

MBMBaM 432: Hand Dog and Face Cat

Published on November 5th, 2018

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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: [singing] Frankenstein was the first in line, the wolf-man came up next. Dracula was a-doing his stuff...

Justin and Travis: [singing] ... breathing down my neck.

Justin: [singing] Jump back, make tracks, here comes a hunchback, better get out of his way. Fee fee, fi fi, fo fo, fum, it was a monster's holiday.

[spoken] Hey, folks. Welcome to part three of our Halloween 2018...

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: ... cele—sale-ebration [celebration]. The prices—

Griffin: Skull-ebration. Justin, can I—skull-ebration.

Travis: Skull-ebration, please.

Justin: See, well, I said sale-ebration because we slashed prices on all the late model Fords that we've got cluttering up our showroom floor.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: We gotta make room for the 2020s, people. The 2020s are coming in.

Travis: We got Ford Cadillacs, we got Ford Priuses, we got Ford Lincolns. We got all the Fords here.

Justin: We got the new Ford Prius, it runs on hate.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: That one's coming in. That one's coming in at 36 large. You can walk out of the showroom in it for 34 dollars, and then that one's yours. You're gonna drive that puppy home today. Bad credit, no credit, [through laughter] reverse credit.

Travis: Mm-hm. My credit, your credit.

Griffin: Oh, shit. We owe *you* money. Aw, damn. We're a bad business.

Travis: With prices so low, it's scaaary!

Justin: Please come in and let us settle our debts with you. [laughs]

Travis: Please.

Justin: Please. We owe you a car.

Travis: We feel so guilty. That time when you saved our life, we owe you this car. Please.

Griffin: Hey, come on in. We just refilled the soda machine, and now we got hot dogs.

Travis: Please, come in. We froze Griffin in a block of ice, so that you would come look at him.

Griffin: Uh-oh, I'm frozen, let me out! They didn't add a pee hole!

Travis: Oh, no!

Griffin: It's just filling up! You've gotta say your fucking name and the name of the show. I am in hell.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy, and I'm the oldest [spooky voice] broo-ther.

Travis: Okay.

[through laughter] My name is Travis McElroy, and I am the middlest broo-ther.

Justin: Come up with your own thing.

Travis: Well, you didn't really come up with your own [laughs] thing, so...

Griffin: I'm your youngest broo-ther, and 30 big skeletons, Griffin McElroy.

Justin: 30 big skeletons sitting on each other's shoulders and driving a late model Honda that's gotta get out of this showroom!

Travis: We're out of room! Between all the skeletons and these late-model Hondas and Fords, and Ford Hondas, we need you to come take some of them, 'cause they're in the bathroom, and we haven't been able to use the bathroom for weeks!

Justin: Folks, if you don't come buy these cars, these 30 tiny skeletons sitting on each other shoulders, dressed in a trench coat, are gonna come take 'em all, and I—I hate it. [laughs] I hate it when they're around.

Griffin: We don't know how to drive, but we'll *Gone in 60 Seconds* your ass and your whole family's ass.

Travis: Yes. Please, please come. And listen, we'll give you the money directly. No need to go through a *blood* bank!

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Well.

Travis: I think that was a 30-second radio spot.

Justin: And this is also an advice show for the modern era. Uh...

Griffin: We're pump-kin 'em full of gas before you take 'em off the lot.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] We're pump-kin 'em full of gas.

Travis: That's really good! Do you think people are confused because when they're listening to this, it is November 5th?

Justin: Yeah. So you do want to vote tomorrow, but we figure a lot of people, a lot of famous people that you trust are telling you to do that, and you should obviously do that, and future us is probably telling you to do that as well, but past us, it's the 31st and we're just trying to fucking kick it. [laughs] For like a second, if you could just let us kick it.

Travis: Fucking—people talk about Christmas for weeks and weeks and weeks.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Before and after—not after, though, Trav. To be fair, not after, usually. You don't normally hear people mid-January like, "Damn, I love Jesus and his birthday!" singing at all his miracles.

Travis: I feel like there is a window between the 25th and the 1st where you can still have some remnant Christmas.

Justin: The week between.

Travis: Yes, of course.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: The dead zone.

Justin: Yes. And we are—we have as many late model Fords and Hondas as we need.

Travis: Accepting no trade-ins.

Justin: No trade-ins.

Griffin: There's one Mazda on the lot. If you find the Mazda, it's yours.

Justin: [laughing] For free.

