! Sandwiches?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Italian?

**Justin:** [laughs] Sandwiches.

**Griffin:** Sandwiches, saying—

**Travis:** He had a lot of, uh, premarital sex.

**Griffin:** Premarital sex! Sexual—

**Travis:** And he was always interested in people's wellbeing. He was always like, "Hey, how are you? How are you doing?"

**Griffin:** Uninvited sexual... energy, but we loved it, I guess?

**Travis:** We really liked all the gay panic. That was fun.

**Griffin:** The gay panic, Joey! You remember!

**Travis:** "Oh, don't touch me, you're a guy!" You know, that kind of thing.

**Griffin:** Yeah! "Oh, what are you—"

**Justin:** Love that.

**Griffin:** "Oh, what's—uh—"

**Travis:** "Oh, what if we hugged? That'd be so gay." [laughs] You know, that kind of—[chortles] You get it.

**Griffin:** "How aren't you doing? 'Cause you're a guy! Joey!"

**Justin:** [laughs]



**Travis:** “You get it.”

**Justin:** Ladies and gentlemen, as Joey’s dad, Christopher Walken, apparently.

**Griffin:** Don’t try to—

**Travis:** Griffin, what would it be like if Joey and Joey’s dad hugged?

**Griffin:** “Just this—just this one time, Joey, my boy!”

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** As it turns out, if I try to do Joey from *Friends*, I can sort of... do—like, sidestep my way into Christopher Walken. Which is an exciting revelation for me.

**Justin:** Let’s take a break.

**Travis:** If I’m going to afford the box set of *Joey* on DVD, I need to earn some money.

**Griffin:** Half—it’s half of one disc.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** There’s a label on the front of the case, saying, “This is sharp. Plea—if you are the type of person who just bought *Joey* on half a DVD, you shouldn’t touch it, ‘cause it’s real sharp!”

**Justin:** [laughs] “Please affix this to half of a corn tortilla so it’ll function and spin.

**Travis:** Well, you get a—the other half of the disc is just all the episodes of *The Cape*. And you can kind of glue it together. And then as you spin, *The Cape* makes some special appearances on *Joey*.

**Justin:** [laughs] It combines them stereoscopically.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [through laughter] So it looks like Joey’s wearing a cape.

**Griffin:** [laughs] You plug this half of the *Joey* DVD disc into *Sonic and Knuckles Expansion Pack* for Sega Genesis!

**Travis:** [laughs]

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

**Griffin:** Hey, can I tell y'all about MeUndies?

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** I'm hearing a lot of background activity. It makes me wonder if somebody's—it sounded like somebody was wrapping a present, if I'm being honest, and I guess the question is, is it for me?

**Justin:** Yeah, Griffin, it's underwear.

**Griffin:** Oh, thank you.

**Justin:** Happy day.

**Griffin:** Thank you! I will always accept underwear if it's MeUndies, 'cause if it's not, it's trash, and that's my new motto that they can use whenever they want. They are the most comfortable underwear—

**Travis:** So, Griffin, you're saying that if a stranger walked up to you...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** ... and said, "Here, take this pair of MeUndies, no questions asked..."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** ... you would do it?

**Griffin:** Yeah! Yeah.

**Travis:** Wow.

**Griffin:** Yeah. They're pretty comfortable. Travis, I think it's kind of fucked up that in the middle of our commercial for MeUndies, you would suggest otherwise. But anyway, I have—I have so many MeUndies right now, and

what I really like about them, is because it is the spookiest season of the year, I love to look scary down there.

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** And so I have some that have uh—fun—they're fun, at the end of the day, but they are still pretty spooky Halloween prints.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** If you're into cats or blood or skeletons in the spooky context, they—even—or hell, you can wear skeleton underwear whenever. Nobody's gonna call the cops on you.

