

MBMBaM 533: Butterbobs n' Batteries

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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 McElroy!

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

Griffin: And I'm your sweet baby brother, Griffin McElroy!

Justin: Um...

Travis: ... McElroy!

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That's good.

Justin: A lag. You did get me on that. You got me on that one.

Travis: Aw, thanks.

Justin: You did get me on that one. So I wanted to start—you know I hate to do it, but I gotta start...

Travis: Oh?

Justin: ... a little political.

Travis: Aw, man.

Griffin: Aw, did you say—

Travis: Again, Justin?

Griffin: Did you say “bolitical”?

Justin: Boli—is that not the—

Travis: And then eat some basketti.

Griffin: [laughs] Time for boli—bolitics.

Justin: So I did a tweet...

Travis: There’s your first mistake. [laughs]

Justin: I did a tweet, um, ‘cause I wanted—‘cause a question—I had, like, a hypothetical question, and I needed answers, right? And so I put this hypothetical out to the internet, and it received, before voting closed, 34,913 replies.

Travis: Oh, wow.

Justin: And I wanna dig into this—and it got so much of a response...

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: ... I wanted to dig into this question with you guys, and really talk through some of the data.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: If that’s okay.

Griffin: Did you get—did you get ratioed?

Justin: Um...

Griffin: As the—as the teens say?

Justin: I don't think so.

Griffin: Okay, okay.

Justin: I don't think it's a ratio.

Griffin: Ki—can I—teens are fucking wild about fractions, I guess.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And I'm stoked. People are always talking about, like, "It's just phones, phones, phones, phones, phones," but they're out here talking about ratios and Pythagoras.

Travis: I thought it was rat-io, like patio.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: So here's the tweet.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: That's the tweet! [laughs] I'm—here's the tweet. "I got a new hypothetical that's gonna sweep the nation and add some sparkle to your next Zoom happy hour. If—" and here it is, and I'm gonna pose it to you, my brothers. If you could, consequence-free, spank Donald J. Trump...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: ... right on his behind...

Travis: Uh-huh

Justin: ... on national TV...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: ... would you do it? Please think...

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: ... before answering.

Travis: Uh, bare ass?

Justin: If you're about to start talking, I know you haven't thought about it.

Travis: No, I have. Bare ass, question mark.

Griffin: Bare ass, bare hand, skin-to-skin contact? This is so important.

Justin: This is data. This is data. I can't—I can't shift the parameters—

Travis: Well, Brent Spiner would definitely do it.

Justin: I can't shift the parameters of the question for you. This is the question that is put before you. You do not have more information than this.

Griffin: Any God-fearing American, Trav, I think is thinking about bare ass, bare hand.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: I don't think there's anybody who thought about spanking this gentleman with his pants on. Not for the stuff *he's* accomplished! No, sir, you do deserve a bare ass spanking!

Travis: You know what?

Justin: Let me say this, I'll—you know what, I'll—I will—since we're outside the c—let me give you this data.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: With that data, okay, before we drill down onto your personal responses. With that data, the internet said, 44 percent of internet respondents said, "Okay."

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: 56 percent of internet respondents said, "No, thanks."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: So that's where...

Griffin: Wow!

Justin: That data—that's the data. Um, and I don't know if people thought about it enough, because a lot of people were like, "I'm—I think I'd catch some sort of slime disease from his butt!"

It's like, that's all very funny...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... but I'm trying to...

Griffin: Well...

Justin: ... I'm trying to do research. And that's probably not gonna happen.

Griffin: Is it funny? Is it funny? Is it funny? It's not that long ago that this gentleman *did* have the Corona. And if I said "gentleman," I meant "scoundrel."

Travis: Here's what I will say.

Griffin: Please.

Travis: I got a big ol' flat hand.

Griffin: Oh, God.

Travis: And I believe... I could deliver a spanking as such that it would go beyond embarrassing.

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: If I really put my full torque into it...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: ... into potentially damaging.

Justin: Okay, you can't—this is important, because we're—if you—if it dam—if the spank damages the body of the man that is the president of the country...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: ... then we are getting into some, let's call it questionable, legal territory.

Griffin: Okay...

Travis: Now, hold on, Justin. I—you didn't give further detail. So I was assuming, in this scenario, this was a purely consensual thing, where Donald J. Trump...

Justin: It's not consensual!

Travis: Then I wouldn't do it!

Justin: There just won't be repercussions. [laughs]

Travis: Then it—then I would—okay. Then if there's not gonna be repercussions...

Justin: Listen. He's not gonna—

Griffin: If he's in—

Travis: No. You asked the question, and now you're not listening to me, sir. Sir? Sir.

Justin: Sir?

Travis: Sir, I did not—I did not—

Griffin: The energy is just so bad.

Travis: This is still my time, sir, if I may. I have to assume he is in some kind of stocks scenario. And this has like, been his preordained punishment. And someone said, "Do you wanna like, go to prison, or get a spanking?"

And he was like, "Uh, of course a spanking, [nervous laugh]."

And here I come, with my big old...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, 2 by 9 of a hand or whatever.

Griffin: Gonna fucking panini that ass.

Travis: Yeah. And I come in there, and he's like, "I wish I had picked jail."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: This is what I'm saying, is I think I could deliver...

Griffin: 'Cause my butt's a manhole cover now.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Because of Travis' huge fucking hands...

Travis: I think I could flatten him in such a way... to make his butt concave.

Griffin: Fucking "Everlong" over here, just smash my ass out of the galaxy.

Travis: That's what I'm saying. I think that it would seem like a better alternative for him...

Griffin: yeah.

Travis: ... than whatever other punishment, but then here I come in, and shatter his coccyx.

Griffin: But I don't—I don't think—[groans] I don't wanna do it if it's—if it is the only repercussion that he gets for his, again, many, many bad accomplishments.

Justin: No. I don't think—

Griffin: Because that feels like letting him off lightly.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And I also don't know if that is going to be the punishment, if I should be the one... to do it. I can think of many more people who have been more severely affected by his administration than myself. And so I would—if given the opportunity, I would almost certainly hand it down to somebody more deserving than me.

Justin: Well, you don't have that opportunity. You literally just have the president...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: ... bent over...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: ... and everyone—and like, the nation is watching.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: The cameras are on.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: The secret service is like, "We don't enjoy him, we'll give you one."

Griffin: They turn away for like, a little bit.

Justin: Right, exactly. Blind eye, no repercussions. And like, here's what I would like to say that I don't think he does see it coming. I think he'd bend over to pick up a dime, which represents a significant—

Griffin: And his pants fall down, and there's his butt?

Justin: See, I never—this is what's interesting. Author intent, I never anticipated bare ass.

Travis: Well, then no! See, if it's not bare ass, Justin, it's not embarrassing. Now, I'm just a weirdo who ran up and spanked someone.

Justin: That's so wild. [laughs] That's such a wild thing to say, because the—you—the *nation*...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... would have the visual of him getting spanked by the podcast man.

Travis: But if it's his bare bottom, it's like he's a big baby!

Justin: He is a big baby!

Travis: And I'm spanking his big baby bottom. But if his—

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: If he's be-trousered, then it's—it doesn't have the same visual effect, Justin.

Griffin: Are we talking about hitting the president? [laughs]

Justin: No! That's why it has to be spanking. And it can't be Travis' injurious spanking.

Griffin: A spank is—a spank is a fucking hit, dog! I think it—

Justin: [laughs] It's a hit, but it's not—

Griffin: The three of us hold the same opinions vis a vis spanking...

Justin: Right.

Griffin: ... as being a pretty heinous thing, and is also—it is hitting, so we are talking about doing a hit... on the president.