Please, if you find a red sports car with a giant grill that looks like a mouth, that is a teenager that we are waiting to cool off.

[clapping]

Justin: He will transform back. Please don't buy this Turbo-Teen.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: We are getting so late in the year to make our *Turbo-Teen* reference for 2018. Thank God we got there!

Griffin: When the Turbo-Teen transforms back... We always focus on the one transformation into the car.

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: If there's a—if there's someone driving...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ... the Turbo-Teen when he transforms back, does the Turbo-Teen just absorb them, or does he...

Travis: The word is "digest," Griffin.

Justin: [laughs] The word is "digest."

Griffin: Well, or is it just like he is standing in human form, but he has, like, two sets of every appendage? You know what I mean? A real Zaphod Beeblebrox situation.

Travis: As he transforms back at the end, you're just left with, like, your finger in his mouth.

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: Yeah. So then, it's just, like, awkward.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: But it's fine.

Griffin: But if his finger's spicy, if he just ate some Flamin' Hot Cheetos, here I go again, on my own!

Travis: And then he's back in and driving. That's actually the only way to get in to boycar.

Griffin: Mm-hm. That's the keys.

Justin: If you're taking a long road trip with your friend Turbo-Teen, you just have to keep sticking your spicy finger into his mouth every 20 minutes.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Are there times when Turbo-Teen regains consciousness, and he's naked on a highway with oncoming traffic coming at him, 'cause he didn't get spicy foods?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: What happens—

Griffin: If Turbo-Teen car gets in a crash, and then transforms back into human, what's he look like? Is he all messed up? Does he get all jacked up?

Travis: If he has a bladder infection, and it burns when he pees, does he turn into a Turbo-Car?

Justin: I don't remember any of this show, but I do wonder what kind of mysteries or adventures they were having, since like, a bunch of teens and their one friend who's a car sometimes are equally as, like, threatening as a bunch of teens, one of whom is rich enough to own a car.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: 'Cause that's basically, their superpower is [holding back laughter] they know how to get a car for a second.

Travis: The only superpower I could imagine Turbo-Teen having is, like, one of the bad guys lifts him up, and while he is above the bad guy's head, he eats a pepper.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Eats a buffalo tender.

Travis: Squish.

Griffin: Crushes his gourd.

Justin: Squish.

Do you—this is gonna freak you guys out.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Did you know that there were exactly [laughs] and only 13 episodes of *Turbo-Teen* ever made?

Travis: Really?

Justin: [holding back laughter] We have probably talked more about *Turbo-Teen* than it would take you to watch the entirety of—

Griffin: The entire duration of the program.

Justin: From September 8th, 1984, to December 1st, 1984, and that's it, folks! That's the ball game. That's all you got out of *Turbo-Teen*, which will be, let me run the math, 35 years old!

Griffin: Damn. It's older than me.

Travis: Now, hold on. You said '84? So I have—I was only about a year old. Griffin was still two years away from being born. How do I know about this show? Just from you telling me about it when you were four, Justin?

Justin: Uh, I guess—I guess I was just wild about it, and telling this baby that lives in my house about the car that can transform into a person, I guess.

Griffin: I got a reboot, and it's about a grandpa that whenever he eats sour food, turns into a helicopter.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Ooh, that's pretty good! What if—

Griffin: Oh, wait, wait—

[crosstalk]

Justin: What's it called? What is it called?

Griffin: Please let me title it. It's called *Choppa-Papa*.

Justin: *Choppa-Papa*.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yes. Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

Justin: Oh, boy. That's very good.

Griffin: Or *Sky Grandpa*.

Justin: *Sky*—[laughs] *Sky Grandpa* sounds like when you've retranslated it back from the Japanese title.

Griffin: Overseas, it will be known as *Sky Grandpa*. But here? *Choppa-Papa*.

Travis: What if we did a crossover event, we set the reboot in the world of Pixar's *Cars*...

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: ... and this'll be, like, whenever Mater eats some cold food, he turns into a man.

Griffin: Oh, I would love to see that. I would love to see what just a human looks like in that world.

Should we do advice? 'Cause it's been almost 10 minutes now. I'm starting to get a little antsy... that it's gonna be one of *those* episodes.

Justin: "My boss and I were working on a project on my computer, and she asked me to bookmark a link." Probably for Murder.com, or Ghosts.org, or something spooky.

Travis: Something like that. Haunted.pizza.

Justin: Haunted.pizza. Hey—oh, hold on, real quick, sorry, stop the podcast.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Jesus Christ.