Uh, these are just—they're so fucking soft! And you never have to run out of MeUndies if you get the MeUndies membership. It's a subscription that sends new pairs of MeUndies right to your door. Plus, you can get site-wide savings and exclusive sales! So if you want to get 15 percent off your first order and free shipping, go to [meundies.com/mybrother](https://meundies.com/mybrother). That's [meundies.com/mybrother](https://meundies.com/mybrother)!

**Travis:** Can I tell you about Stitch Fix?

**Griffin:** Yep.

**Travis:** I got... the greatest shirt – like, my new favorite shirt – from Stitch Fix. And it—we talk about, with Stitch Fix, if you've heard us talk about it before, that like, they get to know your style and your budget, the colors you like, all of those things, and this felt like getting a gift from, like, my best friend. Where it was this really beautiful dress shirt that had kind of a little bit of like—almost like a firework like, popcorn design in. But as part of the fireworks and popcorn was like, little tiny skulls in there?

**Griffin:** Oh!

**Travis:** It was so fucking cool, and I—

**Griffin:** That is cool.

**Travis:** Yes. I love it. And like, I liter—I saw it, and I ran into the room where Teresa was, to say, like, "Look at this." Because Stitch Fix is a personal styling company that makes getting the clothes you love effortless, and they really do get to know you.

You can go through, and say like, "I like this shirt, this is the kind of thing I wanna dress for." You know, "This is what I like to do." That kind of thing. And it feels really personalized to you. And you pay a 20 dollar styling fee for each fix, and it's credited towards anything you keep. So you don't have to keep everything in the box. If it comes, you try it on, you're like, "This didn't fit," you send it back. And you can schedule it anytime. There's no subscription required. Plus, shipping returns and exchanges are easy and free.

So get started today at [stitchfix.com/mybrother](https://stitchfix.com/mybrother), and you'll get 25 percent off when you keep everything in your fix. That is [stitchfix.com/mybrother](https://stitchfix.com/mybrother) for 25 percent off when you keep everything in your fix. [Stitchfix.com/mybrother](https://stitchfix.com/mybrother).

[carefree music plays]

**Dave:** Are you feeling elevated levels of anxiety?

[dinging noise]

**Dave:** Do you quake uncontrollably even thinking about watching cable news?

[dinging noise]

**Dave:** Do you have disturbing nightmares, only to realize it's 2:00 in the afternoon and you're up?

[dinging noises]

**Dave:** If you've experienced one or more of these symptoms, you may have FNO, [censored beep] news overload.

[dramatic music plays in background]

**Dave:** Fortunately, there's treatment. Hi, I'm Dave Holmes, host of *Troubled Waters*. *Troubled Waters* helps fight FNO. That's because *Troubled Waters* stimulates your joy zone!

On *Troubled Waters*, two comedians will battle one another for pop culture supremacy. So join me, Dave Holmes, for two, two, two doses of *Troubled Waters* a month. The cure for your [censored beep] news overload. Available on [maximumfun.org](https://maximumfun.org), or wherever you get your podcasts.

[music and advertisement end]

**Justin:** [imitates rock guitar, howls]

**Griffin:** Oh, God. Oh—

**Justin:** [imitates rock guitar, howls]

**Griffin:** Travis, run!

**Travis:** I'm already gone.

**Justin:** [sings whimsical tune] [singing] I want to munch.

**Travis:** Huh.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

Squad!

**Justin:** [continues tune] [singing, with Dracula voice] I want to munch!

**Griffin:** Squad.

**Travis:** Huh. I don't like this guy.

**Griffin:** I love this guy! Fuck yeah.

**Justin:** [continuing with Dracula voice] Welcome to Munch Squad.

**Griffin:** Oh, wait, wait. I formally invite you into our podcast! Beautiful spirit!

**Justin:** Oh, thank you.

**Travis:** Oh, is he a vampire? I thought he was like, um, a Frankenstein's monster.

**Justin:** Not just any vampire. The Donut Dracula.

**Travis:** Oh—the Donut Dracula?

**Griffin:** The Donut Dracula?

**Justin:** [holding back laughter] Count Donut.

**Travis:** Uh...

**Griffin:** Did you just change your name?

**Justin:** [laughs] It's a long name! So I'm getting it all out.

**Travis:** So is it Count Donut Dracula?

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** I think he said—I think he said Donut Dracula, Count Donut.