Travis: Okay, there are two categories of spanking. There is consensual spanking betwixt partners...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: ... who enjoy spanking one another or multiples.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And then there is injurious spanking...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: ... where you are striking another human being with the flat of your open hand.

Griffin: [exhales]

Travis: Now—

Griffin: Go ahead.

Travis: Which one is it that we're talking about here, Justin?

Justin: Now, I did say—

Travis: Sensual spanking, or injurious spanking?

Justin: I did say—now, if I could drill in on the language of the question, "If you could, consequence free—" I feel like injury would be a consequence.

Travis: Well, not to me!

Justin: I didn't say that.

Griffin: Hm.

Justin: Didn't say that.

Travis: Well, then... [stammers]

Justin: Didn't say consequence for you. Said consequence-free, period. To you and the spank-ee, who is the president of the United States of America, our 45th, Donald J. Trump.

Travis: But Justin, that's absolutely bullshit.

Griffin: That's wild, yeah.

Travis: Because now, I am having a neutral impa—it means I am so lightly touching his bottom that he might derive neither pain nor pleasure—or, in fact, it sounds like lasting effect of any kind.

Griffin: There's a causal—there's a causal sort of relationship between Travis' huge, huge ape hand swinging low like a big golf driver into our American president's butt.

Justin: [laughing quietly]

Griffin: And he will feel it. If not, then it's like Travis is a ghost. And then—

Travis: Unless Justin is describing...

Griffin: Unless...

Travis: ... an Adam Sandler-esque scenario...

Justin: Always.

Travis: ... in which he bends down to pick up some kind of dime. I'm standing behind him, pretending to smack that ass.

Justin: [reluctantly] No...

Griffin: Uh, no.

Justin: It's more—it's more humiliating than that.

Travis: Then he's gonna feel it, Justin!

Griffin: He's gonna feel it.

Justin: I didn't say he wouldn't feel it. I said he wouldn't be injured. There wouldn't be a permanent butt injury. 'Cause if I say, "Would you like to injure the president?" everybody on Earth... [wheezes] would say, "Absolutely, I would love that." But that's not what I'm talking about.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: I'm talking about giving the president a big ol' spank, right on his bottom, as hard as you can. [laughs]

Travis: As hard as I can! You just said the words!

Griffin: You just said it.

Travis: "As hard as I can."

Griffin: It's gonna be bad for Travis to do it. I did just wanna say real quick that I did mention ghosts, but ghosts are famously against spanking, because they—they just don't stand for corporeal punishment.

Travis: Oh! Wait, stop.

Justin: Oh, boy. Oh, boy.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Yes, I do think so, Griffin. I think s—what do you guys make of this data? 56 percent of respondents, uh, would pass on the opportunity to spank the president, Donald J. Trump.

Travis: I will say, until I landed on “I want to hurt him with my strike,” then my first thought was, “I do not want to be in the same room...”

Justin: A lot of that energy, yeah.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, I just don’t—I don’t wanna touch his bad butt! I’m thinking it’s not—and I’m not gonna body shame anybody, but like, it’s not high on the list for me, you know what I mean?

Travis: I actually also took a poll on Twitter on the 18th. I asked uh, “Irony aside, where are we at on *The Greatest Showman*?”

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: And I got 11,000 responses.

Justin: `Kay.

Travis: Um, do you guys wanna guess? Like, yay or nay, what the percentages were?

Justin: It’s gotta be—I’m gonna say 75 percent yay, `cause America still has a heart, they have—or the globe, I guess, in this case, has a heart, they got a pulse. They’re loving it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: What about you, Griff?

Griffin: Um, yeah, I haven’t seen the film, `cause it seems so bad.

Travis: It was almost completely split down the middle. 52 percent yes, 48 percent no.

Justin: Incorrect.

Travis: So more people enjoy, unironically, *The Greatest Showman* than want to strike the president's bottom.

Griffin: Yeah, I got a Twitter poll out there, and it says, "Bye guys, I'm off to see *Deadpool 2* in theaters." Um, because it has been so long since I did a tweet.

Travis: So if anyone ever asks you what is, like, a perfectly, like, neu—like, average, neutral movie, it's *The Greatest Showman*. It cancel—it almost perfectly cancels out. Half the people do not like it, half the people like it. *Greatest Showman*, right down the middle. That's actually—was the tagline of *Greatest Showman*, "Right Down the Middle."

Justin: Um, that wasn't really germane to my intro. I think you just wanted to change the subject, so...

Travis: I did! I was sick of talking about either attacking the American president—

Justin: I just want to get a final vote. Can I just get a—can I just get a yay or nay real quick?

Travis: [sighs] Given the opportunity, the consequence-free, with the American people watching – is that in the text of the tweet, Justin? The Americans watching?

Griffin: Ooh. Ooh, the American people—

Justin: It's on national TV.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: America has the right to tune on [through laughter] as they see fit.

Griffin: Whoa, this is a huge opportunity, then. 'Cause I'll get on there, and whatever, spank his ass or whatever—his bad ass or whatever, and then when I'm doing it, I could be like, "And here's the link to my mixtape!" And I can say it out loud, and catch—

Justin: Right.

Travis: Yeah, "Check out my SoundCloud."

Griffin: "*My Brother, My Brother and Me*, go check it—mcelroyfamily.com, check out my shows!" [claps once]

Justin: Should be good for our iTunes reviews. Should be a good—[laughs] good journey we'd go on as a result of that.

Griffin: Yeah. I would—

Justin: "Negative 3 stars? I'm not gonna listen to this!"

Travis: I...

Justin: Dr. Skinhead...

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: [through laughter] ... 420xxx, says, "It's just snowflake garbage."

Travis: Justin, I kind of feel like I already did smack Donald Trump's ass, because I voted for Joe Biden early. Which I recommend everybody do.

Justin: Not really listening. You know, I mean, you can do that, but there's only one spank, you know what I mean?

Travis: Yeah, but I—

Justin: Only one spank-ortunity.

Travis: I was trying to take whatever this has been...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... and spin it in some [crosstalk]...

Griffin: Yeah. Make it something positive, yeah. Also—

Travis: Vote for Joe Biden early. It's gonna be fucking crazy on voting day.

Griffin: It's gonna be wild.

Travis: Get your shit in now. Go in now. Vote for Joe Biden. Don't hit people. Spanking doesn't help raise children, but...

Griffin: But...

Travis: If I had the opportunity, yes, Justin! I would smack that ass!

Griffin: Okay. I would give Joseph Gordon Biden's tight little keister a go.

Travis: Well, I'd give a little...

Justin: Okay, that's in no way germane—that's disgusting, Griffin.

Travis: That would be a smack, but that would be a spank of pleasure.

Griffin: Yeah, no, that's just like a little, "Good game, bud."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Good going, bud!

Justin: Way to get elected president, bud!

Griffin: Good going, bud, let's tighten up—

Travis: Good going, bud.

Griffin: Let's tighten up those policies just a *bit*, bud!

Justin: Just a little bit.

Griffin: Hey, let me nudge `em—

Justin: Let me do the fracking, if you think about it.

Travis: There's room to improve, bud! Bud.

Griffin: I'm gonna tap your left butt cheek, Joe. That tight left butt—

Travis: You follow that tap.

Griffin: Just to let you know that that's the direction! You should maybe angle it towards it, Joey!

Justin: Hey, maybe a single spanker healthcare. I mean...

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah. That's right, Justin.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Okay, uh, so this is a advice show that runs a little bit political [laughs] from time to time, I guess.

Griffin: Well, we are not gonna have an episode next week, the week of the election, so we gotta get all that shit out of our system now.

Justin: There we go. Go vote for Joe Biden. If you... care... about... anything [laughs], and you can. Like, obviously if you're in England, you don't need to tweet at me, I get it.