Justin: Gotta get—sorry—hey, Griffin? Hey, Griffin?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Can you stop the podcast?

Griffin: Yeah, I'll pause it.

Justin: Go ahead and—everybody, stop your podcasts, please, and that is—I—yeah, okay, folks, 38 dollars. I don't mind if I do! Haunted.pizza is *your* home.

Travis: Yes! We got it!

Justin: We got it, folks. Everybody relax. Haunted.pizza is your home for the latest and greatest in podcast-ing.

Okay. So I got Haunted.pizza; let's move on.

Griffin: How do you do that so fucking fast? That was not edited. That—Justin really did that *that* fast. It's wild.

Travis: Do you just keep it open when we record? Do you just have, like, the cursor over the box, to enter in?

Justin: I'm just always logged into our—I'm just always logged into our domain host, and I...

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: ... and then I know the interface like the back of my hand at this point.

Griffin: Yeah, at this point, I would say.

Travis: Is that—has that domain host—do they call you now, and they're like, "Hey, are you okay? We're worried about you"?

Justin: No, they're like, "You're gonna be rich someday when Teen Google pays off."

And I'm like, "Yeah, I know."

"My boss—"

Griffin: At what point... did the bank stop calling you for fraud alerts?

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Right around the time that I sold them PressXToJason.com to redirect to Fifth Third.

Uh, anyway. Okay, so, boss, working on a project, computer, bookmark a link. "When I did, the computer gave me the option to put the bookmark in one of the bookmark folders that I have set up. The first folder on my list is labeled, 'meats.' My boss saw the name of the folder, and said, 'Meats?'" M-E-A-T-S, by the way, "and then chuckled. I didn't think anything of it, 'cause the folder was full of links about different game meat vendors that I have been researching for a Christmas present.

"After a few minutes, I realized that my boss likely thought that my 'meats' folder was a cheekily named folder where I keep all of my porn links. By then, enough time had passed, I couldn't backtrack and explain the name of the folder without looking like [holding back laughter] I was trying to cover up having a folder of porn links.

"So, brothers, what's the best way to casually convey to my boss that I don't have a folder of porn on my work computer without making it seem like a 'methinks he doth protest too much' situation?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's from Not a Dirty Bird in Brooklyn.

Griffin: Alright. I mean, you—you—it's—you can't fix this! You cannot fix this! Because you could say, like, "No, no, no, come back here and look at my game meats folder. You're going to love it. I have so many venisons."

And they're just gonna think that you fucking changed it since they were last there.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Because that is a really wild sort of—like, I—usually, I don't take it on this tack our listeners, but I think you're lying. I do think you uh...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I do think you have [mispronouncing] porno-graphy in there, and then now you're like, protesting too much that you, like, had to email the entire universe, by way of our show, about it.

Justin: I um... [sighs] Man, this is tough. You should s—this is something that other people can learn from. You shouldn't overthink things. You should just sort of say... whatever the obvious thing is, sometimes, you know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You don't have to overthink it. Sometimes, if somebody questions something, you shouldn't get too lost in the pros and cons and the whys and wherefores and why not—just say, "I'm going to buy meat for Christmas."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And do say that specifically. Don't say, "It's rela—it—uh, I'm shopping for Christmas presents for you, so I can't tell you about it," 'cause that does seem uh, non-legit.

Griffin: Yeah. Um, hey, why are you bookmarking a bunch of meat for a present? Is this—I have never worked this hard for a present in my entire life.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Having a bookmarks folder.

Travis: How many different options are you looking at that you can't keep track of 'em in your head?

Griffin: Yeah. That's wild...

Justin: I don't believe you. [bursts into laughter]

Griffin: Yeah, it's not true. It's a falsehood.

Justin: I kinda was thinking about it, I was trying to give you the benefit of the doubt with—just—I don't believe you, kind of. I don't actually believe... what you're saying. I think that the boss caught you.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Here's a—I—okay. If I could back up for a second, I'm sorry that I got so suspicious of you. I thank you for your support over the years. I assume that you're going to MaximumFun.org/donate, and giving money to the show, and I so appreciate that. Thank you.

Griffin: I'll believe you if you do that. That's easy.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, it's an easy one. It's a slam dunk.

Um, I don't know that your boss necessarily thinks it's a porn thing. Uh, because that would be wild to have a folder on your computer called "meats," and that's for porn. That's, like, very close—that's barely a—that's a semi-cloak. That's not even actually cloaking it.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Everybody's porn links are in the same directory, and it's labeled "productivity and finance... "

Travis: [laughs] "Spreadsheets for business."