**Travis:** Oh! So his real name is Donut Dracula, but his title is...

**Justin:** My real name is Kevin, but knowing that would give immense power over me.

**Griffin:** Kevin, sit still for just a second. Trav, just to explain—just to explain what just happened. Justin...

**Justin:** [wheezing]

**Griffin:** ... in his mind, was trying to run the calculus on whether or not the word "donut" sounded enough like "count... "

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** ... that he could say it in lieu of "count." And so he said it out loud and heard it...

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** ... and then he said, "Nobody's gonna understand what that meant." So he switched—

**Travis:** No, no, no. It's way different.

**Griffin:** So he switched it over to Count Donut.

**Travis:** Donutula, though, I think maybe—

**Griffin:** Donutula's also nothing. I think he did the best with what he had to work with. Like, I'm not—

**Justin:** [laughs] [continuing with Dracula voice] I am the guest host for this most delicious episode of Munch Squad, podcast within a podcast profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating.

**Travis:** Hey, Count Donut, just real quick...

**Justin:** [laughing dramatically]

**Travis:** You're better at this than Justin is.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Thank you, I'm glad I killed him.

**Travis:** What? You also sound a little bit like Gru from—[laughs] from the uh, the minions movies.

**Griffin:** Oh, I love those!

**Justin:** I have not seen them, oddly. I had missed the first few, and I didn't know where to jump on!

**Travis:** Yeah, you get pretty lost if you just come in on *Despicable Me 3*.

**Justin:** There's three now?

**Travis:** I think so.

**Griffin:** Well, they also did a side—side standalone minions film.

**Justin:** I was so excited about the new minions movie, but then it got delayed to 2021.

**Travis:** Oh, yes, it's Coronavirus. Have you heard about this?

**Justin:** I...

**Griffin:** You having trouble with this?

**Justin:** Everyone's in their homes. It's a challenging time for me.

**Travis:** And with a mask on, it's probably hard to sink your teeth first into their—

**Griffin:** You're wearing a mask, right, Count?

**Justin:** I—of course I am. I am immune to all earthly pathogens, but I want to set a good example.

**Travis:** That's good. That's good of you. Have you voted?

**Justin:** Hm?

**Travis:** Have you voted?

**Justin:** Yes. I voted long ago, for the devil.

**Travis:** No, this—no, this is a—it's a presidential—

**Griffin:** There's a presi—he's not on the—

**Travis:** There's a lot of like, Senate...

**Justin:** I'm a citizen of nowhere.

**Travis:** Oh, so you're just living here, like, rent-free, not paying taxes? What the fuck?

**Justin:** I... am talking to you from my home, in Donutvania.

**Travis:** Oh, okay!

**Griffin:** Yeah, Trav, we need to let him speak. 'Cause I am curious of what he's fucking doing here.

**Travis:** Oh, right. I forgot this was a segment.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [laughs] [continuing with Dracula voice] Yes, ah well. Excellent. Thank you. I want to tell you... about this new Halloween offering. It's a spooky time of year, of course. Some Halloween offerings from local donut chains there in your United States of America.



**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Alright, let 'em rip.

**Travis:** I—

**Justin:** May I adopt the typical cadence of a classic American, as I read these...

**Travis:** Please, or else this episode's gonna be 87 minutes long.

**Griffin:** Whoa, whoa, whoa. Whoa, whoa, whoa. Whoa, whoa, whoa. I do not consent to that. We can't have fucking eight minutes of Dracula preamble and when it comes time for the fucking pearl inside the oyster, it switches back to Justin. Absolutely not. You [crosstalk].

