

## **MBMBaM 487: Frasier Crane's Anime Dreamscape**

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

[theme music plays]

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

**Travis:** I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy!

**Griffin:** I'm your sweet baby brother, Griffin McElroy.

**Justin:** [singing] I believe that children are our future...

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** [singing] ...teach them well to let them lead the way.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** Hi. It's local inspiration, Justin McElroy.

**Griffin:** [bursts into laughter]

**Travis:** Oh, wow.

**Justin:** I'm—I am here sort of as a podcaster, but now I feel like I've entered my twilight years as an entertainer, and have now transitioned into a sort of a uh, Sherpa.

**Griffin:** A guiding light. Uh...

**Justin:** A guiding light. A Sherpa through these waters that we call podcast.

**Travis:** You know Sherpas don't lead people through water, right? Like...

**Griffin:** They can.

**Justin:** I'm a water Sherpa.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** If Jimmy Buffett can make a beer called Land Shark, I can make a water Sherpa.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** I am joined in the studio today by uh, a young—

**Griffin:** Don't say his name. He ain't ready for that heat.

**Justin:** ...a young boy, a young local teen who I've taken in off the streets to shadow me, and see how I do it.

**Travis:** Now, please don't say it like that. If you say you brought him in off of the street, it makes it sound like almost an Oliver—did he seek you out? I mean—

**Griffin:** He picked your pocket, and you caught him?

**Justin:** I gave him my address, and he came in from the street through the front door into the house.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** Okay. But you didn't, like, find him, you know, filching handkerchiefs or whatever, and you're giving him a better life. Like...

**Justin:** No. I saw him trying to sell people his underwear. And I said, "Kid..."

**Travis:** Oh.

**Griffin:** Shoot.

**Justin:** "...you got something. You got the gift. You got the talent."

**Griffin:** Did his parents suddenly and tragically die in a big acrobat accident?

**Travis:** Oh, good question.

**Griffin:** And now you are the one—now he's your ward. It's one of those situations.

**Justin:** Yes. They died in a tragic acrobatic accident, and then what he said was, "Mr. McElroy, if my parents had been able to fall on the most comfortable hybrid mattresses on the market..."

**Griffin:** See, that's—we can't teach that.

**Justin:** "...they would've been fine."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And I said, "Kid, you got it."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** He got the goods!

**Justin:** "You got the goods."

**Griffin:** You can't teach that, Justin. It's... that's good stuff. I've got somebody in the studio, too, that I'm—that's shadowing me, doing—he's—

and he's learning, and I'm an inspiration, guiding light—I'm like a fire Sherpa, is sort of mine.

**Justin:** Wow.

**Griffin:** It's um—and it's Jake. His name is Jake... Gyllenhaal, and he's doing some—

**Travis:** Oh, wow!

**Justin:** Wow.

**Griffin:** Yeah, he's gonna play a movie. He's doing a movie about a podcaster, and...

**Justin:** Griffin Inc.

**Griffin:** Yeah, he's doing Griffin Inc. this time, and uh, [gruff voice] his job's not like the other parents' jobs! [laughs] And so he's watching me, and what's that, Jake? [pause] Yeah. Okay.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** Hey, yeah, if you want, there's—yeah. Go grab a—there's some SoBe Life Water down in the fridge. Okay.

**Travis:** I'm disappointed in you guys.

**Griffin:** Can I just—real quick, real quick, [hushed voice] real quick while he's out of the room.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** [hushed voice] I can't fucking stand this guy. He's so big. He's, like, so animated, and it's like...

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Just come to—[shouting off mic] Yeah, the cranberry—save the cranberry one for Rachel. Okay.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** He was like, "I'm Spider-Man now! I'm Spider-Man now!" and I'm like, you were in Spider-Man. You didn't play Spider-Man.

**Travis:** I um, I also have, well, a shadowing situation happening here, but unlike you two lazy lay-about, uh, I have the entire—

**Justin:** Just found two pieces of gum in my pocket.

**Travis:** Well, I have the entire uh, 2019/2020 Harvard Business Graduating Class shadowing me.

**Griffin:** Oh, wow. That's...

**Travis:** Yeah, they're all here in my office.

**Griffin:** That must be one hell of a headphone splitter you've got for 'em.

**Travis:** Yeah. Well, I mean, they're all just being very quiet, and they're sharing one speaker that they're huddled around.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Like that scene, y'know, in A Christmas Story, where they're listening to Little Orphan Annie.

**Griffin:** Right. Sure.

**Travis:** They're doing that, except they're listening to My Brother, My Brother and Me. And they're all in the room, but they promise to be really quiet.

**Griffin:** Trav, Jake's laughing so hard. Jake Gyllenhaal's really busting a gut on this one.

**Travis:** Why would he be laughing? Why is he laughing at this? I'm giving my time—

**Justin:** He and I muted for a second, so I wouldn't mess up the recording. Did you see how I found the pieces of gum in my pocket, but I didn't make a big deal out of it on the show? That's really important. Hold on, none of them are talking. Uh... [laughs nervously] Good one, guys. Yeah, absolutely.

Anyway. Um, the—I just found two pieces of gum randomly, but I didn't make a big deal out of it.

**Travis:** Now, here's the thing, folks at home. One of us is telling the truth, and the other two are fibbing.

**Griffin:** [laughing quietly]

**Travis:** But you'll never know... which one it is, right?

**Justin:** Didn't mean to derail. I just left the pieces of gum in...

**Travis:** That's how we keep the spark alive here at My Brother, My Brother and Me. I'm nodding at the entire Harvard Business Class. That's how we keep the spark alive...

**Justin:** Two truths and a lie.

**Travis:** ...to be able to keep people interested, because we've lied to them two thirds of the time, and they never know what is a truth and what's a lie.

**Griffin:** No, dude. We don't have more SoBe—how did you finish that that fast? We don't have more SoBe Life Water.

**Travis:** Griffin, send him over here. I have more. Just send next door; I'll give him some.

**Griffin:** Go to Travis'. Fly to Cincinnati.

**Travis:** [makes footstep noises] [makes door opening, slamming noises] Whap-slam! [makes more footstep noises] [makes door opening, slamming noises] Slam! Hey. Hey, Jake. Yeah, you wanted some more—no, sorry.

**Griffin:** Shit, he forgot his keys. Send him back, Trav.

**Travis:** Okay. You gotta go back and get your keys. [makes footstep noises] [makes door slamming noise] Wham!

**Justin:** [quietly] I can't check now, but after the show, probably.

**Travis:** [makes footstep noises] [makes door slamming noise] Slam!

**Griffin:** Hey, let's do a question.

**Justin:** [forced laughter] Yeah, guys, absolutely. Uh, time for the first question of the episode. "I recently moved nearby a donut shop." Oh, that'd be tough. I used to live next door to a Giovanni's.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** And I would order garlic bread for every meal.

**Travis:** Oh, no!

**Justin:** And then sometimes I would also get Stromboli or Strombomboli...

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** ...and get doubles, so I would have a Strombomboli dinner and a Strombomboli lunch. Hard times.

**Griffin:** Did you collect, sort of, your sweat during that era to use as a sort of uh, general purpose, like, Italian oil dressing...

**Travis:** Seasoning.

**Griffin:** ...seasoning for the future?

**Travis:** ...béchamel, almost.

**Justin:** "So the donuts are highly praised in the area; however, I looked at the reviews. 70 percent of them talk about how the old man that runs the shop is a huge bully to his customers. Many reviews even stated how he refuses to sell you his donuts if you weren't interested in the daily specials. Or he puts extra donuts in your bag, and charged you for them, whether or not you wanted them. My social anxiety is piqued at the thought of interacting with this man..."

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** "...but I really wanna try his donuts. Brothers, what do I do?" And that's from Scared of the Donut Man in Saint Paul, Minnie... sota.

**Travis:** Minnesota.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That's what I said.

**Travis:** Here's—I have good news and bad news, and they're both the same news.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Because you're gonna need to go get these donuts. That's the bad news.

**Griffin:** You need 'em.

**Justin:** Absolutely, or we've got no premise.

**Travis:** Because the good new side of this is, these donuts are so good that this business has been able to stay in business, even though it sounds like it's owned by a bad businessperson.



**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Right? That's how good these donuts are. And you find that out, sometimes, where it's like, "Oh, yeah, this is like a deli, where if you don't know what you want right away, they yell at you." But...

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** ...people still go there, and they'll say, "Oh, I go there for the atmosphere, and it's fun, 'cause, like the hairdressers are rude to you," or whatever.