Um, [sighs] so...

Travis: Aw, man, we could've talked about Borat. Fuck!

Griffin: Fuck.

Justin: Um—yeah, that sucks, 'cause Borat's, like... it's funny, it's funny how Borat, by making him relevant again, made him irrelevant to us.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: By making Borat relevant, he is now irrelevant from a comedy perspective.

Griffin: Justin, can you give us a 21 "my wife" salute? Just to like, see that phrase off your soundboard?

Justin: Yeah, I—

Griffin: Just play that—

[Borat "My wife" clip plays several times]

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: It's not 21, nobody needs that.

Travis: That's six.

Justin: That's six. We'll do 15 more throughout the show, I'm sure.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I'm gonna miss it. It's just not funny no more.

Travis: It's not funny anymore.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It's not funny anymore.

Travis: God, I hope they don't reboot *Frasier*. [laughs] Please don't take that away from us.

Griffin: Oh, God, no.

Justin: Please.

Griffin: Like, I know we've said *AP4* and like, we would get there, like, day one in theaters, but please don't. Please, Mike. Please don't get *AP4* in theaters. Please, bud.

Justin: Uh, this is an advice show. And now—

Travis: What?!

Justin: Yeah. It's time to answer a question.

"The office I work at is having a Halloween party with a costume contest."

Travis: Nice.

Justin: "The prizes for said contest are: first place gets a month's paid rent."

Griffin: What?

Justin: "Second place gets a paid vacation anywhere in the continental United States."

Griffin: What the fuck?

Justin: "Third place is, you're fired."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Weirdly, fourth—every place after third place is just no prize, but if you get—for whatever reason, second runner-up, hit the fucking bricks, dude.

Justin: “Now, I don’t mean to brag, but I’ve had some luck with costume contests in the past, and have confidence that I could win. However, I do not live in a place that charges rent, and I’d really love a vacation.”

Griffin: Oh, my God.

Justin: “Brothers, what costume should I wear to guarantee second place?” That’s from Haphazardly Happy Halloween in Houston.

Griffin: This is an amazing, amazing, amazing question.

Justin: That’s really so freaking difficult.

Griffin: This feels like a fucking *Taskmaster* challenge. [laughs]

Travis: Yeah. Because there’s a worry here that if you underplay it too much, you don’t play second, right? Like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I um—okay, here’s where my—here’s where my gut is at.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Is if there’s somebody in the office who is going to do something... [clicks tongue] like, very intricate? And very, like, technical, but maybe not the most creative thing, but they would feel guilty not giving them first place, right? Then you need to clock in just below that.

So maybe you do, like, a really funny, clever costume...

Travis: Mm. Mm!

Griffin: But not, like, one that is necessarily technically, artistically proficient.

Travis: I was thinking the same thing, but here's the—the trick with that, Griffin, is...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... if the joke ends up landing too well, now you're a crowd favorite...

Griffin: Eugh.

Travis: ... and it's like, well, it's not as good, like, technically, but it's bringing the most joy to everybody. I think we know who the winner is.

Griffin: Well, then you flip it, right? Then you do the other one. You just gotta know your office and know, are they gonna reward creativity, or are they gonna reward the fact that you dressed like fucking Ken Bone again, for the fourth year in the row? You tell me.

Travis: You could go as the fly on Pence's hair from—

Griffin: [sarcastically, shouting] Funny! Funny!

Justin: Funny.

Travis: See, but right there, that reaction from you guys trumps Jerry's photorealistic *Transformers* outfit. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah.

Justin: Okay. Alright. Here's what I—here's what I got for ya.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Okay. You... need to create an incredibly, uh, accurate, detailed... uh, costume.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I'm going to use, for this example, Captain Jack Sparrow. So you do... the perfect Captain Jack Sparrow look, right?

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: And then you go into the office the night before. And you sleep in the bathroom.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Okay. When people come in—they're gonna change in their costume in the bathroom.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And I need you to keep an eye on...

Travis: Them in the bathroom, Justin?

Justin: What? What?

Travis: Them in the bathroom, is that what you're saying?

Justin: [laughs] Keep an eye on people coming and going from the bathroom.

Griffin: 'Kay.

Justin: When you see the person who has the best costume, it won't be as richly detailed as your Captain Jack Sparrow costume, of course. That's important.

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: They can't naturally beat you. But then you can start to remove items from your costume...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: ... to get you ele—so right—so like, maybe you just are gonna remove a few of the beads from your hair. You know? Maybe you're gonna get the red band—you'll leave the tricorn, but you won't have that distinctive red bandana under the tricorn. You see what I'm saying?

Griffin: Mmm.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: You—eyeliner. Get rid of the eyeliner.

Travis: No, please don't. You can't lose the eyeliner, or it'll just be a pirate, Justin.

Justin: It's just a bad office. I mean, like, if you have to lose the eyeliner, it's a bad office that you work in, and you should probably, honestly, your real answer is, you need to find a new job.

Travis: Yeah. If no one can beat... If you have to take off the eyeliner?! Like, what are they bringing to this, you know? Like, what are they even doing?

Now, what you could also do, is the day before the party, start talking about what a rough time Jerry's having.

Griffin: Yes. Yes.

Travis: Just—like, just spread around, Jerry's having a hard time.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: You know, he just hasn't—it hasn't been clicking for Jerry lately. And then when the contest comes, just keep, like, pointing at Jerry, and nodding to everybody, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Or even better, if you win...

Griffin: Yes. Yes!

Travis: Then you're just like, "No."

Justin: Yes! I love that!

Griffin: No!

Travis: "I'll take second. Jerry needs this."

Griffin: No, not Jerr—look at Jerry!

Justin: Look at that very funny—look at Jerry's funny Ken Bone costume! He's got the red sweater!

Griffin: You know what kind of year he's having. Let's hear it for our first responders!

"Jer—what?"

Travis: [laughs] "What? What did you say?"

Griffin: "Let's hear it for our front-line workers!"

"Jerry's not... this is a fucking Staples."

Travis: "No. Jer—yeah, what are you talking about? Jerry unloads the truck."

"Yeah, but I think we all know that, of everyone on Earth, this year has been hardest on Jerry."

Justin: Now, I'm gonna challenge your suggestion that Staples employees are not essential workers. Now, more than ever, we're working out of the home, and we need mice. We need floor mats. We need Post-it notes.

Travis: I don't even know what toner does, but I don't wanna work without it!

Justin: I wanna say thank you to our Staples employees. OfficeMax? Office Depot? Fuck off.

Travis: Yep.

Justin: I'm going to Staples.

Travis: That's right.

Justin: Now. Sorry.

Travis: I like that Staples started with one product, and expanded from there!

Justin: I'm just saying that, 'cause we don't have a Staples in Huntington.

Travis: Oh, you poor bastards.

Justin: I know. I know.

Griffin: I'm still team hashtag #radioshack!

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. Coming back.

Griffin: Do you guys wanna Yahoo?

Justin: There's a RadioShack next to the Long John Silver's on 5th Avenue, do you guys know?

Travis: What?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Down there, Huntington East?

Griffin: Yes. I've bought—

Justin: Right near the Magic Wok.

Griffin: I bought some exotic batteries from there once.

Justin: [laughs] Yeah. Now both the Long John Silver's and the RadioShack closed, and it's just two abandoned fossils right next to each other. It's really a sad—

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: You think they're—you think they're gonna combine, lift each other up.

Justin: That's what I was gonna say, is do you think they could've—if they had just made it work, like [laughs] see if Ra—if Long John Silver's had had any fucking foresight, they would've been like, "Listen, man, I know you're going through a hard time. You can crash at our building."

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: "Just go in the back." And there's a little [laughs] RadioShack.