**Travis:** Here's what we'll do. Hypnotize—

**Justin:** [Dracula voice] It can't switch back to Justin. He's dead.

**Travis:** Yeah. Hypnotize Griffin, so he's still here as Dracula. And then you can speak in an American cadence.

**Justin:** No, no, he has spoken.

**Travis:** Oh, boy.

**Justin:** He has used his will.

**Travis:** I'm gonna go get some water.

**Justin:** Perhaps... for the last time.

**Travis:** Are you gonna kill Griffin?

**Justin:** Nuggets are on notice. Sandwiches be warned, and move over, tacos. A donut is now heating up the battle for spicy superiority.

**Travis:** Oh, boy.

**Justin:** Proving that the number one brand in donuts can rock a spicy side.

**Travis:** [blows raspberry]

**Griffin:** Can rock... rock a spicy side?

**Justin:** [raspy] I will have silence, or I will have your head.

[continuing with Dracula voice] "Dunkin' has baked up one of the most surprising treats ever to rise from its kitchens. The new spicy ghost pepper donut..."

**Travis:** Fuck off!

**Griffin:** Yuck.

**Justin:** "... a deliciously daring donut that delivers the heat with every bite! This spicy ghost pepper donut is a classic yeast donut brain."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Gross!

**Justin:** "Topped with a strawberry-flavored icing that you could easily mistake for... winka, winka, blood? [forced laughter]"

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "And a bold blend of cayenne and ghost pepper." *Ghost pepper.*

**Travis:** No, we got it.

**Justin:** [laughs haughtily]

**Travis:** Yeah, we got it.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "And finished with red sanding sugar for a sizzling look! The spicy ghost pepper donut will be on the menu for only a few hot minutes! Available beginning today for a limited time at participating Dunkin' restaurants nation-wide until December."

**Griffin:** You got a—you got a fe—I know this, like, solid baked treats are not really your jam, Count Donut, but um—how do—you think you'd wanna tear one of those bad boys down?

**Justin:** [reluctantly] I... I do not believe so. I uh...

**Travis:** 'Cause it sounds gross?

**Griffin:** 'Cause it sounds yucky?

**Justin:** No. I have the... in my guts. My guts inside. Um...

**Travis:** You got IBS.

**Justin:** I—yes. Internal blood syndrome.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** I only can consume and digest blood.

**Griffin:** Okay. So you're not immune to all diseases, then.

**Justin:** It's not a disease to eat something that disagrees with you.

**Travis:** Well, tell that to Griffin.

**Justin:** If you put—if—[laughs] if you put mayonnaise into your car's fuel intake...

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** ...it'll be exploded. You won't to go to the doctor, and say, "My car is terribly sick."

**Griffin:** Why would I go to the [through laughter] doctor? I—

**Travis:** And I might—don't you assume that about me. I might do that.

**Griffin:** Oh, well. Sorry, I have—sorry, I was—

**Justin:** [still speaking with Dracula voice] If I ate—if I ate tinfoil, and started to cough blood, you wouldn't say "Get away from me, I don't want to catch it."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I'm not sick. I just ate foil.

**Travis:** I would say—I would say that there was something wrong with you.

**Justin:** "Halloween looks a little different this year, and so do our donuts."

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** "While our classic bakery offering has plenty of crave-worthy treats, we're excited to show our spicy side with a donut that packs a punch of heat, with something sweet, and can be enjoyed any time of day."

**Griffin:** The fucking cowardice in that quote where they had to say, "Don't worry, we still have our normal, not-disgusting donuts."

**Justin:** "Non spicy items [laughs] available still."

"With our scary good lineup of the spicy ghost pepper donut, Halloween DIY Dunkin' Donut Decorating Kits, and the fan favorite spider donut. Dunkin' is here to help our guests keep their Halloween spirit alive.

"Yes, if you're wondering if the opening line Halloween looks a little different this year—" it's a reference to COVID-19 in this press release about new donut kinds. Yes, that is correct, it is wholly inescapable. Now, hop on my back as I whisk you away to Duck Donuts!