**Griffin:** That's—but that's what I—let's not skip over that, Travis. I wanna explore this Dick's Last Resort heat...

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** ...that this cantankerous old donut man is spinning on his customers, 'cause there are people who like that, and I feel you. I feel like you can do, like, a really mean, punk-rock, like, donut shop atmo, and people are gonna be wicked into it, like a—just a general sort of, "[gruff voice] I know what you're gonna do with these."

**Travis:** Right.

**Griffin:** "[gruff voice] You're gonna—you're gonna—I know what you're gonna do with these holes."

**Justin:** Oh, yuck, Griffin.

**Griffin:** "[gruff voice] Aren't ya, you dirty—you dirty anim—" It's not me. This is the character I'm playing.

**Justin:** The character. Yeah, sure.

**Griffin:** Of the filthy old donut man, who um, is gonna be mean to you, but then if you call him on it, he's like, "You know what? Take some—take some crullers for the kids."

**Travis:** Ooh! That's a good point! Does he like the back-sass? Is he looking for, like, a two-way sassy exchange?

**Griffin:** "Hey, fuck you too, old man!"

**Travis:** "[gruff voice] Whoa, that's so mean!"

**Griffin:** "[gruff voice] Well, that's not—hold up, that's too mean. Takes some crullers for the kids."

**Justin:** He's like, "[gruff voice] Hey, wait, you gotta pay."

"I'll pay—you pay for my balls!" Then leave without paying.

**Travis:** "[gruff voice] Whoa, that's illegal."

**Justin:** [laughs] "Hey, your balls are really cool." And then you can leave.

**Griffin:** "[gruff voice] How did you—oh, you knew the secret code. These donuts are on the house. And deez nuts."

**Justin:** [laughs] S—say, "Are these donuts hot?" And when he says, "No," upend the bag, and say you're not paying for 'em. "Make some fresh ones."

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** That's good.

**Travis:** That might—he's really mean, and you're like, "Hey. I know that behind that gruff donut mean exterior, you're just looking to be loved, and I want you to know you can't scare me off. I'll be back tomorrow for more donuts." And then you do that every day until eventually, you're in. you know what I mean?

**Griffin:** You fall in love...

**Travis:** Yes!

**Griffin:** ...he teaches you how to do the donuts...

**Travis:** I've never read Tuesdays with Morrie, but I think that this is what happens, where at first, Morrie was so fucking mean.

**Griffin:** Yeah. For sure.

**Travis:** He's like, "Hey, you piece of shit. I don't wanna spend Tuesdays with you!"

**Griffin:** Yeah. "Tuesdays are my day!"

**Justin:** I wanna briefly uh, talk about uh—uh, donuts in Huntington, because we've got a bunch of people coming into Huntington.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** I would—I just wanna remind everybody that the best, uh, option for donuts in the area is Jolly Pirate Donuts.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Justin:** Um, and the best—

**Travis:** The donut box looks like a treasure chest!

**Griffin:** Can't beat it.

**Justin:** It—ask if they got hot donuts in the back if they don't mention it, like, up front. You'll be able to find some. Also, I would 100% recommend that you follow Jolly Pirate on Facebook, [holding back laughter] 'cause it's fucking radical.

**Griffin:** Oh, what do they put now?

**Justin:** I think it's, like, one old man who doesn't fully grok Facebook, but he's crushing it.

**Griffin:** [quietly] Fuck yeah!

**Justin:** It's just—there is a picture that went up... and so they haven't posted for literally two months. Yesterday, he put up two pictures of donuts in the fryer with the quote—

**Griffin:** [bursts out laughing] What!?

**Justin:** There's two pictures of donuts in the fryer w—

**Griffin:** I'm looking at it now! It's unbelievable.

**Justin:** And can you read that quote for me, Griffin?

**Griffin:** The quote sa—these are, first of all, not especially well-framed photos of these donuts, but the f—

**Justin:** Don't—yeah.

**Griffin:** It says, "No baby beets the old man," but "beets" is B-E-E-T-S, like the vegetable.

**Travis:** What?

**Justin:** "No baby beets the old man!"

**Travis:** Is that—

**Justin:** That's what Jolly Pirate's message is. I don't know [laughs]—it's like they're ca—I guess they're calling out someone. I don't know who.

**Travis:** Did somebody post, like a rival, y'know, donut place, post a picture of one donut in a fryer, and they were like, "Fuck that, we're doing two."

**Griffin:** Shit. God.

**Justin:** Possible messages for this are, one, there's tiny donuts at Peace, Love, and Little Donuts downtown.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** Those are—those are...

**Travis:** Not the same.

**Justin:** ...not great. Uh, and then there's, we got a Dunkin. Our first Dunkin in town.

**Travis:** What!?

**Justin:** And maybe they're making a run at Dunkin. I don't know.

**Griffin:** Oh, I see.

**Travis:** Listen, I like Dunkin, and I don't know about Jolly Pirate's coffee scenario. Like Dunkin...

**Griffin:** Don't. Don't. Shop local. Is it possible—

**Travis:** Yeah. It don't beat—it don't beat Jolly Pirate Donuts.

**Justin:** Dunkin Donuts are unthinkable. The idea—do you know why they had—do you know why they legally had to change the name of the place just to Dunkin? Because they're not even—they don't even qualify as donuts anymore.

**Griffin:** Oh.

**Justin:** They don't, like, legally—it's like a legal...

**Travis:** They're just called "breaded ring."

**Justin:** ...FTC thing. Bread rings.

**Griffin:** Is it possible—

**Travis:** Like how Pringles are, like, "potato crisps"?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Is it possible that the social media manager for Jolly Pirate Donuts did an extremely questionable job of quoting Dirty Dancing?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Um, how about a Yahoo?

**Justin:** "It's like I always say..."

**Griffin:** "No baby beets—"

**Justin:** "...no baby beets the old man!"

**Travis:** "Nobody puts baby at the intersection!"

**Griffin:** [laughing] Uh, okay, so here's a Yahoo. This one was uh, sent in by—actually, a few people sent this one in. It's by an anonymous Yahoo Answers user.

**Justin:** Oh, wait, sorry, I just wanted to circle back to one thing.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The last post from Jolly Pirate Donuts is a picture of a huge crew ship going through a canal in Greece.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** Fuckin' the best.

**Griffin:** Fuckin' yeah, man. Oh, that's so cool!

**Justin:** And before that, "Pumpkin cookies now available." [laughs]

**Griffin:** That's something else.

**Justin:** This is a good f—this is a premium follow, folks.

**Travis:** Is this an ARG?

**Justin:** This is a premium follow.

**Griffin:** Damn, we haven't—we haven't recommended a premium follow in a while. You know I'm getting on board. I'm following and linking.

**Justin:** Jolly Pirates WV on Facebook.

**Griffin:** Alright. Okay, so anyway, this one's sent in by uh, No Baby. I can't stop thinking about "No baby beets the old man." It's got, like—

**Travis:** No baby.

**Justin:** [holding back laughter] No baby beets the old man!

**Griffin:** It's got such good... pure...

**Travis:** Until the chosen baby.

**Griffin:** It's got pure boomer energy in a way that I wish everything kind of reflected. But anyway, so No Baby asks, "Frasier and Niles get caught eating baked beans at the opera?"

**Justin:** [laughing quietly]

**Griffin:** "I am an aspiring screenwriter."

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** "And it is my dream to work on the new Frasier reboot. Would this be a good episode idea?"

**Travis:** Huh.

**Griffin:** We've all been waiting... [sighs] ...for this opportunity to fall in not our laps, but someone's lap, so that we can run over, slap it out of their lap, and onto our lap, and make it our Frasier reboot. Um, but this idea of Frasier and Niles get caught eating baked beans at the opera? I feel like we could think and think, our three brains locked together, completing the cerebral puzzle, as it were, and we would not come up with anything that good. But I'm—you know, I'm open to suggestions, I guess.

**Travis:** Here's—okay. I—

**Justin:** I want to catch you guys up while you think about your answers. I wanna—what's the latest on the Frasier reboot?

**Travis:** Yes, please.

**Justin:** This is Frasier Reboot Watch, which is a new segment. Um, this is from ten days ago. [clears throat] "While visiting In Depth with Graham Besinger last week, Grammer said that while no network has taken in the Cranes just yet..."