Justin: [laughs] It's definitely not...

Griffin: Or simply "media."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: 'Cause that's not a lie. It's not inaccurate. It's not an inaccurate sort of filing mechanism.

Travis: The only reason you would label the folder "meats," is if you're trying to be sneaky, but also you know how forgetful you are, like, you also make your password "password123." And you're like, "Well, I wanna *hide* my porn links, but I don't wanna lose 'em."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Uh, I don't think there's anything you can do except, oh my gosh, if you get your boss a meat for Christmas...

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Justin: ... when you give them the gift, you say, "Do you—this is gonna sound wild, but do you remember when you saw a directory called 'meats' on my computer?" This is assuming you haven't been summarily fired. "Uh,

you remember when you saw that directory? That was what this was for. I couldn't tell you back then, but—"

'Cause then it seems like commitment. It doesn't seem like you're backpedaling. It seems like you are committed to surprising everybody [holding back laughter] with some great meat.

Griffin: And they're gonna say, "Uh, this is Hillshire Farm sliced roast beef that you got from Kroger's."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: It was pornography. Just own it! Own it! It's fine if it was.

Travis: Can I offer a very drastic solution to this, even more commitment? You're gonna have to go into work tomorrow, quit, and then announce that you're leaving to become a butcher.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And that you've been dreaming of this for months, and it's time that you've finally committed to your lifelong passion, butchering.

Justin: Perfect.

Griffin: Yeah. That should work too. Either one, we've given you a lot of good stuff to go on. How about a Yahoo?

Justin: I'd love that. Thank you so much.

Griffin: I got a good one here, and it's from Alex P., and it's from Yahoo Answers User Akash, and we've never really done one like this, but I thought it would be a fun sort of conversation starter on this light and loose uh, third Halloween episode of the year.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Uh, Akash—Akash asks, "Would you rather have a cat with a human face, or a dog with human hands instead of paws?"

Travis: Mm.

Justin: A cat with a—[sighs] a cat with a human face...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: Or...

Travis: Still meows, should we assume?

Griffin: Let's—let's—let Justin finish, because that—Travis just brought up something that's gonna really change the dynamic.

Justin: A cat with a human face, or a dog with human hands instead of paws?

Griffin: Correct.

Justin: And feet? Or four hands?

Travis: Yeah, that's—that was my other question.

Griffin: It just says—yeah. Yeah, it just says "hands instead of paws," so I was assuming two. But it could be four.

Travis: No, it has to be just two. I can almost wrap my mind around that, but there's something about it having four hands...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... that's really—'cause I can see the dog then, maybe, walking on its hind legs, and having hands a la, like, the funny dog from *Family Guy*. But, like...

Griffin: Oh, I love him! I love him!

Travis: I love him. I love the way he drinks.

But the idea of four human hands plodding around on the ground...

Griffin: So many. It's more than I have. It's more than I have, and therefore he would pose a threat to—to me and my family's safety.

I mean, he's going to with two hands. Four hands, we're all done. Right?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: This is so tough, because it's like, the Face Cat is gonna be no good, especially if it talks human language. That's no good! That is... s'bad.

Travis: Sometimes I'll be, like, peeing, right? And like, the cat will be in the bathroom because that is where her food bowl is, and she'll look at me. And it's fine, 'cause she's a cat. But now, imagine that that was a human face.

Justin: Yeah, that's rough. It is rough. It's gonna look—and the thing is, the law of doppelgangers says that it will look exactly like somebody on Earth, and we don't know who. It could be anybody. What if it looks like Hugh Jackman?

Travis: What if it looks like my brother, Justin?

Justin: What if it looks like Justin dressed as Wolverine?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's impossible to say.

I want to give a counterpoint. Like, 'cause this is eventually a very good question, I think, at this point.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: The problem I have with dog with hands is this: you've created this crime, right? This crime against the natural order that's sure to live in a lot of—I mean, a lot of spiritual and sort of existential pain. And what you've done is, in addition to making it monster—more monster than canine, you've also given it all the equipment it needs to use a gun.

And that I hate. That I hate. I hate the part that it can now use tools, and including tools, one of those tools being a gun, that it can use to take vengeance on you for willing it into existence. And I hate that part.

Griffin: Face Cat, you have not made more lethal by creating it. There is no choice. It is Face Cat. You must choose Face Cat.