Griffin: Come on down to Long Radio John Shack, and we are gonna treat you to batteries and cod.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Deep fried batteries, six for 4 dollars!

Griffin: Come get—

Justin: Griffin, you know the fish at Long John Silver's is not of any discernible species.

Travis: Yeah. Come get this chopped, reconstituted fish product, and get some free loose wires!

Griffin: Ooh!

Justin: This is gonna feel like a Munch Squad, but Long John Silver's, I've noticed, has been trying—I drive past their sign when I'm on Route 60 when I'm going to the liquor store.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: And they've been trying increasingly, like, highfalutin uh, uh, uh, seafood meals. And the funny thing is, the more they aspire, the more repellant it is. Like, the harder they go, the less appetizing it is. Like, when they're like, "Uh, we got um, we got a lobster roll now," like, [through laughter] I don't think you actually do.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] I don't think I will be doing that with you right now.

Travis: This is the worst pa—on this show...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... every time we talk about any kind of fast food, I want it so bad now. I would crush some Long John Silver's.

Griffin: Y'all are—y'all are acting above your raisin', and fucking Long John Silver's used to be a special fucking treat for us on our way to church.

Travis: It still is!

Griffin: Most of the time we'd get the Taco Bell, but then like, you know, when we did good grades on our report card, we'd take it to Long John Silver's, get some free crispy strippems.

Justin: Sometimes Mom would let me uh—once I discovered that I could order a side of crunchies...

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: She would do it, and then be disgusted with me.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Which I used to love. Like, "Oh, Justin."

Travis: Now, Justin, you say "crunchies." Do you mean the little bits and bobs of batter that just floated around in the oil for a long time?

Griffin: Batterbob. Batterbobs. Batterbobs.

Justin: Batterbobs, crunchies, whatever you call them, you can order a side of `em, they don't—they don't give a fuck.

Griffin: "Come on down to Long Radio John Shack, we got batterbobs and batteries."

Do you guys want a Yahoo, please?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, I'd love that.

Griffin: It was sent in by Graham Roebuck, thank you. It's a Yahoo user who is anonymous, `cause they're afraid of me. Uh, but I'm gonna call them uh, Davis, asks—I feel like I use that fucking name a lot, huh?

Justin: Hm.

Griffin: "If humans had beaks instead of noses, would we still kiss?"

Justin: Mm.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: "Okay, so kissing is weird, right? If you think about it?"

Travis: Are you saying that, or is Davis saying that?

Griffin: Davis is saying that. I would never say that. You know I love to kiss.

Travis: Yes, I do.

Griffin: "But we do it, and we like it. But would we even if we had beaks? How would we kiss then? Why don't birds kiss?"

Justin: [snorts]

Travis: How do you fucking know they don't, Davis?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Maybe they're just not into PDAs. Maybe birds wait until they're at home in private to do their bird smooching.

Griffin: And they make up for lost time, if you know... what I'm playing.

Travis: Yeah. Maybe birds just don't like foreplay.

Justin: Mm.

Travis: Maybe just like, across the board, all birds are like, "Listen, if we're smooching, we could be boning."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "We have hollow bones, and we only live for like, six days or whatever. Travis doesn't know."

Griffin: [laughs] Oh, wow!

Justin: Yikes.

Griffin: [laughs] That's not—

Travis: They don't live as long as we do!

Justin: Certainly not.

Griffin: Yeah, so six days is a pretty good estimate, I think, of their age.

Travis: Here's what—my point is that we, as human beings...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... could live upwards of, I believe, 112 years. That's what I'm aiming for. And so we look at every other animal's habits through that lens, and we're like, "Why aren't they blah-blah-blah?"

And it's like, well, you know, that bird is like, "I don't have time for kissing, are you kidding me? I got 10 years, dude!"

Griffin: That's possible. So I—there's a thing in this question I didn't notice until just now, and it is—this is the question. "If humans had beaks instead of noses, would we still kiss?" Does this presuppose that we would still have our mouths?

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: And—but then instead of our nose, we would have a beak there, so we'd have a sort of mouth stack?

Travis: I ca—I simply can't believe that that's true, Griffin. Because that crosses into a level of horror...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... that I believe goes beyond, like, logistically, like, "Could we still kiss?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But then again, it does say, "*Would* we still kiss?"

Griffin: Okay, but yes, listen. This is Halloween, baby. Ooh! You could do a kiss with both your mouths at the same time, or there will probably be people who would want to flip it upside-down, do a little mouth—mouth-to-mouth-to-mouth-to-mouth, sort of 69 situation...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Person-on-bird-on-person-on-bird.

Travis: That's a—it's just called 11s at that point.

Griffin: It's the—they do 11s with the bird mouths. Do you think—is that—that would be—I feel like that would be bad, 'cause your bird mouth would have to eat worms.

Travis: Uh-huh. But let me put it this way, Griffin. Let me add another layer to this question. What if you replaced human beings' noses with beaks, but beaks that they were not in control of? Would you still kiss?

Griffin: Oh, so like I would go in, and it'd be like, "Do you, Griffin—you may now kiss the bride."

[makes loud squawking noises] Like, I have no control over—[cheeping noises] "Please. This is my special day."

Travis: "Please calm down, beak nose."

Griffin: But then that's wild, because the whole audience for my rad wedding would just be, like, [garbled squawking]. Like, you wouldn't go—you wouldn't be able to go anywhere with your—

Travis: Well, okay, you can also fly.

Justin: Ooh.

Griffin: This is—no. You can't fly.

Travis: Well, there has to be some benefit. That's what this—you can't say a hypothetical like—

Griffin: No more stinky—no more stinky smells.

Travis: Yeah, but no more pleasant smells either, Griffin.

Griffin: [grunts] You heard what I said about 69 with the bird mouths, right?

Travis: [laughs] Yeah, that's pretty good.

Justin: [wheezing laughter]

Travis: That one's pretty good.

Justin: I think you might [crosstalk].

Travis: And you could access grubs and stuff hidden inside of bark. I would appreciate that.

Griffin: Okay, then let's just—let's return to the pleasant, less-problematic waters of just one big bird mouth, you're a fucking—you're a full-blown—

Travis: You got a Baldwin. You got an Alec Baldwin from *Beetlejuice*.

Griffin: No, not—no. No, what? We're not talking about a beak you're imagining, like, a fucking crocodile maw that's like, a foot-and-a-half long. That's—no.

Justin: You're at, like, *Zoobilee Zoo* territory.

Griffin: Yeah, that's no good.

Travis: Oh, like a cu—we're talking like a chickadee's beak, and not like a pelican or something.

Griffin: Nn—yeah, right. What you said.

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: Do you think we would still be, like, into kissing? I don't think so! I think we like the sort of pliability of mouth.

Travis: I mean, yes, but I think that you couldn't make this decision for everyone all at once. 'Cause I think that there would be people who would be way into, like, "I can open my mouth and kiss you, like, three times as deep now." Like, it's like a handshake at this point, we're getting in there so deep.

Griffin: But I don't think that's gonna be the goal, when you do your beak smoo—your beak kisses. When you see birds doing that do each other, Travis, they're—that's probably a sort of regurgitation situation.

Travis: Well, I mean, then that seems like two benefits, Griffin.

Griffin: I wouldn't like that. I don't think—

Travis: "Hey, could I take you out for dinner?"

"I just met you!"

Griffin: "I just—" yeah. Um... It's hard for me to get past the fact that I don't want to kiss a big bird.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: You don't wanna kiss Big Bird?

Griffin: I'm thinking about that with my human... brain, which is attached to my fleshy mouth.

Justin: Exactly. Your aesthetic senses.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Now, assume Big Bird has grown up, and gotten a job. Perhaps...

Justin: I hate this.