**Travis:** Ooh.

**Justin:** "...he approved of an idea for the new season." This is from Vulture. So this is...

**Griffin:** And this is Kelsey Grammer speaking.

**Justin:** This is Kelsey Grammer of Frasier fame. He played the—one of the main, big characters on there of Frasier.

**Travis:** The titular Frasier.

**Justin:** He played Frasier.

**Travis:** Okay. So—



**Justin:** Here's the quote. "We've got it hatched. We've hatched the plan, what we think is the right way to go. We're sort of on standby a little bit."

**Griffin:** [bursts into laughter] "Hey, where's MBMBaM season two?"

"W—we hatched it."

**Travis:** We hatched it.

**Justin:** We've hatched the plan.

**Griffin:** It's in a holding pattern.

**Travis:** But you know how, like, you hatch a baby, like a baby bird, and then the baby bird is just on standby for a while?

**Griffin:** Don't worry about it!

**Justin:** Here's a—"We're kind of on standby for a little bit." And this is another one that we can steal. Uh, "Working out a couple of possible network deals that we're circling."

**Travis:** Mm.

**Justin:** So we're kind of—there's the deals below us, and like the majestic hawk, we are circling the deals. Finding the deals that are—

**Travis:** We've just hatched the hawk, and it's also circling. Don't let that confuse you.

**Justin:** We've hatched the hawk of deals.

**Griffin:** And now let's—

**Justin:** And it's circling the deals.

**Griffin:** And let's dive back into this quote. Uh—

**Travis:** Just like a hawk.

**Griffin:** "There's still stuff going on, but a revisit to Frasier," comma, "Frasier's world is, I think, definitely going to come." Now...

**Justin:** [laughs, wheezing and coughing]

**Griffin:** ...Vulture has taken a step here to not italicize "Frasier's world," which seems... strange...

**Justin:** [laughs] That's a shame. That—

**Griffin:** ...because I do think that when Kelsey Grammer said that, he was dropping the, y'know, world premier name of the reboot, Frasier's World.

**Justin:** [through laughter, simultaneously] "The name of the reboot will be..."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** It'll be Frasier's World.

**Griffin:** [through laughter] And at this point, you get to go inside of his, like, mindscape. And so it's part animated, uh, by which I mean, like, anime. It's all anime in there.

**Travis:** Oh! Like, inside Frasier's head?

**Griffin:** Yeah. In his mind. 'Cause he's always talking about other peoples' minds; in this one, you get to go into Frasier's world, which is what he calls his anim—

**Travis:** Oh, this one, Frasier's been in some kind of accident, maybe he's in a coma, and we're getting to see the dreamscape in which Frasier lives. I get it. Okay.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** That's obvious.

**Griffin:** We find out the entire first series was a dream.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** 'Cause Kelsey Grammer hates the first series, so he wants to undo it.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** He always wanted it to be based around... Frasier Crane's anime dreamscape.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** John Mahoney hologram.

**Travis:** So, Frasier and Niles are eating some beans at the opera.

**Griffin:** Baked beans.

**Travis:** Baked beans. Thank you, Griffin.

**Griffin:** Not fan—not a fancy bean, like a garbanzo.

**Travis:** And what I love about this, this premise that this aspiring screenwriter has set up is, the issue is not that they are eating baked beans at the opera. It's that they're *caught* eating baked beans at the opera.

**Griffin:** They fucked up.

**Travis:** Yeah. Now, so here's the question. Let's—let's roll back. How did we get here? Maybe we start in media res. The first scene...

**Justin:** Break it.

**Travis:** ...they're caught.

**Justin:** Break the story.

**Travis:** Right. They're caught, right? Hey, there's a flashlight from an usher. Maybe the usher is like a young person, so their voice breaks when they say, like, "Misters Crane, no baked beans at the opera! For the last time!" And then we just see them on the floor, eating loose baked beans. And now we then start back at the beginning, to get there.

**Griffin:** So this is the premiere of Frasier's World.

**Travis:** Yes. Obviously. Yes.

**Griffin:** This is the first episode.

**Travis:** Obviously. With this kind of heat?

**Griffin:** You haven't seen Kelsey—you haven't seen Kelsey in a couple decades, except for that one very viral video where he did eat shit off the stage.

**Travis:** Yes. Other than that, though...

**Griffin:** We all remember that and love that. That was practically a Frasier reboot. A very, very short, very, very small, very delightful—

**Justin:** Frasier's Fall.

**Griffin:** [through laughter] Frasier's Plummet to the Ground. So this is who—and he's come back. So after the in media res opening, we show him and they are mourning the—the loss of the chair, which is fucked up.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** The chair is gone, and so—and the dad wanted the chair to be uh, y'know, um, what's the word, immolated? Disintegrated? What's the word I'm looking for? When they burn it—

**Travis:** Yeah, I mean—

**Griffin:** Cremated...

**Justin:** Evaporated.

**Griffin:** Evaporated. And he was like, "[gruff voice] And don't worry about it; just put it in a can of baked beans!"

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** So not—he doesn't want, like, a fancy urn, 'cause he's not a fancy person like Ol' Garbanzo Niles over here.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Is Niles eat—and Frasier eating their dad?

**Griffin:** No, but they've got to get the can from somewhere.

**Travis:** Yeah, I'm saying that ma—oh, so that—so they need the can... I thought you were saying, Griffin, 'cause where I was gonna go with it is, they put the ashes of the chair into the can of baked beans.

**Griffin:** Oh.

**Travis:** And then—but then the—

**Griffin:** And mix it—like, mix it, like made a slur—like a chair slurry, Travis?

**Travis:** Yes. But then the baked beans spill, right? The can maybe gets destroyed.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** And now they need to get the baked beans out of there, and the only way they can think to do it is by smuggling it in their tum-tums.

**Griffin:** That's cool.

**Justin:** Uh, Frasier's like, some dumb old—it's old fucking...

**Travis:** Hey. Justin, you're not muted!

**Justin:** ...garbage. I pretend to like it for my brothers, 'cause they're, like, old and boring, but...

**Travis:** Hey, did Frasier end with Roz and Frasier getting together? 'Cause that's what I want.

**Justin:** [bursts into laughter] You—absolutely, Trav.

**Travis:** Okay. Cool.

**Justin:** Do you think they're gonna be back—

**Griffin:** It's weird, Juice. You keep cutting out, and then you come back in, yelling, "Absolutely..."

**Justin:** [wheezing laughter]

**Griffin:** ...but not sort of responding to the thing that the people said.

**Justin:** [laughs] I'm just bringing, like, positive energy... [laughs] to the show, trying to keep it going, you know?

**Griffin:** Yeah, for sure.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** So anyway, what I've just done is, in Hollywood terms, called a bump. And I'm looking for—Travis has said it, so Justin, you go ahead and spike it right across the net line. We've established the sort of baked beans narrative...

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Take us home.

**Justin:** Okay. So they need—what are they still lacking? A can, right?

**Griffin:** I—we've gotten a can.

**Justin:** But—

**Griffin:** No. We've got the can. Get us to the—

**Travis:** They were caught eating it. Finish the episode.

**Griffin:** He got caught eating it. Finish it.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** What's the resolution, Justin?

**Griffin:** We're at the opera. They have the can. They've spilled the can. They are eating it off the floor.

**Justin:** Why are they—okay, this—the problem is, [laughs] why are they eating it at the opera?

**Griffin:** They're eating—they're eating dirty chair chili off the—because they were gonna go throw it over the big cliff, like their dad asked, to scatter the chair.

**Travis:** But then they saw that the opera was in town.

**Griffin:** But then they saw the o—and like a moth to a flame, these two fancy fucks went to the opera.

**Travis:** And they said, "We can throw it after the fancy opera."

**Griffin:** But what happened? They spilled it on the floor, and they have to eat the chair chili off the fucking floor like a couple of dogs.

**Travis:** Oh, shit. Okay, listen. Are you guys ready? I'm about to pitch you what—

**Griffin:** Travis, Justin needs to spike it.

**Travis:** Okay. Yes, you spike it, Griffin, and then I will—I will sell it in the room, the Frasier reboot.

**Justin:** So... B plot, Daphne is uh...

**Travis:** Uh-huh. Oh, she's back.

**Justin:** She's back, but here's the thing – she runs... a company now.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** And there—she's incorporating. In this episode, she's filing the papers to incorporate.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** So back to you, Trav.

**Travis:** Okay. I don't see how that helps me resolve—

**Griffin:** Wow, but—yeah, it—

**Travis:** Oh! Maybe her business is she now runs, like, a huge, like, cleaning service organization that now she is the head of, and now she gets the contract to clean...