Travis: [hesitant noise]

Griffin: Hand Dog will kill you. Hand Dog will kill you for making it, Face Cat will try to kill you, but will have no, like, enhanced lethality.

Not only that, like, Face Cat's gonna suck to be around, and you gotta be around it, 'cause you can't throw it out, 'cause it has a human face, right?

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: But dog—Hands Dog, if it doesn't kill you, it's still gonna get up to no good. He has a dog's brain, so maybe he won't think to kill you, maybe he still loves you 'cause he's got a dog brain, but he also has a dog brain and he has a dog hunger, so he's gonna go in the—the kitchen, and—you know, eat all the lunch meats.

And you can't tell him no. That's like telling a roommate, like, "No, you can't eat the lunch meat." But they have human hands, so they're gonna do what the fuck they wanna do.

Travis: But that's assuming that, then, Hand Dog is capable of utilizing the hands. 'Cause right now, it's not like my dog with her paws is walking up and trying, and getting frustrated 'cause it doesn't work.

Griffin: No, come on.

Justin: They can shake, though. They can shake. They can stand on their hind legs and use the hand to shoot a gun. No question.

Griffin: No question.

Travis: Oh, fuck. But you've just made me—that—that sealed the deal right there. The idea of doing, like, shake with a dog that has human hands? No, no, no.

Justin: A full, meaty sailor's hand just extending out and taking yours? No, thanks.

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

Justin: I can't—I can't have... a cat with a human face, though. I don't want that either.

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: You—'cause it—

Travis: Cat eyes or human eyes?

Justin: Okay. Can it talk?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: [laughs] I'm out. I'm so fucking out.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: I'm actually—I have less of a problem with that.

Justin: It can talk, and it sounds exactly like Lorenzo Music. Yes. Now I'm in it.

Griffin: I love that. Now I'm back in. Does it eat cat food? I'm back out again! I don't wanna see that.

Travis: Nope. That's the thing: if the cat can talk, then at the very least, I can A, apologize...

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... and B, like, that—like, I get that.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: But if it just has a human face that meows, I'm always gonna be looking at it, thinking, "Do you understand—like, do you know? Do you know what's happening right now? Like, are you watching me? Do you hate me? What's happening?"

Griffin: And I don't wanna see what the human face looks like when the cat makes brown in the litter box.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: I don't wanna have to confront that.

Travis: Or catches a mouse.

Griffin: Or catches a mouse, and—oh, no, Trav!

Travis: Yeah. Or licks itself.

Justin: But you can—

Griffin: All that.

Justin: Put... sunglasses...

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: ... on it... and... come on.

Travis: But you can put mittens on the dog!

Griffin: The only reason I'm going Face Cat—Face Cat sucks unilaterally, but it won't try and kill me like Hand Dog! I'm done! It's Face Cat for life.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I—[sighs] I can't. Griffin, you have to—

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Okay. You—the dog won't want to kill you, probably. The cat will have the face of Rush Limbaugh, definitely.

And it'll just be waiting for you in the dark, all the t—imagine, Griffin, imagine that you wake up at 3 o'clock in the morning 'cause you need to get some Imodium, and you walk into the hall, and who's that waiting for you? It's the face of Joe Pantoliano, trotting towards you, sashaying back and forth from your cat's body!

Travis: And what if it can talk, but it can just say, "Hey," in a human voice, over and over again?

Griffin: No, don't try to take the legs out from under this. It talks. It talks human. I can have a conversation with it. I work from home, I'm lonely, now I want Face Cat. Now, it's not "I don't want Hand Dog;" now, it's "I want Face Cat very badly."

Science, make me a Face Cat.

Justin: [holding back laughter] You want a cat that's just like other cats, except it screams, "Why am I?" at the top of its little lungs.

Travis: [laughs] "Why have you done this, creator?"

Griffin: He'll scream that for a bit, but then he'll be into it. It'll be fun.

Justin: Acceptance therapy.

Travis: Is it like a full human head, or just the face?

Justin: That is a great—it looks like a cat—like Mario in a tanuki suit, right? For sure.

Griffin: Yeah, that's pretty good.

Now, Hand Dog, can this guy play uh, guitar?

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Ooh.

Justin: I don't think the hands would be—maybe ukulele is the—is maybe the best, I think.

Griffin: Alright. Now, we're coming—see, now I'm trying to frame this like, "Which one do I want very badly more?" Not "Which one is the least bad?"

And if you look at it that way, I'm kind of torn!