**Travis:** Whee!

**Griffin:** Whee—wait, where the fuck are we going? What's Duck Donuts?

**Justin:** There's 97 of them.

**Travis:** It's from the people who brought you *Duck Dynasty*.

**Griffin:** Alright!

**Justin:** I don't know if that is accurate, but I do know this is accurate: they've got a spooky box. [laughs]

**Travis:** Excusie?

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "The popular spooky box is all about the treats, with 12 wonderful, colorful, unique flavor and topping combinations that are as photogenic as they are scrumptious."

**Travis:** In a box.

**Justin:** In the spooky box.

**Griffin:** [bursts out laughing]

**Justin:** It's also the only chance this year to try the three limited time flavors: pumpkin icing, apple, and streusel topping!

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** Not the spookiest—I mean, I'll—

**Travis:** I'd fuck with that streusel topping.

**Justin:** The spooky box is different. "The spooky box features werewolf, which is maple bacon with raspberry drizzle; [crosstalk]—"

**Travis:** How is that werewolf?

**Justin:** "... chocolate icing with Oreo cookie pieces and gummy worms. Boo-berry..."

**Travis:** TM, TM, TM.

**Justin:** TM, TM. "Blueberry icing with powdered sugar and spider web..."

**Travis:** Gross.

**Justin:** "... which is cinnamon sugar with a vanilla drizzle. Russ DiGilio, founder and CEO of Duck Donuts—"

**Travis:** [laughs] I thought that was another flavor!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "And also, we have back, by popular demand, Russ DiGilio." [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs][Dracula voice] "We have found and ground up another Russ DiGilio."

**Justin:** "If you or someone you know is a Russ DiGilio, please do the right and moral thing and submit your body to us so all may enjoy."

**Travis:** [laughs] "The sixth flavor!"

**Justin:** "Maybe just a few nails! Your hair clippings for us, please. We crave you."

"[through laughter] The most craveable Russ DiGilio of the year is back—" No. Here, he says, "Our spooky box is a joyful and giftable collection of delicious fun." That's right, giftable. If you give it away, you will not be arrested.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "It's served warm, and ready for sharing. We all need something to look forward to right now," so yes, that's right, our second reference to the COVID-19 crisis in an announcement about Halloween donuts. Thank you so much for reminding me about the ongoing pandemic [laughs]. So appreciated. And thank God it's all fixed now, because of your delicious spooky box.

**Travis:** The spooky box really balances the whole thing out, doesn't it?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "We all need something to look forward to right now, and the fun of Halloween can't come soon enough. Bone-appetit, boos and ghouls!"

**Travis:** Well...

**Griffin:** Fuck yeah!

**Travis:** Do you think Russ said that out loud with his human mouth, or do you think that's just something he said, like, "And then at the end, you can write, like, 'bon-appetit.'"

**Justin:** [continuing Dracula voice] Russ—Russ did a terrible pun and reinforced the imaginary gender binary!

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Now, I really hate Russ DiGillio. I have decided.

**Griffin:** Oh, man. Man, Count Donut, I doubted your skills when you first showed up. Didn't know what your name was. But I gotta say, you knocked it out of the park with these.

**Justin:** Thank you so much. So, what's next?

**Griffin:** Well, can you reanimate Justin's dead ass—

**Justin:** No, he's dead.

**Travis:** Okay, can you—can you emulate Justin?

**Justin:** For—sorry?

**Travis:** Emulate him. Like you be him?

**Griffin:** Like you trying to be him?

**Justin:** Oh, sure, sure, of course. [exaggerating, as Justin] Uh, woodworking! Disney World!

**Griffin:** [laughs loudly]

**Travis:** Good burn, Count Donut.

**Justin:** [as Dracula] No, no dice.

[as Justin] I love *Sleep No More*!

[as Dracula] Sorry, I can't...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Oh, man. Justin has a family. I mean, us, but...