Travis: Big Bird works, um... let's see, give me the name of some place someone would work. Uh, Griffin.

Griffin: Uh, no. I'm not gonna take a part in *any* of this! I'm looking at—

Travis: You don't want Big Bird to get a job? You want Big Bird to be unemployed in this economy?

Justin: Big Bird... Big Bird—what'd be sweet is if Big Bird got to be a pilot, and then air traffic control would be like, "Uh, Big Bird, go ahead and bring it in at the—"

And he's like, "You don't tell me what to do! I'm lord of the skies! You're gonna tell me how to fly? Shut up!" And then he'd turn the radio off and just do his own thang.

Travis: Okay. So Big Bird has just gotten back from a turnaround trip. Flew from Cincinnati to LA and then back. So that—

Justin: No, he's a—he's—no, no, no, no, no, baby. He's out across the Atlantic. He's doing the Bi—the Big Bird needs the Big Bird, you know what I'm saying?

Travis: What I'm saying is he came right back 'cause he missed me, right? And he didn't say—he could've had two days over there in Paris, but instead he was like, "I gotta get home to Travis." He comes home.

Justin: That's so nice.

Travis: And he leans in for a kiss. What am I gonna do, not smooch that beak?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: He came home from Paris, Griffin. [laughs]

Travis: Griffin, he came over—he could've stayed in Paris for 48 hours. He'd earned it, he'd flown there, he took the jump seat back, you know how uncomfortable that is.

Justin: Wait, is this... is this pre, or during COVID?

Travis: This is after COVID is done.

Justin: Okay, so we've actually gotten through all that.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I'd kiss anything that moves if COVID was over, I don't care. I'll kiss anything.

Travis: The year is—[laughs] the month is April 2021.

Griffin: Oh, that's nice.

Travis: Uh, COVID is over officially.

Griffin: Oh, that's nice. Oh, okay.

Travis: And Big Bird has returned from Paris. And what's that? He brought me a baguette, and because of the quick turnaround, it's still a little warm.

And he leaned—oh, oh, and it's like one of those like, ham and butter sandwiches that are so fucking good. And he—

Justin: Croque monsieur?

Travis: No, I think it's just herman. And he leans in to give me a smooch. What am I gonna do, Griffin? Kick him out, turn him away?

Justin: Gotta smooch him. Gotta smooch Big Bird.

Travis: I'm gonna smooch our Big Bird!

Griffin: You don't need to.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: But—but...

Justin: But?

Griffin: But, if Falco Lombardi from *Star Fox* came around, [high-pitched] I dunno!

Travis: Uh-huh. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: I'm gonna—

Griffin: [high-pitched] I dunno!

Justin: I have one option to get us out of this, and that is for me to say it's time to get to the Money Zone.

Griffin: [high-pitched] I—

Justin: No. Get on my back. Come on. We gotta get out of here, guys.
[laughs]

Travis: [singing] On the wings of love!

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

Justin: I have incredible vision.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: And so I'm the only one on this show you can trust to read this ad copy, and tell you that Warby Parker's a great way to get glasses. Take it from me. Warby Parker is offering boutique-quality eyewear at a revolutionary price point. They've got eyeglasses, sunglasses, contact lenses, and eye exams. Warby Parker is committed to providing exceptional vision care online and in stores.

Travis: Uh, Justin, I wear glasses. Uh, fro—

Justin: [sarcastically] Oh, no!

Travis: But I wear the—I wear—

Justin: I didn't know! I'm sorry, Travis! God, how embarrassing that is for me.

Travis: No, it's okay, Justin! Because I can read this copy too, because it's—

Justin: It's not okay. You're still my brother.

Travis: But I'm wearing Warby Parker glasses right now, so I can see. I did the home try-on program. I don't know if anyone has ever noticed this about me ever, but I have a large head, and so I ordered the—the glasses through the home try-on program to make sure that they physically fit around the girth of my skull. And several of them did, and I was very excited about this, so I bought the ones that did.

Griffin: You know what they say about—you know what they say about big—have big head.

Travis: Hard to find hats.

Griffin: Nope.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: The other—the other thing.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Wide ears!

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah. You keep acting like you don't know.

Travis: My big dick!

Justin: [laughs] Well, thanks for the ad revenue, Warby Parker.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: You can try their free home try-on program...

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: ... order five pairs of glasses, try at home for free for five days. There's-a no obligation to buy.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: It's free and it includes—

Travis: "They are [??], the glasses."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] And includes a prepaid return shipping label. Try five pairs of glasses at home for free at warbyparker.com/mybrother. Now, it doesn't say this is a limited-time thing, but considering the content of this ad, I bet

that link's gonna go dead pretty quick. So go ahead and head on over to warbyparker.com/mybrother, and show them that that is the kind of thing that gets a response [laughs] from our people.

Griffin: Real quick, let's talk about Honey. Honey is the rad little doodad that you get on your computer, and whenever you're shopping, it looks for promo codes, and if it finds one for whatever it is that you're buying, it'll put it in there right away, and it's automatic, and it saves you money, and real quick—

Travis: Holy shit.

Griffin: And real quick, just real quick. "Hey, got—yeah, got a big dick!" And see, I feel like it would be unfair if we did one for Warby Parker and we did not do one for Honey.

There's not much else to add, because that's how simple Honey is, it's an old browser extension that looks for promo codes for you, and I—I use it, and I've saved money on, like, music software, and like, tons of—tons of cash.

Justin: It just saves you money. It's fantastic. I got a uh, replacement plate for my um, uh, router table from Kreg. Had to get a uh, new one that fit my Triton router.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: And uh—because I did one with pre-drilled holes, and I did—I mean, I made my own, but I—I thought it'd be a little bit better fit if I got one and it was custom for the—for the router.

Griffin: [sighs]

Justin: And um, I—I managed to save a little cash, using Honey.

Griffin: Yeah. So that's all it is. It's free, and you can join it for free today at joinhoney.com/brother. That's joinhoney.com/brother.

[upbeat music plays in background]

Annabelle: Hi. Are you someone who thinks that when one door closes, another one opens?

Laura: Someone who always sees the light at the end of the tunnel?

Annabelle: If you answered yes to one or both of these questions, good for you!

Laura: We are not those people.

Annabelle: Nope. I'm Annabelle Gurwitch, and I'm a "You know that other door opening? It probably leads to a broom closet," kind of person.

Laura: And I'm Laura House. When I see a light at the end of the tunnel, I assume it's a train headed right toward me!

Annabelle: Laura and I have created a brand-new podcast for people like us! It's called *Tiny Victories*. We're sharing personal tiny victories, or things we've read or seen that inspire resilience.

Laura: So if you're looking for a tiny reason to get out of bed each week, subscribe to *Tiny Victories*.

Annabelle: Available on Maximum Fun, or wherever you get your podcasts!

Laura: Let's get tiny!

[music and advertisement end]

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Travis: Ooh?

Justin: [continues imitating guitar]

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: [continues guitar] [singing gruffly] I wanna munch!

Travis and Griffin: Squad!

Justin: [continues guitar] [singing] I want—

[Borat "My wife" clip plays]

Justin: [continues guitar]

Travis: Only 14 more to go.

Griffin: Romantic.

Justin: [finishes melody] [normally] Hello, and welcome to Munch Squad. It's a podcast within a podcast profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating.

Griffin: There is nothing that you can say in this segment that's going to top you ordering the fried fish leavin's that you used to order a box of.

Justin: That's true. Uh, I do wanna say, a couple things. I, like our friend Lin, ordered the ghost pepper donut that we talked about last time.

Griffin: Oh, how was that?

Justin: It was not bad.

Travis: How was the spice?

Justin: Not as spicy as you want, but it's a little bit of a spice. It gets you on the back end, you're like, "Whoa, hello."