**Griffin:** The opera!



**Travis:** ...the bean mess. Yes.

**Griffin:** And they don't want—[laughing quietly] The opera said—

**Justin:** [English accent, high-pitched] "I can't find a name for me company! Wait, a minute, I get it! Empty Can of Baked Beans LLC!"

**Travis:** And they all tie back together. Okay.

**Griffin:** It all ties back together.

**Justin:** It all ties in together.

**Travis:** Now, are you ready? Here's how I'm going to—if you're listening, Kelsey Grammer, which I know you are, you dirty bellway. Okay. Here. I'm gonna give you your pitch, so you can s—

**Justin:** Mr. Grammer, this is such an honor, oh my god.

**Travis:** Yeah, thank you for listening.

**Justin:** I listened to your autobiography, the audiobook version of it...

**Travis:** Grammer Crackers?

**Justin:** ...so far. No.

**Travis:** Okay. In this one—

**Griffin:** It was Country Grammer, was the name of it.

**Travis:** Country Grammer. [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** With—ghostwritten by Nelly.

**Justin:** It's actually Grammer's Cool.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Grammer's Cool.

**Travis:** Um, in this one, rather than the dad coming to live with Kelsey Grammer, AKA Frasier, right, and him being the fish out of water, in this one, Frasier goes to live with his dad in a rural town where Frasier just doesn't fit in!

**Griffin:** John Mahoney did, sadly, pass away, so I don't—

**Justin:** Remember we talked about no—

**Travis:** It's a reboot, Griffin! It's gonna be different now.

**Justin:** We already talked about John Mahoney hologram. That's established.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** It's problematic in a few ways. I would love to come into this one clean. I would love to come into this one clean.

**Travis:** Okay. In this one, Kelsey Grammer plays the dad.

**Griffin:** Okay. Now we're on some—now we're on some Honey Boy shit, and I'm back fucking on board!

**Travis:** We got a young, fancy person to play the titular Frasier.

**Griffin:** Who would even—dude!

**Justin:** Everybody bumps up one character.

**Griffin:** Oh, shit! Everyone bumps up one character, and who comes in at the bottom to play Frasier? It's Young Sheldon!

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** [coughs, laughing]

**Griffin:** Not the actor that plays Young Sheldon. It's Young motherfucking Sheldon comes in.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** ABC, CBS, NBC...

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** ...coming all together.

**Justin:** I'm sorry, I have to—I have to quibble with you. Young Sheldon would have to come in to play the dog, Eddie.

**Travis:** And the dog was named Frasier.

**Justin:** In the hopes that something would be loosened up, at some point. And then he would be in the running after that to take over Niles. Because it funnels by age, right?

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** So you need a new—

**Travis:** So you're saying David Hyde Pierce would play Frasier? And Eddie the Dog would play Niles?

**Justin:** David Hyde Pierce would be Frasier, that's right.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Yes.

**Griffin:** This is good.

**Travis:** Well, I—okay, sorry. Roz would have to play Niles. 'Cause I think Roz is probably above Eddie the Dog. Just on the call list.

**Griffin:** Let's keep shaking the tree, guys. That is how it works. That's how it worked on Roseanne, when she got booted. Laurie Metcalf was like, "Now I'm—it's called Metcalf now. Welcome to Metcalf."

**Justin:** Do you know what sucks? You know what sucks, and why I've been actually distracted, is I can't stop thinking about how... terrifyingly close the last ten minutes probably actually really were to some of the breaking of stories for Frasier.

**Travis:** Oh, yeah.

**Justin:** Especially towards the end.

**Griffin:** Mm.

**Justin:** I feel like if you swapped out "baked beans" with another proper noun, we probably would've gotten to a solid spec.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** There was probably a lot of pitch spec scripts.

**Travis:** There was probably a lot of pitch meetings that were just like, "Uh, Frasier is in Vegas. Okay, you got 48 hours. Give me 20 pages."

**Griffin:** Mm-hm.

**Travis:** That was it. Hey, guys?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** I've got a segment I wanna do.

**Griffin:** Oh, yeah. Set it up, Trav.

**Travis:** So I'm gonna be—I tried this segment out in Milwaukee. I loved it; I'm gonna do it again. Basically, I call it... [sings tune] Reach for the Stars! [speaking normally] And in it, I'm going to read you guys a couple of Amazon reviews, and I'll give you, like, the review and the star rating, and you guys are gonna try to guess what the product they're reviewing is. Um, now, uh, this first one here—this is a one out of five-star review.

**Griffin:** Oh, no.

**Travis:** "It may have just been a warehouse issue, but there was nothing inside the package. It was a white-and-blue envelope, and there was nothing in it."

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** "It was even sealed as well. Would not recommend. It even had tracking, but there was nothing inside. Someone had to seal the package at the West House knowing there was nothing inside."

**Griffin:** This is an anti-clue. You have given us...

**Travis:** I know. I realize this.

**Griffin:** ...unless it—is it—

**Justin:** I know less about the product now than I did when we started.

**Travis:** Okay. Let me give you one piece of information here.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** This is another one out of five-star review. "Toy."

**Griffin:** Okay. So I—'cause I was gonna say aphids.

**Travis:** Oh! Not a bad gue—I mean, it is a bad guess, 'cause it's not those, but...

**Griffin:** You open up the bag, and aphids come out, and you don't even see them. And you're like, "This bag was empty," but really, there was the aphids you bought and forgot about.

**Travis:** That's pretty good.

**Griffin:** But if it's a toy... hmm.

**Travis:** "Toy." Now, remember, that's a one-star review.

**Griffin:** Oh, so it's—they didn't want it to be a toy. They wanted it to be, uh, a business—

**Justin:** Highlander replica sword. Highlander replica sword.

**Travis:** Okay. Good guess, good guess.

**Griffin:** I'm gonna—what about, like, a—you know, a funny stapler, like a Office Space-themed stapler, you know?

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Something business-y, not a toy.

**Travis:** One of you is on the right track, and I won't tell you what.

**Griffin:** I love it.

**Travis:** But one of you is on the right track. Now, this is a five out of five-star review. Uh, and this might help a lot. "Very realistic looking. They fool most people. Made of good-quality materials. Awesome price. And most important, fun!"

**Griffin:** I've changed my answer significantly. 'Cause now I think it's full-blown shit. I think it's a full-blown, goofy, goofy, rubbery shit that you would

put on the floor of your house, so your friends walk in, and be like, "Why is there shit on the floor—" and you're like, "It's a joke," and then they say, "Why did you want us to think there was shit on the floor?" One of those.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle replica nun chucks!

**Travis:** Okay. Ooh. Okay. Now, uh, here's the final one. Five out of five stars. "Son got them for drama class. Very realistic. Teacher impressed!"

**Griffin:** I'm back to aphids. I'm back—I'm right back on aphids.

**Justin:** [laughing] Well, how do you think the aphids would be deployed in drama class?

**Travis:** In an impressive way, it sounds like.

**Griffin:** It'd be fucking cool, man. If you were doing, like, a monologue from some play that had aphids in it.

**Travis:** Or a monologue from, like, Bug's Life.

**Griffin:** Bug's Life monologue, or from Antz would be funny. No, okay, I'm back on sort of—I'm sort of leaning towards Justin's prop weapons now.

**Justin:** [holding back laughter] I'm a stick with nun chucks.

**Travis:** No, no! We're looking at fake cigarettes!

**Griffin:** Fake cigarettes!

**Justin:** Fake cigarettes!

**Travis:** Fake cigarettes. Now, I have one more here, and I will tell you...

**Justin:** No, wait. Can we stop for a second?

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** Someone thought they were ordering real cigarettes from Amazon.  
[laughs]

**Travis:** "Toy."

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** "Toy. Hey, these didn't—I didn't feel anything with these."

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "This is a toy."

**Griffin:** "I didn't feel the—where's all the cool smoke?"

**Travis:** I've got one more. Now, I will go ahead and tell you guys, this is another novelty.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Uh, 'cause that will become clear from this first five out of five-star review: "Yeah, buddy! Fooled my whole family at Easter, LOL."

**Justin:** Fake dookie. Fake dookie, fake dookie.

**Griffin:** I would hate to be one answer off with my fake dookie, but um, uh, yeah—yeah, fake dookie.

**Travis:** Aw, man, you guys got it in one!

**Griffin:** Oh, wow, really?

**Travis:** Yeah, but I'll read the rest of the reviews, 'cause they're very good.  
[laughs]

**Griffin:** Okay. Okay.



**Travis:** This is a five out of five-star review. "I was really excited about this for April Fool's Day. Unfortunately, my dog ate it before my husband could see it, because he was feeling extra petty that day."