**Griffin:** Say something—try—try saying something about FMV games?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Oh, sure, sure, sure. [as Justin] *Sewer Shark* is a fun game! Good time!

**Travis:** Cereal maybe? Cereals are in the—

**Justin:** Oh, I love to crunch with a relaxing bowl of it! [groans]

**Travis:** That was actually pretty good. You sounded like a mix between Gilbert Gottfried and Olaf. Is that what you were going for?

**Justin:** [as Dracula] I have not seen—I do not know who is Olaf.

**Travis:** You haven't seen *Frozen*?

**Justin:** No, I've seen *Frozen*. I don't know Gilbert Gottfried.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** No, of course.

**Travis:** Oh. You haven't seen *Aladdin*.

**Justin:** I have seen *Aladdin* live action.

**Travis:** Ah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Got you, got you, got you.

**Griffin:** Can you say something about a big beautiful Buick Enclave? Justin loves them.

**Justin:** A big, beautiful, Buick Enclave.

**Travis:** Oh, God.

**Griffin:** That sounded great.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** Alright.

**Justin:** See, it's better. [laughs] It is an improvement.

**Griffin:** No, yeah. Everything you're doing today is better.

**Travis:** How about—why don't—why don't you, Count Donut, take us into our housekeeping?

**Justin:** Of course. Although, I have help with that around the castle.



**Travis:** Yes, of course.

**Justin:** Yes, of course. I could have Renfield do the housekeeping for you, if you would like.

**Travis:** Oh, yeah, yeah. That'd be great.

**Griffin:** This dude sounds more than Justin.

**Justin:** [snorts, breaths heavily]

**Griffin:** No, that's a pass. That's a hard pass.

**Justin:** [nasally, breathing heavily] *My Brother, My Brother and Me*. It's an advice show that we so appreciate you listening to the master and these two other uh, uh, cattle. Haha—[nervous laughter]

**Travis:** Hey, Renfield? Fuck you!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I'll get the count back, of course!

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [as Dracula] I'm so sorry.

**Travis:** That dude sucks!

**Justin:** I agree.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I told him not to refer to you as cattle, to your face.

**Travis:** I want you to kill him.

**Griffin:** No.

**Justin:** Renfield. [makes dying noises]

**Griffin:** Alright. Well, now there's blood on our hands.

**Justin:** He's dead. I've put him... on top of Justin's body, in a way that would make Joey very uncomfortable!

**Travis:** Ah, I get it. That's pretty fun.

**Justin:** Thank you.

**Travis:** Hey, uh, Count, there's a podcast my wife and I are doing called *Bake On*, where we watch—talk about the new season of *Great British Bake Off*. We got three episodes out now, it's on your podcatcher, as well as on our YouTube channel. Do you think you'd want to check that out?

**Justin:** [continuing Dracula voice] I would love to! I'm more into the video games, so—and I love to listen to Justin's podcast, *The Besties*, on Spotify.

**Griffin:** Should've thought about that before you did kill him.

**Justin:** It's better now. Now, I get to enjoy uh, at least 25 percent more Russ Frushtick.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** At least! It's—it's Griffin, it's Russ, and it's Chris Plante talking about video games. It used to be Justin in there too, but of course now he is drained.

**Justin:** Dead. Yeah. Of course. It's on Spotify.

**Travis:** It's very good. I love it.

**Griffin:** Um, Count Donut, do you mind if I talk about all of the merch? Because the thought of you... there's a lot, and the thought of you taking the sort of time you would need to talk about all of it, uh, scares me a lot.

**Justin:** Can you—can I at least talk about the jump scare pin?

**Griffin:** Yeah, that's appropriate.

**Justin:** There's a pin of Justin doing offensive fangface of me, Count Donutula.

**Griffin:** I regret allowing you to do that.

**Justin:** The jump scare pin, and you can purchase it if you want to reinforce some truly harmful stereotypes about my kind.

**Griffin:** There's so much stuff at the McElroy merch site, which is [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com). Uh, there is—God, I wish Justin was alive to talk about the horseshoe crab shirt.