Travis: Now, did you eat the whole thing?

Justin: Yes, I ate the whole thing.

Travis: `Cause Lin appeared to take one bite, and then bag it.

Justin: If you wanna watch living legend Lin-Manuel Miranda eat a ghost pepper donut, it's on our YouTube channel.

Griffin: His mouth—his mouth is more valuable than Justin's mouth.

Travis: That is true. God knows that [crosstalk].

Griffin: Very dangerous.

Justin: Um, this is a—this is a uh, bagel notice. Just a bagel alert.

Travis: Oh, thank you.

Justin: Einstein Brothers Bagels, uh, introduces new—this is really—can I say, it's like—it's gonna be really fun, you know what I mean? `Cause we can all use something a little bit fun.

Griffin: Of course!

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay, so Einstein Brothers Bagels introduces you to new party bagels.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Arriving at select locations nation-wide November 12th, ready to share your sweet tooth a good time.

Travis: Wait, can we guess?

Griffin: I don't wanna guess.

Travis: I'm thinking it's—

Griffin: I wanna start the party.

Justin: No, they're just party bagels.

Travis: Is it frosted?

Justin: Just uh—I'll just tell you, it's party bagels.

Um, "All Einstein Brothers Bagels wants to do is have this fun, just like everyone else this year." Yeah. Fucking even—[shouting] even—it is, like, obligatory. You cannot announce a new fast food item and—without saying, like, "Because of COVID, we're just trying to have some fun, okay?"

Griffin: Well, it—

Justin: "So yes, we are acknowledging the ongoing pandemic in our press release about party bagels."

"The new party bagels are shaking things up, raising the roof of the bagel case, if you will."

Travis: Oh, boy. Oh, boy.

Justin: "With the promise of a sweet indulgence that will bring a smile to faces young and old."

Griffin: I'm having—I'm having fucking fun already.

Justin: I know. It's already really fun. "Einstein Brothers Bagels has developed two flavors that will make your taste buds sing sweet praises."

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: To... who?

Travis: Jesus?

Griffin: To Christ?

Justin: They're—there's churro. Which "starts with a donut." [wheezes, laughs] You're fucking...

Griffin: Huh.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Huh.

Justin: That's...

Griffin: Just drop that in a fucking chemical bath, or what's up?

Justin: No, it's... it's a donut, and they smear it in the middle with sweet cream cheese buttercream frosting, and coated on top with cinnamon sugar. "It will take you back to rollercoasters and carnival games."

Travis: Uh, I—

Justin: And then there's—

Travis: I would love to be in the RnD meeting for Einstein Brothers where they're like, "Yeah, but isn't this just a donut?"

It's like, "Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Look at this."

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: "We *call* it a bagel."

Griffin: Well, it—

Justin: "Right, it's not a donut, it's a... party bagel."

Griffin: “Oh, that’s good, that’s good!”

Travis: “Yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah! They’ll never know! We better not call it a donut in the press release, though.”

“Yeah, That would be a big fuckup.”

Justin: Yeah. “Chocolate birthday cake starts with a donut... ”

Griffin: Ugh.

Travis: Huh!

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: [laughs] “... sliced and schmeared in the middle with chocolate buttercream frosting, glazed with chocolate frosting and topped with confetti sprinkles; if it isn’t your birthday, it will feel like it is.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: So yeah, that’s right, friend. Now, you can have the visceral thrill of spending your birthday at Einstein Brothers Bagels.

Griffin: Or even better, at your house at lockdown, eating a donut by yourself.

Justin: We wanted to bring—this is a quote from Chad Thompson, head of culinary innovations at Einstein Brothers Bagels, which in this case is the selling donuts [laughs] is the culinary innovation here. “We wanted to bring a bit of fun to the breakfast table. Um... party bagels are a sweet treat... ”

Griffin: [laughing quietly]

Justin: “... done the Einstein Brothers Bagels way the whole family will love.”

It's um... guys, it's donuts.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I don't know, I—it's just—

Griffin: It just feels like if you're fuck—if your company's gonna be called fucking *Einstein* in it, the name of it? You're—when you do things, when you make brand choices, they gotta be smart in some way! Fucking Einstein would never look at a bagel, and be like, "What is this? Some sort of party donut?" I got it backwards, but you get the point!

Travis: It does—it does—okay, it does imply that up 'til now, every other bagel has been... like—

Griffin: Fucking work bagel!

Travis: Has been work bagels. [laughs] Right. Business bagels.

Justin: Business... it's uh, it's been business bagels.

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: Or [crosstalk] it would be business donuts?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Business donuts.

Justin: Business donuts, right. Business donuts, party bagels.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: [laughs]

[thunder sound effect]

Travis: Oh! Oh!

Justin: [vampire voice] I heard you were discussing donuts!

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Oh, cool, he's back! Hey—

Justin: Hello, it's such a pleasure to be invited back. It's me, Count Donut!

Griffin: Um, Count Donut, I'm not really plugged into social anymore, so I don't really know how our fans felt about your [laughs] sort of occupation in the last episode...

Justin: The only thing they could discuss was that Justin's compression settings were wrong on his soundboard!

Griffin: Okay. Well—

Justin: But that should be fixed!

Travis: What does it sound like uh, with a Transylvania accent when you say "nonplussed"?

Justin: I... think everybody loved me, and I am here, not with donut news, although you have summoned me by discussing donuts.

Griffin: Oh, sorry, it's actually—you're Count Party Bagel now.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Count Party Bagel is here to tell you about a new innovation from Heinz!

Travis: Okay.

Justin: "From ketchup-dipped fries as vampire fangs, to hot-dog fingers dripping in ketchup, for years fans have used Heinz ketchup to add

deliciously convincing blood to their Halloween celebrations.” I’m salivating already.

Griffin: It’s ketchup, though.

Travis: Real quick, yeah, has anyone done either of those things?

Justin: No. In what would be sure to be a different kind of Halloween celebration. The brand is debuting a Heinz tomato blood ketchup...

Travis: What?

Justin: ... to contribute to the spooky fun!

Travis: [laughs] Wait, huh?

Griffin: I’m gonna be sick.

Justin: “[dull voice] Fans have had to navigate a lot this year. Halloween is no exception,” said...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [resuming as Count Party Bagel] ... Shelly Hayden, the brand manager for Heinz ketchup, making the obligatory reference [through laughter] to COVID-19 in the context of Heinz tomato blood!

Griffin: Does it—it—does that sentence end with, “And we’re just gonna throw this fucking thing on top of the pile”? “Hey, you’ve already dealt with so many other things. What’s one more thing? Bloodchup!”

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: I hope that—that for many, many reasons that the pandemic doesn’t go on for a long time, because it would reach a point where in these press releases, like, the second paragraph would just start with “You know, so, here we are.”

Griffin: Travis, are you fu—as soon as we lick this thing, do you know that we’re gonna have a good two years, at the minimum, of just like, we’re back. Our doors are open. Family, community. That’s right—

Travis: And you can lick the counters again.

Griffin: Lick the counters, baby, it’s Hardee’s! Like...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Nonstop.

Travis: “Now, you eat the hamburgers from our hands!”

Griffin: “Thank you, first responders, front-line workers. Come buy a fucking Chevy!”

Justin: “[normally] With Heinz tomato blood ketchup, we wanted to give families a fun way to go big with their spooky celebrations, even if they look a little different in 2020.”

[as Count Party Bagel] Hey, Shelly, fuck you!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Seriously, that’s two in one quote! We get it, things are bad! What were you saying about ketchup? Thanks for the reminder, though, about the ongoing pandemic!