**Griffin:** That's extra—that's really bad about your marriage, and the...  
[laughs] Your dog ate some shit. That's rough, too.

**Travis:** This one is a five out of star review titled, "The best fake poop on the market!"

**Griffin:** Well, we would've gotten it with that one...

**Justin:** Wow.

**Griffin:** ...probably, Trav.

**Travis:** Yeah, I wouldn't have given you the title, but I think you probably would've gotten it from this. "When I cleaned out my uncle's house after his passing, I offered up various items to the cousins. One of the items was an antique porcelain commode. My one cousin said he wanted it. I packed it up and shipped it off, but of course, put one of these in it as a gag."

**Griffin:** That's a pretty horrible gag, I feel like.

**Justin:** It's fucking funny.

**Travis:** Yeah. Okay, now, one more. And this one... oh my god. Five out of five-star reviews here. "Got it for my stocking-stuffer," parenthesis, "(from Santa)," end parenthesis, "to myself as a joke for my daughter."

**Justin:** [bursts into laughter]

**Griffin:** Fuck me.

**Justin:** Do it again!

**Travis:** "Got it for my stocking-stuffer," parenthesis, "(from Santa)," end parenthesis, "to myself as a joke for my daughter. Later that day, took it to my parents' house, and strategically placed it in the hallway right when the party was going, and then waited for my dad to notice. Took about two hours, but he noticed!"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "I got the whole party in on it!"

**Justin:** [through laughter] Just two hours of this guy expectantly staring at this brown lump, like, "Hey, anybody been in the hallway lately? It's a little stinky in there, if anybody wants to go into the hallway."

**Travis:** "I got the whole party in on it. The look on my dad's face when he tried to secretly grab the paper towel and clean it up before anyone noticed was priceless. And the moment when he bent down and grabbed it and realized it was fake was even better."

**Griffin:** "Touch that shit, old man!"

**Travis:** "Touch it, Dad! I've waited two whole hours for this!"

**Justin:** [laughs] "The moment's here."

**Griffin:** "How was the party?"

**Travis:** "Hey, has anyone seen Doug?"

"Yeah, he's just staring down the hallway."

**Griffin:** "Did you have fun at the party?"

"Yeah, it was—I spent most of it looking at... fake shit... on the ground. Um, I know you invited that person that you wanted me to talk to, because you think maybe we could become romantically entwined, but they did try and talk to me, and I said, 'Not now, not now, not now; I need to watch my daddy touch this poo-poo.'"

**Travis:** And he looked like a fool for the five seconds when he thought it was real.

**Griffin:** What a dumb asshole.

**Justin:** Hey, let's uh—I'm not gonna be able to afford any fake poop if we don't take a quick break to the Money Zone.

[theme song plays]

**Griffin:** Do you think there was ever, um, a dookie gag of any stripe on Frasier prime?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Which is what we'll call the first, sort of, run of Frasier.

**Travis:** They had a dog running around the house and the fancy apartment. You know there was, Griffin.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** This isn't an ad. You're not—neither of you are doing the ads. Do the ads.

**Travis:** Okay. I'll read it here. This ad is from Stitch Fix. Everybody, go to Amazon and buy...

**Griffin:** [groans]

**Travis:** ...the complete series of Frasier.

**Griffin:** [laughs] Okay.

**Travis:** And think about how all of them would be wearing comfortable underpants.

**Justin:** He's right. It says—Stitch Fix says right here, "Don't talk about the clothes. We're warning you, nerdlings, just—[laughs] we went deep." It says, "We went—" it says—okay. "We went deep on Frasier."

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** "So deep. God, we're ruined. Why did we spend all the money we used—we earned from bringing uh, great style direct to peoples' doors with their favorite clothing brands and shipping out peoples' boxes of clothes and accessories, and we spent it all on Frasier, baby, and we're sunk. Please don't mention the clothes."

**Travis:** It says here, "We invested in Frasier, which is not a thing we thought you could do with a TV show. But we thought they were all about stylish, classy people, so we thought, 'What better to associate ourselves with?' And only then did we find out it's not even running anymore."

**Griffin:** It says here that to get started, go to [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/MyBrother), answer some questions about your preferred style, and your personal shopper will ship you a box of clothes, shoes, and accessories, and that Griffin, on his last box, kept five out of things because they really, really crushed it.

And then it says here that they just called the stock market, and started yelling, "Frasier! Frasier! Frasier! Frasier!" until they had shares of Frasier here, which is fucked up.

**Travis:** And, accidentally, some of Brendan Fraser, too, but that—that's actually paying dividends, now, so that's what's gonna keep him afloat...

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** ...here in 2020. Oh, and it says here, "Shipping, exchanges, returns and Niles are always free!"

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** So if you order the Frasier DVD—

**Justin:** So they just put in free Frasier characters. Yeah.

**Travis:** You get free Niles. That's nice. And a \$20 styling fee is automatically applied towards anything you keep from your box, and a little bit of Roz's hair is gonna be in there!

**Griffin:** That's weird!

**Justin:** Wow.

**Travis:** Yeah, it is weird.

**Griffin:** It says here, they've been stockpiling Roz hair, genuine Roz hair, for decades. But get started today...

**Justin:** That is [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](http://StitchFix.com/MyBrother). [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](http://StitchFix.com/MyBrother).

**Griffin:** You get an extra 25% off when you keep everything in your box, including Niles, and you have to feed him. You have to feed him. You absolutely must feed him.

**Travis:** Don't feed him after midnight.

**Justin:** Let's say you're a clothing company that just made the biggest mistake of your existence.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** You're on the ropes, the—the bank is on the phone. They're gonna come for everything. You've got one chance to set it all right, and that's to sell all of your copies of Frasier on DVD at a premium price.

**Travis:** I wouldn't even know where to begin, Justin.

**Justin:** I know where you're gonna begin. You're gonna begin at Squarespace.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** It's gonna help you showcase your work, or your extensive collection of Frasier DVDs.

**Griffin:** And humans. And actors, from Frasier.

**Justin:** [laughs] And the sets, the prop replicas. Uh, you can sell products and services of all kinds. You can promote your physical or online business, and more! They've got uh, beautiful templates created by world-class designers. Everything's optimized for mobile right out of the box. They've got analytics that can help you see how many copies of Frasier you've sold so far. And uh, nothing to patch or upgrade ever! They handle all that boring stuff for you.

So go to [Squarespace.com/MyBrother](https://www.squarespace.com/MyBrother) for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "MyBrother" to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

[music plays]

**Speaker 1:** This week on Bullseye, Lin-Manuel Miranda on His Dark Materials, hip-hop, and life after Hamilton.

**Lin:** I know it's the first line of my obituary. So if that line is handled, then what else can I do with my time here?

**Speaker 1:** It's Bullseye, from MaximumFun.org and NPR.

**Griffin:** How about another question? We've only done one.

**Justin:** [starts singing Munch Squad theme]

**Griffin:** [laughs] Oh, fuck. [laughing]

**Justin:** [continues singing Munch Squad theme]

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Justin:** [continues singing Munch Squad theme] [plays sound clip of Gene Simmons shouting "Toronto!"] [continues singing Munch Squad theme] [plays sound clip again]

**Griffin:** This is unlistenable.

**Justin:** [singing] I wanna munch!

**Griffin:** Squad!

**Travis:** Squad!

**Justin:** [imitates guitar] I want to munch!

**Griffin:** Squad!

**Travis:** Squad!

**Justin:** [imitates guitar] [speaking normally] I'm sorry that, like, allergies or what-have-you have kept me from...

**Griffin:** Really squealing!

**Justin:** [sighs] I just don't have much in me. It's like a bass-y, like, extreme more-than-words take on the Munch Squad theme song. It's very depressing.

Now, I'll tell you what's not depressing, though – the latest and greatest in quick service dining. Uh, this week's breaking news takes us to a doorstep I don't think we've darkened before, but it's one of my favorites when I'm headed south, headed to the beach. It's Zaxby's.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** Oh! I've never even heard that word said out loud.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** It is both, I believe, a restaurant chain and, potentially, an alien species.

**Justin:** [chuckles] Yes. When I'm... having a Zax attack...

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** ...I see a doctor.