**Justin:** Yes, his medical podcast uh, with his wife – sorry, widow, Sydnee.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** Celebrating horseshoe crabs, and their incredible contribution to vaccines.

**Griffin:** Yeah, um, you—

**Justin:** Did you know about this?

**Griffin:** No, I didn't know about that.

**Justin:** You can test for impurities in vaccines if you—using the dried blood of a horseshoe crab.

**Griffin:** That's exciting news. I'll make sure to do that.

**Justin:** It coagulates—so sorry, I'm getting hungry now, listen to me.

**Travis:** You feed on horseshoe crab blood?

**Justin:** Just blood in general.

**Griffin:** Uh, there's also a tiger on the table pin of the month, which was designed by Sam Schultz, and sales of that benefit the Marsha P. Johnson Institute and the Sylvia Rivera Law Project. Uh, there is Candlenights ornaments designed by Lin Doyle. There is Candlenights wrapping paper designed by Justin Gray. Uh, there's a "thanks for vibing and keeping it tight" shirt, which I... still need to get one of, 'cause they're one of my favorite pieces of merch we've ever put up on the store. And a portion of the proceeds for the shirt uh, will go to the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights. Uh, and... yeah. That's all at [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com). There's a—there's a lot of stuff!

**Travis:** Okay. A couple quick things. We're doing a livestream of the game *Among Us* on Tuesday, the 20th, at 9:00 PM Eastern Time. It's gonna be on

our McElroy Family channel. It's me and the brothers and probably other family members. Uh, so make sure you check that out.

Like we said earlier, we wrote a podcast how-to book called *Everybody Has a Podcast (Except You)*, it's available for preorder now. It'll give you, like, a step-by-step guide to make sure that you're proud of. You can preorder that at [themcelroypodcastbook.com](http://themcelroypodcastbook.com), and it comes out January 26th.

Also, uh, *Adventure Zone: Crystal Kingdom*, which is the fourth graphic novel in the series, is available for preorder. Just go to [theadventurezonecomic.com](http://theadventurezonecomic.com), that comes out July 13th 2021.

**Griffin:** I think that's it. 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. Thanks to Maximum Fun, and thank you to Count Donut, again, for uh...

**Justin:** [as Dracula] Of course. It was my honor. I'm sorry about your brother.

**Travis:** Eh, it was time.

**Justin:** Although it seemed like more of a business relationship at this point.

**Travis:** Yeah. Yeah, that's fine.

**Griffin:** We both have a spare still.

**Travis:** Yeah, you're doing better than he did, really, so it might be an improvement.

**Justin:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** Uh, here's another Yahoo by um... sent in by Merit Palmer, the Prospector. Thank you, Merit.

**Justin:** [groans] [normally] What happened?

**Griffin:** Oh, Juice!

**Travis:** Oh, man, he's not dead!

**Justin:** There's this guy on top of me.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's uh, Count Donut. He's like Dracula, but for donuts.

**Travis:** And the guy on top of you is dead Renfield.

**Justin:** [as Count Donut] Well, I guess... Justin's alive, so you don't need to tweet at him.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** About this segment.

**Griffin:** Alright.

**Justin:** Or condolences to his wife that, without context, will seem extremely disturbing. Justin's fine.

**Travis:** But if you do have anything, you could just tweet at Count Donut.

**Griffin:** Yeah, it's gonna be... somebody that we have no quality control on. Big ups to Trav.

Anyway, Merit sent this in. Thanks, Merit. It's Yahoo Answers User Ramiro, who asks – and I'm gonna read the question and the additional details, 'cause this is important: "John Travolta dancing in *Pulp Fiction*. How well did he do, on a scale of 1 to 5? I give him a 4. He seems like he gave it a good effort and had a fun time, but maybe you feel otherwise."

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy. [???].

**Travis:** Oh, really? How is it?

**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]

[chord plays]

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