“The limited-edition bottles are filled with the delicious, thick and rich Heinz ketchup fans know and love in a spooky Halloween-themed bottle that even vampires would envy.” [laughs] Guilty as charged!

Travis: Uh, just to clarify from that sentence, you just said it's just regular ketchup in the bottle, but there's just a different label?

Justin: Yes, Travis, the Heinz ketchup company is distracting you from 200,000 plus Americans dead of COVID by putting a different sticker on the ketchup! This should fix it, right?

Travis: Okay. Well, my spirits are lifted.

Griffin: For the last minute and a half, I—it sort of occupied a majority of my brain space, so I guess I do have Heinz to thank about that.

Justin: "Can't wait to sink your teeth into Heinz tomato blood ketchup? From now until October 31st, at 11:59 PM CDT—" It's fun that they have to specify the time zone, as if you're waiting [laughs] 'til within the last two hours of the promotion to get in there.

They're giving away 570 bottles of Heinz tomato ketchup to those who participate in a TikTok hashtag challenge.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Launching Friday, October 23rd!

Griffin: Um—

Travis: I guarantee you that the original amount was 57, and they thought, "That's not enough."

Griffin: That's not enough bottles.

Justin: Not enough.

Griffin: Now—

Justin: 570, that will fix the ongoing national malaise!

Griffin: Um, Count—Count Party Donut, I gotta a—tell you great news.

Justin: Party—I believe Party Bagel.

Griffin: Oh, sorry. Um, see, in my mind, the Einstein Brothers have succeeded in making these two foods completely interchangeable. But if this doesn't do it for you, Count Party Bagel, you can get the Ed Sheeran one that looks like his arm. And then you can just chomp right into that, imagining that you are draining the viscera from beloved singer-songwriter, Ed Sheeran.

Justin: This promotion started on October 23rd. Can I ask our TikTok correspondent, Travis McElroy, to check for Heinz Halloween hashtag videos?

Travis: Fu—I've already seen it, Count! [laughs] It's been on everything, and I can honestly say, none of them have had anything to do with condiments of any sort. People are just slapping that shit on their twerking videos or whatever.

Griffin: Hm.

Justin: Are they twerking on a bottle of ketchup?

Travis: No! That's the thing! I—maybe there's a bottle present just offscreen, but I have been scanning every inch of those twerking videos looking for ketchup, and I have seen nothing!

Griffin: Well, does uh...

Justin: The sticker, by the way, I wanted to quickly describe it. It says, "Heinz Tomato Blood." [pauses] On it.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: That's it!

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Does that help your family celebrate Halloween a little more?

Griffin: It doesn't hurt.

Justin: Does that turn things around for you?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: At the bottom of the press release, I just wanted to mention one more thing before I disappear into the night: "Heinz can confirm that only the juiciest, ripest tomatoes were harmed in the making of delicious Heinz tomato blood ketchup."

Travis: Gross. Why is that the line that took it too far for me?

Griffin: Fucking perverts. Yeah, now—

Justin: I think they are trying to c—that's an asterisk. I think they're trying to clarify that the product contains no blood!

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: That's good that they cleared that up.

Justin: It's good. It's good. Anyway, I have to go, fellas. Let me know if I am needed again to help distract you from the ongoing [wheezes] COVID-19 pandemic.

Travis: I'll miss you, Count Party Bagel.

Griffin: I'll miss him, too.

Justin: What—

Griffin: Get—get out—just go!

Justin: Well, the—are you sure? Because I can stick around...

Griffin: No, out.

Travis: No, you need to go. The sun's coming up.

Justin: That's okay. I just glisten in the light.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: No, it's a—but there's a—it's a high [crosstalk]—

Justin: Goodbye!

[high-pitched screeching noises]

Travis: Is that... crickets?

Justin: [normally] Hey, guys.

Griffin: Terrible, terrible bat. He makes the worst bat noises when he...

Justin: Yeah, it's really unpleasant. I was uh... doing something else, [laughs] and then I heard the bats when he left.

Travis: Yeah, playing Hades.

Justin: Yeah. Yeah. No, I was sitting in the—a chair opposite, just staring at him.

Griffin: Looking at him.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, he's under his thrall. Do you want a Yahoo, a real quick one?

Travis: Well, I want Justin to do this next question. It's not the kind of question we normally do, and I think we can knock it out pretty quick.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: "At what point does an aquarium become a zoo?"

[pause]

Justin: "The aquarium near me has three sloths, which I never thought was weird until I was talking to a friend about it, and she thought it was super weird that there were land animals and birds at the aquarium. How many land animals is too many land animals for an aquarium? At what point does it become a zoo, or is there a midpoint where it is a zooquarium?" That's from Elizabeth from Maryland.

Griffin: Hmm!

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Well. Um, the only thing I have to go on... for this one is the Austin aquarium.

Justin: Sure.

Griffin: Which I think I've talked about on this or other shows before. It... is a blighted sort of hellzone. Uh, it's the worst building. It's a old sort of T.J.Maxx that they crammed a bunch of sick old turtles inside. And then they started to put kiddie pools full of fish that they bought at Petland in there, too. And then they threw in, eh, about a trillion parrots. And then for good measure, they were like, "Let's get some lemurs in there, baby, and put 'em in the lobby, so it greets people in our fish zoo!"

But then people come in, and little girl sticks her hand in, does get bit, and then the parents are like, "We're suing you!"

And they were like, "The lemur was not vaccinated!"

And the parents were like, "We're wicked suing you a lot now!"

I think that you could—I think aquarium should have fish, and zoos get everything else.

Justin: Yeah. Just let `em—yeah! Just let `em keep... keep everything else.

Griffin: It seems there's so—

Travis: Unless...

Griffin: No. There's so many other kinds of...

Travis: [louder] Unless...

Griffin: Unless. Damn it.

Justin: Unless.

Travis: ... the sloths and the birds are always swimming around.

Griffin: That's cute. That's cute.

Travis: Yeah, you don't give them no land.

Griffin: That's cute. I do like that. But they—wait, you never let them get out of the water?

Travis: Uh—

Griffin: `Cause the turn—the turnaround rate on those sloths, Travis, is going to—the overhead—well, your sloth... -ing money is—your sloth budget's gonna really break the bank, I'm worried.

Travis: You give him a rock, but slowly it gets hotter and hotter while they stand on it.

Griffin: I see. So now it's a *Saw* trap.

Travis: [laughs] No, I—this isn't even funny, 'cause this is horrible animal abuse, what I'm describing.

Griffin: Yeah, it's horrible. It's horrible.

Justin: It's terrible.

Travis: Not great.

Griffin: It's terrible. I think there's so many different kinds of things that live in the water, right, that it's—

Travis: More than we know about. [as David Attenborough] Join me as we journey through the blue planet!

Griffin: It's not—it's part of our planet. The ocean's not a different planet.

Travis: It is! It's a different planet, where the fish and the mermen live.

Justin: I hate that, when David Attenborough is like, "[as David Attenborough] There's another world below the surface of the—" [normally] there's not. It's just our—

Griffin: That's our water.

Justin: Just all our water.

Travis: [continuing as David Attenborough] Justin, was that your impression of me, David Attenborough? Because it sounded like my impression of Dracula.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Um...

Justin: I'm saying the pivot... from... having Dracula here—Donut Dracula—sorry, Party Bagel Dracula here in my office to having David Attenborough in the office.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Was a bit of a—it was a bit of a [crosstalk], that's all.

Travis: While I'm here, do you have any questions about fish?

Griffin: Have you ever been to—

Justin: Uh, yeah, I'll bite. No, Griffin, shut up. This is a huge opportunity.

Griffin: Alright.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: I'm quite the get.

Griffin: I mean, I was gonna ask him a question.

Justin: Oh, go for it. Yeah, sorry. I thought you were dismissing him.