**Travis:** Good.

**Justin:** But he recommends to me, usually, that I should head into Zaxby's, which is like a chicken place without the bigotry. Or, at least, [through laughter] they're better at cloaking it. I have no idea. But um, Zaxby's has announced a promotional partnership with Sony Pictures for its upcoming action-adventure film...

**Travis:** What—

**Griffin:** Sorry?

**Travis:** Wait.

**Justin:** What would you guess?

**Travis:** Chicken Attack. Chicken Sprint.

**Justin:** Chicken—Sony Pictures is making Chicken Sprint...

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** ...presumably a spiritual successor to Chicken Run? Is that what you're suggestion?

**Travis:** I'm sorry, Justin, this is actually a prequel to Chicken Run. It's—the chicken is building up steam, um...



**Justin:** Griffin?

**Griffin:** I mean, let me look at the list of films that this...

**Justin:** That will be too easy. It's Jumanji...

**Griffin:** Oh!

**Justin:** ...The Next Level.

**Griffin:** Now, see, I was gonna say, perhaps Sex Tape 2. Or maybe Miracles from Heaven 2, or Goosebumps 3.

**Justin:** "Zaxby's, the fast-casual fan favorite—" God, these places have a lot of different ways of saying "bad." A lot of fun ways of saying "not good."

**Travis:** [laughs] "We've got a cult following here at Zaxby's."

**Justin:** Yeah. "This fast-casual fan favorite for chicken fingers, wings, and salads—" Don't think so. On the last one, I don't agree.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "...launched its limited-time Southwest Chipotle and Smokehouse Cheddar Barbecue Fillet Sandwiches." Can you imagine standing at a fucking register, and they're like, "What will you have?" and I'll say, "Um, can I have the Southwest Chipotle BBQ Fillet Sandwich, please?" It's embarrassing, they need numbers. And also—

**Travis:** Is that the sandwich tie-in? 'Cause I don't see the connection.

**Justin:** Well, Travis, maybe it'll become more clear to you when you slurp down an extra-extra-large Jumanji Citrus Fizz.

**Travis:** Huh.

**Justin:** I don't think, if I was a family brand like Zaxby's, I would make it so easy to say "jizz" accidentally...

**Travis:** [laughs] Yeah!

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** ...in my restaurant. You are basically begging for it. Jumanji Citrus Fizz. I mean, it's like right there.

**Travis:** And here's the thing, too: there'll be a moment where you accidentally say, like, "Fumanji," and like, you'll keep talking, but your brain'll be like, "Oh, no! We're spiraling!"

**Griffin:** "Can I get a Fuman—"

**Justin:** "Oh, no, I'm about to say jizz!"

**Travis:** "Stop talking!"

**Griffin:** [laughs] "Can I get a—"

**Justin:** "Mouth, quit it! Abort! You're about to say jizz!"

**Griffin:** "Oh, boy, I would—[smacks lips] I am parched, I would love a Fumanji Jizz Mist. Aww!"

**Travis:** "Aw!"

**Griffin:** "Beans!"

**Justin:** [laughs] "Dang it."

**Griffin:** "Oh, you wanted a Fumanji Jizz Mist with beans?"

"[defeated] Yeah, I may as well."

**Travis:** "Yeah."

**Justin:** "'We strive to give our guests exciting flavor options, and our new Southwest Chipotle and classic Smokehouse Cheddar Barbecue sandwiches do just that,' says Zaxby's Chief Marketing Officer Joel Bulger."

Don't you think that if they're gonna—there should be a law where if you're going to put a quote into a document, you must first say the phrase out loud with your human mouth, or legally, it can't be written down as a quote? Like, Joel actually had to say out loud, "Uh, we strive to give our guests exciting flavor options, and our new Southwest Chipotle and classic Smokehouse Cheddar BBQ sandwiches do just that."

Joel then continues the great tradition of Munch Squad providers being defensive in their quotes. He says, "Teaming up with Sony Pictures on Jumanji: The Next Level just makes sense."

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [bursts into laughter]

**Justin:** "I don't know! It's like they're doing a Jumanji, and we got some new fucking sandwiches and some citrus jizz—damn it!"

**Travis:** "Damn it!"

**Justin:** "I did it again."

**Travis:** Now, Justin, you haven't seen the first Jumanji—well, the remake, sequ—the remake where—

**Justin:** I have tried several times to watch the second Jumanji.

**Travis:** So—but you have not reached the point where The Rock just barrels the camera, and says, "My God, it burns so much, my citrus jizz!"

**Griffin:** "Get it out, get it out. Please, get it out."

**Justin:** [laughing] That's ter—

**Travis:** "Get it out of me. What is this horrible curse?"

**Griffin:** "A scorpion got me on my ding—my thingy thingy, and it's bur—it's hot, hot—it's a hot, flaming hot Fumunji Mist in there, and I could really use some help here. I'm gonna jump off this—I'm gonna jump off this cliff, so I can respawn and get a new life, where my pee-pee isn't, like, so full of scorpion ven."

**Justin:** I think the sandwiches are too much. The Southwest Chipotle Fillet Sandwich has hand-breaded fillet, pickled jalapenos, pepper jack cheese, spicy chipotle aioli, fresh lettuce, and tomato, all served on a toasted potato bun. Does that sound good?

**Griffin:** I mean, it would r—[laughs] It would rip me to pieces.

**Justin:** The la—does that sound like a last sandwich? Worthy of your last sandwich, Griffin?

**Griffin:** [through laughter] It would shred me up and scatter me over the fucking 2020 Democratic National Convention. Like, it would fuck me right up, but okay.

**Justin:** Talk about self-burns. This press release, by Zaxby's, then goes on to say, "These two hand-breaded, made-to-order, customizable chicken sandwich meals are fast-casual quality at quick-service pace and pricing."

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Wow.

**Justin:** Wow, really? Damn!

**Travis:** Hey, listen, we reach for the top, and this is like a sandwich you get at Applebee's, my man. Like...

**Justin:** Right. They're exactly saying, like, "You could get the—you will eat this sandwich, and be like, 'Fuck, am I at Applebees?'"

**Travis:** "Is this Chili's? 'Cause this is amazing!"

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** This is fucking so good. "Customers looking for a movie-themed drink may try the custom limited-time Coca-Cola Freestyle Jumanji Citrus Fizz, also available in Lite." Thank God. "Made with Minute Maid Orange and Seagram's Ginger Ale, the beverage has a sparkling, citrusy orange taste." I wonder how they get it. Is it maybe by mixing Minute Maid Orange and ginger ale?

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** You just gave me the fucking recipe! I'll do it at home!

**Travis:** It's just so great, 'cause I was really craving a Won't-You-Be-My-Neighbor Baja Blast...

**Griffin:** [bursts into laughter]

**Travis:** ...but it's really great that I don't have to wait for a movie-themed drink.

**Justin:** "The beverage has a sparkling, citrusy orange taste that pairs with either of the new sandwiches." Oh! [smacks lips]

**Travis:** [laughing]

**Justin:** Oh, the Seagram's Ginger Ale really helps to push the... [through laughter] hard sandwich down my throat!

**Travis:** What an excellent pairing!

**Justin:** It's a perfect pairing! I'm able to swallow it. "Guests are invited to enjoy the drink in a 42-ounce..."

**Travis:** Whoa!

**Griffin:** Holy shit.

**Justin:** "...Jumanji: The Next Level-themed commemorative cup." I'm gonna save this forever! You're coming home to live with me in a place of honor, Jumanji cup!

"Zaxby's broad audience base aligns perfectly with the all-audience appeal of Jumanji: The Next Level. But more importantly, they strive for great creative execution, and have done it again with the spots they created in collaboration with our film," says..."

**Griffin:** [laughs quietly]

**Justin:** Silence. I'm going to read this last name exactly as it's written, and I don't want a single peep to interrupt it. It says Jeffrey Godsick.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** Godsick. Munch Squad did it. Godsick. Help God! The God is sick!

"...executive vice president of Brand Management and Global Partnerships for Sony Pictures Motion Picture Group. 'The TV spots are clever and funny.'" That's all Jeff's got left.

**Griffin:** [bursts into laughter]

**Travis:** Jeff's got one thing left!

**Justin:** "Hey, I want you to put my entire name, and then my insane title, and then I'll come back. I'll spin back around like... [laughing] Oh, one more thing. The TV spots are clever and funny."

**Griffin:** Aw, geez. Okay. I don't know how much more of this I can take.

**Justin:** That's all of that. So that's available now, so you can go get that shit.

**Griffin:** Okay. How about our second question?

**Justin:** "I've always been a little insecure of my rather small vocabulary compared to my friends. For 2019, I bought a word-a-day calendar with a new word definition to learn." I'm assuming each day. [laughs] Not one, the same one over and over again. "I looked at it every day for, uhh, about all of three weeks. And then I forgot about it even existing.

I still have it, and am hesitant to throw it out, since I paid real actual money for it, but it hasn't been touched for more than to move it from place to place since mid-January. I can try it again for 2020, but it lists the day of the week as well as the date, and I wouldn't want to read my word-a-day calendar telling me it's Sunday on a Monday, and end up not going in to work. What should I do with my word-a-day calendar?" And that's from Rhys M.

**Griffin:** Or Reese.

**Justin:** Or Reese. Probably Reese.

**Travis:** So let's see. There's, as we're recording this, ten...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** ...divided by 41... Let me do some quick math here.

[dog barks in background]

**Griffin:** Do you do math on your dog?

**Travis:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Griffin:** What the fuck? Is your dog also a ca—a quackulator?

**Travis:** Yeah. Uh, okay. So this has just become an eight-word-a-day calendar.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** No big deal.

**Travis:** Yeah. You can do that. Eight words a day? That's not bad! You could do that!

**Justin:** Some of them, you'll know.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** You've gotta look forward to that.

**Justin:** Some of them, you'll know.

**Griffin:** You know they throw in a page every, like, couple weeks or so where it's like, "Bus. Take it easy today."

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** "Bus is the long car that we all go in." Um, but then it's gonna get you right back into a long word, like hippopotamus.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** A toughie.

**Travis:** [laughs] A toughie to work into casual conversation. "Ah, yeah, hard day at work? Hey, Derek? Yeah, it's like a real hippopotamus out there."

**Griffin:** "Yeah. Did you guys see the bus this morning?"

**Justin:** [laughs]



**Travis:** [laughs] "That was like eight hippopotamuses all stacked, like, end to end, right?"

**Griffin:** "Big one!"

**Travis:** "Big one!"

**Griffin:** "Anyway. Um, hypotenuse. See ya!"

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Uh, y—I mean, I would just start crank—I would just pull up to your bedside, just start cranking through. You gotta see how it ends!

**Griffin:** Uh, yeah. I mean, there's probably a through line in there. I feel like word-a-day calendars is cheating, though, 'cause you should just get some, y'know, some big old books and find the words in 'em, like—y'know, like old-school style. Like a old book that you don't know, and you don't understand it, and so you read it and cheat on the Accelerated Reader test on it, and you pick up a few words from it that way.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I feel like that's a more organic... a more organic process.

**Travis:** Like, you picked up the words, like "treasure" and "island."

**Griffin:** I learned a lot of words from the Accelerated Reader test for Red Badge of Courage. So...

**Travis:** Here's the thing, though, Griffin. I would argue that if this question-asker does not have the time to look at the calendar every day, probably don't have the time to read...

**Griffin:** Red Badge of Courage?

**Travis:** ...big, thick, heavy... yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Uh, I mean, it's not the biggest book, but it is challenging.

**Travis:** Could you hire someone to yell a word at you every day that you don't know? Like, they find you...

**Griffin:** Why would they have to yell it?

**Travis:** ...after work or street—well, 'cause I just assumed that you'd be busy running to the next thing, and they would just, like, yell a big word at you as you ran by. "Pulchritudinous!"

**Griffin:** That would be cool, except they wouldn't tell you what it means, and it would scare everyone around you, and you wouldn't learn—

**Travis:** Well, I just said the word "pulchritudinous," and I don't know what it means.

**Griffin:** I think it means beautiful.

**Travis:** Does it? 'Cause it sounds kind of gross.

**Griffin:** Yes. It's the grossest-sounding word, but I think it means beautiful.

**Justin:** I don't think you should take on projects like this.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** I don't agree—I don't think you should do this. I got a—we got a puzzle-a-day calendar last Christmas, and we had a thing where we were writing, like, a memory, something that happened that day, on the back of it, and then putting it into a jar, right?

**Travis:** That's a lot of work.

**Justin:** And then—it's like a lot of work, right? And then it got to May, and by the time it got to May, like, fucking life, y'know? Like, life got in the way!

**Griffin:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Justin:** And it's like, "What happened to us three weeks ago?" Like, I don't know! And now we've got this sad jar with, like, four months of memories, and w—and I literally don't think I will have—the idea was supposed to be, at the end of the year, you get them all out, and you're like, "Remember when?" But I don't think I'll have the fucking guts to face this failed project...

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** ...come December! I'm gonna look at it, and just feel so hollow...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** ...about the months and months of unsaved memories. It's too depressing!

**Travis:** That's why I just live in the moment, and then forget about it.

**Griffin:** That's it! Move on. I—here's some honest-to-gosh stuff... don't sweat your, y'know, narrower vocabulary. I'm sure I know what the word pulchritudinous means, like I'm a real fucking Mensa, just fucking balling out all the time. Everyone thinks I'm so cool and smart.

But also, that can be insufferable. And so uh, just don't—don't, like—don't sweat it. You do you. Find the words—find the powerful words for you. If you don't know pulchritudinous, it's because you've already decided that that's not a powerful word for you.

**Travis:** You can just say, "beautiful."

**Griffin:** You can just say, "beautiful," or "hella pretty."

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And that could be—that felt awful coming out of my mouth. That felt like, just, I just sort of produced slugs out of my tongue, but it might sound super cool coming out of your mouth if you're, like, a badass skateboarder or something. Find your power words!

**Travis:** Yes. And here's the thing... let me tell you, this is a little Travis McElroy top tip here, and I am a little bit loathe to give this secret away, but if someone uses a big word, like Griffin, say uh, "That building is pulchritudinous."

**Griffin:** Um, that building is pulchichudinous.

**Travis:** Okay. Yeah! Like...

**Justin:** Oh, that's—that's cool, Trav, like not listening?

**Travis:** Yeah. No, I'm just saying, like, you don't have to then, like, say—like, you don't have to use it in a sentence. You're an adult. If someone says something's pulchritudinous, and then you're like, "I don't know what that means," like, you don't have to apologize for that. You don't even have to acknowledge it, if you don't want to. You can just say, like, "Okay, whatever. Anyways, what do you want for lunch?" Like...

**Justin:** Travis, I know that you feel like you're being helpful right now, but I assure you that you're not. I don't know how you've lulled yourself into a sense of feeling like this is good stuff that you're coming up with right now, but you're—you're not. You're not helping.

**Travis:** Well, play it the other way, my big man! You tell me a fancy word, and how you would deal with someone saying it to you, and—

**Justin:** You get me a fan—you get me a fancy word that I don't know.

**Travis:** Uh, let's say—I'm looking around Twitter here, not seeing any. Okay, give me a second one.

**Griffin:** [laughs] Uh, bupropion! I'm just looking around my desk, I'm just... sort of shooting it off the cuff.

**Justin:** What's that mean?

**Griffin:** Bupropion? Well, if you take one tablet by mouth twice a day, then it helps... [holding back laughter] sort of, the brain troubles, the ghosts—uh, the sort of specters.

**Justin:** Hell yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Thank you for sharing that with me. I appreciate you taking the time to do that.

**Travis:** Okay. That works too.

**Justin:** Do you think—now, do you think—Griffin?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Do you now think that I'm a normal human being, or a fucking sociopath?

**Griffin:** Uh, I think probably more normal than what Travis—

**Justin:** Okay. That's kind of like a more normal thing to do.

**Travis:** Listen, I'm saying—y'know what I've got? Confidence, boys! I don't need to learn any of your stupid words. Alright?

**Griffin:** The other—the other possibility is that you say, "Ooh, that building's so pulchritudinous," and then you say, "What does that mean?" and then they either say, "Oh, fuck, I don't know," or they say the wrong thing.

And congratulations, you've just wandered into the most delectable scenario imaginable. "Oh, for real? Oh, but you said it! Wow, for real, though? 'Cause you said it, like a big old English professor, like a big smart Egbert, huh? But you said it! Interesting."

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** That's not a power word. That's a weakness word. Do you guys want a Yahoo?

**Justin:** Yeah, I'd like that.

**Griffin:** We'll do a quick one. But this one was sent in by Katherine, it's by another anonymous Yahoo Answers user. Uh, I'm gonna call him uh, Jer-Bear asks, "My dog jumped at an elderly man on a walk, and made him fall over. I walked away quickly, and didn't look back. What will happen?"