Griffin: No, David, have you ever been to the Austin Aquarium, David? It's quite great.

Travis: Yes, I own the Austin Aquarium...

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: ... and I didn't really appreciate the slander you were talking about.

Griffin: Can I do feedback? Do you do feedback? I didn't see a feedback box.

Travis: Uh, yes.

Griffin: Maybe I could do it here. Okay. I saw a turtle trying to climb over a rock, but it flipped upside-down. And it was also—

Travis: Yes, that's part of the show.

Griffin: But no one did anything about it.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: That turtle has to learn self-reliance.

Justin: Hey, David, can I bother you about the Austin Aquarium for a second?

Travis: Yes, of course.

Justin: Don't you think it's kind of confusing to have a young woman dressed as a mermaid doing face paint there, in a place that is about the undersea life? Don't you think that's kind of—

Travis: No, I'm sorry, I'm sorry—

Griffin: Just a—just a—

Travis: I'm sorry, you said "dressed as." I—I have to disagree with you there. She is an actual mermaid.

Griffin: Okay, but what about the one that I did see doing face paint that was dressed up as Anna from *Frozen*?

Travis: Mm-hm. That is—all of that is set underwater.

Griffin: It's not, Dave.

Travis: *Frozen* is an underwater movie.

Griffin: Dave, it's not!

Justin: No.

Griffin: It's above—

Travis: Which one am I thinking of?

Griffin: In—*Little Mermaid* is the only one that springs to mind immediately, Mr. Atten—

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: Okay. Um, I think it—

Travis: I love that one! With the crab.

Griffin: Why didn't you, like, vaccinate the lemur though, bud?

Travis: I tried, and the lemur said he didn't want it, and then he said, "I like to move it, move it," which I really appreciated.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I'll give—I'll let you by on that one. I would forget too, if I saw the lemur doing a cool dance.

Travis: Okay, now I have to go. I'll mount up on my dragon, and away we go!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [roars]

Justin: [laughs] Sorry, David, if you could come back to Earth for one second, that last sound there.

Travis: Skree! What was that?

Justin: Was that the sound of your dragon, or the sound of you communicating with your dragon in the dragon tongue?

Travis: Well, don't be a fucking idiot, Justin. Of course it was me speaking to my dragon. He speaks to me telepathically.

Justin: And you speak to him through dragon tongue.

Travis: It's a one-way telepathic link. Read a book.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [weak roar]

Griffin: Boy...

Justin: [laughs loudly] Sorry, that sound sounded so much different from your other command. I don't know that's—

Griffin: Well he said a different word, Justin!

Travis: That was me saying, "Can you believe this fucking guy?"

And he telepathed back, "Yeah, a real jag."

Justin: [laughs] That's one of the judgier dragons I've encountered, honestly. He barely knows me.

Travis: Yes. No, Justin, he says he went to 5th grade with you!

Justin: Are you still here, or are you flying on a dragon? [laughs]

Travis: You keep calling us back with your inane questions.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Now I'm going to ride this dragon into space!

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [howls]

Griffin: Oh, damn it, he did say he found all the Earth animals.

Justin: [wheezing laughter]

Griffin: He's going to look for other ones. Aw, man, he's gonna die up there as soon it gets out of where the air is.

Justin: [laughs] He's gonna die out there. That last sound translated to, if I've picked up a little bit of dragon tongue, I think that last sound translated to, "We're going all the way to space, baby. That's right; Papa David don't need no more oxygen."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "I'm good."

Travis: I miss them.

Justin: I miss them too, and I miss our listeners, who sadly have to depart from us now that we have completed this episode...

Travis: Aw, man.

Justin: ... of *My Brother, My Brother and Me*. We've had just a hoot. We hope you're hanging in there. I hope you're uh, feeding all your worries and cares to the anxiety alligator, who will chomp them up and swallow them down and whisk them away so you don't have to stress about them anymore, and just try to... hang in there, pals. And uh, go vote, please.

Travis: Yes, please.

Griffin: Fucking vote for Joe Biden. Jesus Christ.

Travis: Vote. Joe Biden.

Justin: Especially—I hear y'all in Texas are trying to pull off a sneaky ol'—a sneaky ol' job.

Griffin: Shh, don't tell 'em. Only tell folks who are down with it, with Joe. And his tight fanny. Just get out there, and punch in the thing for Joe's tight fanny. And let's ride this baby to blue town, and fucking embarrass that—the spanker—the spankee.

Justin: I can't wait for November 3rd, when y'all are like, "Number one, Texas has turned blue. Number two, there is a basement at the Alamo. We are so sorry that we were not truthful about that."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Um, thank you 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. Uh, great tracks and tunes on that one, lots of premium cuts on that one. And thanks to Maximum Fun, for having us on the Network.

Travis: I just wanna tell you about two great McElroy podcasts that maybe you're not listening to. First, there's one that my wife Teresa and I are doing where we are talking about the new season of *Great British Bake Off*. It's called *Bake On*. Find it on your podcatchers, and we also put it up on our YouTube channel.

And also, *Besties*, which Griffin and Justin do with Russ Frushtick and Chris Plante. This week, they talked about spooky games, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Um, but you guys didn't talk about the one with the sanity meter that I believe was on Dreamcast?

Griffin: Uh, it was GameCube, it was *Eternal Darkness*, and I did talk about it.

Travis: What? Oh.

Griffin: [sarcastically] Thank you!

Justin: Thank you, man, for listening.

Travis: I do listen. It's my favorite podcast. Uh, one of my favorites. I mean, I enjoy several. Also wanted to tell you, lots of great merch on there. You're running out of time to get the October pin of the month, which is the tiger on the table pen designed by Sam Schultz, which benefits the Marsha P. Johnson Institute and the Sylvia Rivera Law Project.

Uh, but you can still get that *Sawbones* horseshoe crab shirt, the Candlenights ornament designed by Lin Doyle, the Candlenights wrapping paper by Justin Gray, the jumpscare pin, the "thanks for vibing and keeping it tight" t-shirt, all of that at mcelroymerch.com. You can preorder our new upcoming podcast book, *Everybody Has a Podcast (Except You)*, which will teach you how to make a podcast that you are proud of. You can preorder that at themcelroypodcastbook.com. Comes out January 26, 2021.

Justin: We put jokes in that, by the way.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Even if you don't wanna do a podcast, you just wanna read a book that we wrote, like, it's fu—we put jokes in it.

Travis: We put jokes in it! It's good. You'll like it.

Justin: You'll like it!

Travis: You can also preorder *The Adventure Zone: Crystal Kingdom*, book four of our graphic novel series at theadventurezonecomic.com. Uh, that comes out July 13th, 2021.

Griffin: Do you want a Yahoo, final one?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: This one was sent in by Erin. Thanks, Erin. It's uh, Yahoo Answers User... Anonymous. God, y'all. Um... I'll call them, uh...

Travis: Legion.

Griffin: Legion asks, "Would you think... that Dame Judi Dench might occasionally visit this royalty category, and offer an answer under an alias?"

Travis: Yeah! Absolutely! There's no way she fucking doesn't!

Justin: [laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy! Or am I?

Griffin: I'm Griffin. [laughs] I'm named Griffin j—McElroy RadioShack.

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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[dramatic music]

Mark: We interrupt the podcast you're listening to, to tell you about another podcast. That's right, *We Got This with Mark and Hal*.

Hal: That's correct, Mark. This is Hal. We do the hard work for you, settling all of the meaningless arguments you have with your friends.

Mark: [as music swells] So tune in every week on the Maximum Fun Network for *We Got This with Mark and Hal*. And all your questions will be asked and answered. You're welcome.

Hal: Alright, that's enough of that.

Singers: We got this!