**Travis:** Oh, no! Wait... hoo.

**Griffin:** "Update: Don't be funny; he's not dead. I didn't hear any ambulance in my neighborhood that day."

**Travis:** Oh, god.

**Griffin:** "Uh, I don't know exactly where he lives, but I haven't seen him since. Update—update three: It's been three days. I'm all clear. Thank God I got lucky."

**Travis:** [whispers] What?!

**Justin:** So what happened?

**Griffin:** Sorry, I'll start over. "My dog did jump at an elderly man on a walk, and made him fall over." Not great. Not a great start.

**Justin:** [laughs] Not great. Not great.

**Griffin:** "I walked away quickly and didn't look back." [shouting] Not great! Pretty not great! "What will happen?" But then, three days have passed, so, quote, "I'm all clear," smiley face emoticon. "Thank God I got lucky."

**Justin:** He's dead. [laughs] He's apparently dead.

**Travis:** Yeah. "He's dead, but I'm not being questioned with a connection."

**Griffin:** Listen, if we go that route, it's gonna be hard to play in the space. No ambulances were heard that day.

**Travis:** Well, here's what happened. This—the question-asker sold their dog up the river.

**Griffin:** Oookay.

**Travis:** "I told my dog not to jump on the old man! I said, 'Don't do it!' and he said, 'I'm gonna do it!' and I said, 'No! That's wrong!'"

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** So...

**Griffin:** [clicks tongue] You could say that there was coins floating above the old man that your dog was just trying to get 'em. And he got—he got bonked. And there's just no way around it.

**Justin:** The old man was cosplaying as his favorite character from the upcoming smash-hit movie, Cats. And that made the dog angry, because he hadn't seen it yet, and it felt like it had been spoiled for him.

**Griffin:** He's been trying to go in clean. He's been trying to go into the theater pure. And that's a shame, because boy, is that dog not gonna like that movie. This is about a bunch of tall cats, folks.

**Justin:** [laughs] He's thinking, "Surely, it can't be about cats."

**Travis:** "It's gotta be an ironic name."

**Justin:** "They—they wouldn't be that. Like, they know there's dogs out here, trying to see movies. There's no way it's just about cats. There's gotta be something we're missing."

**Griffin:** How's that um—how's that old gear box you got up—locked up in that skull work, that when your dog does jump up on the elderly man, and he does fall down, you just... dip?

**Travis:** [laughs] And don't look back.

**Griffin:** The not-looking-back is also troubling, Travis!

**Justin:** Yeah, very troubling.

**Griffin:** I would say, what's gonna happen? You're probably okay... here. I would hope that some sort of judgment, be it divine or karmic or whatever, awaits you. But you know what? It's been three days.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** It's probably fine.

**Travis:** But you know what? That old man knows!

**Justin:** Does he? 'Cause it seems like you played it off so well by walking away...

**Griffin:** Yeah. "What was that wild dog by itself?"

**Justin:** And loudly announcing, "Whose dog is doing this? Someone, please, come get this dog!"

**Travis:** "I see this dog is causing you issue. I'll grab his leash and take him away."

**Griffin:** Or—

**Justin:** You should—that's why you should always have a fake mustache in your pocket, so you can walk away very quickly, then come back with the fake mustache. Like, "Hi. Excuse me, is this dog causing you trouble?"



**Griffin:** "Oh, no, the dog—the dog has bound my wrist with this leash, and is tugging me along, and I am waiting for him to make poopies and pee-pees. Um, I do love him very much. I forget what I was doing. I am sorry about knocking you very over, though, old man. Do you need help? Whoa, you jumped back up by yourself! 'Cause you're very healthy, and there's nothing to be sad about in this question. We're having fun in the space."

**Justin:** Here's what I'll just say. Here's what I'll say, alright? I'm just gonna say this. Original sin. The thing to remember is, there is sin in this old man's heart.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** And he probably did deserve it for something he did, because all are fallible.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** And fall-able, it seems like, 'cause he did do that.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** A big one. But he's okay! So we can have fun with it.

**Justin:** [through laughter] It's not sad! It is not sa—we can't stress this enough. This is not a sad situation.

**Travis:** Oh, wait, I'm getting a call. Oh, it's from the old man! Oh, when he fell down, he found a hundred dollars on the ground!

**Griffin:** Cool!

**Justin:** Aw, that's great!

**Travis:** Oh, it says here, "I'm really glad—" wait, let me scroll down... oh, "...the dog knocked me down. I'm healthier than I was before." Huh.

**Justin:** [laughs] It knocked my hip back in the joint.

**Travis:** "I adopted the dog as my son!"

**Griffin:** Oh, shit. Ring, ring! Ring, ring!

**Justin:** Wow.

**Griffin:** Oh, guys, hold on, I got a phone call. Beep! Hello?

**Travis:** Oh, okay.

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] It's me, the old dog man."

Hi, old dog man. How are you—how are you feeling? We're really worried about you.

**Travis:** Hey, Griffin, we can't hear him. Could you patch him in?

**Griffin:** [makes beeping noise] "[elderly voice] Hey, it's me, the old dog man."

**Travis:** Oh, hey!

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] Yep, just wanted to say, that darn dog did knock me over, and I thought I was gonna go up and hang out with Jesus and old Rebecca, and uh—but I'll tell you about old Rebecca later. We don't have that many Skype minutes."

**Travis:** I understand.

**Justin:** [laughing quietly]

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] But it's—I fell down, right on my fucking sacroiliac, and popped it right back into place."

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] Look out—look out, tap dancing stage, 'cause dog man's coming."

**Justin:** [laughs] Are you gonna—are you gonna perform as dog man? Will that be your sort of stage identity?

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] Well, that's my name, isn't it? And I tell you about all of my sin."

**Justin:** [through laughter] The first act is him admitting all of his worldly sin, so by the end of the first act, you're like, "Someone, please stomp this old man to the ground!"

**Griffin:** "[elderly voice] Tippy—tippy-tapping all the way. Goodbye, sin."

**Justin:** [through laughter] "Someone, please find a fucking dog—some hero dog, come please fuck up this old, sinful man!" [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] So this has been My Brother, My Brother and Me. It's an advice show. We're helping! This has all helped, hasn't it?

**Travis:** Yup!

**Justin:** I'm glad we could help. Um, we uh, we're done touring for the year, so this is normally where we'd tell you to come see us, but we're not gonna be out and about, sadly.

**Griffin:** Uh, yeah, for a bit now, we're taking a bit of a break as uh, Travis and Teresa are expecting. And so we're just gonna kind of chill on it for—

**Travis:** What?!

**Griffin:** Yeah. Just gonna chill on it for a little bit, but thanks to everybody who came out. Um, we got a bunch of stuff at McElroy.family that you can

check out, even if it's not tickets for our live, sort of, performances. So... you know, new stuff every month! Throwing them up.

**Justin:** Got Candlenights merch in there.

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Justin:** If you want Candlenights merch, we got candles and pins and—there's no candles, but there's [laughs] pictures of candles. Uh, pins, ornaments, all kinds of fun stuff!

**Travis:** Uh, speaking of new stuff, you can go to uh, TheAdventureZoneComic.com, if you haven't already, and preorder uh, The Adventure Zone: Balance graphic novel book three, uh, coming out in July. But you can preorder it now, and then not have to worry about it again!

**Griffin:** 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. Great album, great tunes, um, great riffs on that one, and a super powerful chorus. There's a few good choruses on there.

And thanks to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can check out all the shows on Maximum Fun, like uh, Beef and Dairy Network and Switchblade Sisters, and a whole lot more at MaximumFun.org.

And y'all want that final?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Here's the final Yahoo. This one was sent in by Graham Robuck. Thanks, Graham. It's Yahoo Answers User Patty, who says, "Does anyone think the comedy bits on Pawn Stars is made up?"

**Travis:** [laughs]

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

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

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

[theme music plays]'

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**Jesse:** Hey, it's Jesse Thorn. We're very happy to announce that tickets for MaxFunCon 2020 will go on sale Friday, November 29th, at 11:00 AM Pacific. I also want to let you know, this coming year, MaxFunCon 2020 will be our last MaxFunCon for the foreseeable future. For 2020 and beyond, we're gonna be looking for ways to connect with more of you in person, and spread the spirit of Max Fun farther than it's ever gone before.

In the meantime, if you want to join us at the last MaxFunCon in Lake Arrowhead, June 12<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>, you can find details at [MaxFunCon.com](https://www.MaxFunCon.com).