Travis: What's his words per minute, you know?

Griffin: Does he know how to—can he edit a podcast?

Travis: Can he edit a podcast? Yes. Can he use Squarespace? Probably; it's very user friendly.

Griffin: Now, hold on, though. When he cranks it, does he use his human hands?

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm back to Face Cat. Hi, Face Cat!

Justin: Welcome back, Griffin.

Travis: See, Griffin, what if his voice wasn't that, like, beautiful baritone?

Griffin: He's still not gonna jerk it with human hands. I'm—I'm good. I'm good. Face Cat. Camp Face Cat for life.

Travis: I'm gonna have to—I think I'm going Hand Dog. Hand Dog plus mittens, I'm okay with it.

Griffin: See, that's cruel, though. That's cruel. 'Cause you've not only transformed him into a complete monster, you have sort of taken away the only, like, agency that you have given him at—in this monstrous form. That's the most fucked up option, Travis.

Travis: Okay, the mittens won't be an all-the-time thing.

Justin: Well, I mean, when it's cold, right? Just like a human.

Travis: Sure.

Justin: God, I feel like—I feel like I felt such strong conviction both ways at this point, and I—and I feel—I mean, I'm glad neither, but I'm sad both. You know what I mean? Does that make sense?

Travis: I do.

Justin: Like, it seems like if the world is gonna make one of them, it should have to make both of them.

Griffin: Both of them.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Like, they should have to be friends or in the same house, or whatever.

Where are we at? I mean, let's just take a vote.

Travis: I could love Hand Dog.

Justin: No, let's just take a vote. I want to take a vote.

Griffin: I already love Face Cat.

Justin: Griffin votes Face Cat. Travis.

Travis: I vote Hand Dog.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Tiebreaker. And the other one dies, so...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: The problem is, I already have two faces that are very dependent on me and my journey. And I don't know that I need a third face, no matter what it's attached to, truly. I don't need a third face that's sort of dependent on me and sort of needing my guidance and expertise and wisdom and coddling and—and what-have-you.

Griffin: Mm.

Travis: I think it's very beautiful, Justin, that you're counting your children's faces, but not your own.

Justin: Well, nor my wife's, 'cause they're not dependents. I'm saying that I have two babies that live in my house.

Travis: I mean, your face is pretty dependent on you. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, you do need to feed your own face, my pal.

Justin: Yeah, but I'm saying that these faces—these two—it's like a third child.

Griffin: I get what you're saying. You hate my f—you hate my fucking precious baby.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I get what you're saying, Justin. Go ahead and say it. "I'm a Hand—" say, "I'm a Hand-Dog idiot."

Justin: It's just like, I'm an introvert, kind of, by nature, and I'm like, trading away those precious moments of solitude.

Griffin: Okay. Have fun getting strangled by a dog, you two jerks.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Have fun getting strangled by a dog. Have fun—

Travis: He doesn't have human arms!

Griffin: Yeah, that's fine. No, yeah, yeah.

Travis: I'm still stronger!

Justin: He doesn't have the power of the human arms. I don't even think that it could bend them in a way—like, I don't think [holding back laughter] he can flex the hands...

Griffin: Sure, yeah, yeah. No, he could totally, yeah, just inject poison into your neck while you're asleep or—there's a lot of different ways.

Travis: Where is he getting poison?

Griffin: No, have fun. I'll just do the podcast by myself, 'cause you two have been killed by your dumb dogs that you wanted to get instead of my cool Face Cat who looks like Joey Pants. You stinkers.

Justin: Face Cat—Joey Pants Face Cat could—could talk anyone into murdering you, though. Like, it's a cat—

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It's a cat with a mouth, and that mouth, like—"pen is mightier than the sword" kind of thing, like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... that cat could lead a rebellion. It could create sort of a Krang suit around itself.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, absolutely.

Justin: Look, I'm as surprised as anybody, but uh, we're gonna have to take a break at this point, and uh...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: ... go to the uh, the proverbial Money Zone!

[the middle of (It's a) Departure by The Long Winters plays]

Travis: I want to tell you about ZipRecruiter.

Griffin: Mm-hm!

Travis: You gotta hire people for stuff. Look around you, you have all the cubicles set up, you bought the coffee, you have all the spreadsheets ready

to be filled in, but what did you forget? You forgot to hire people. And you know what's not smart? The way hiring used to be, or like, job sites that overwhelm you with tons of the wrong resume.

I'll tell you what is smart: going to [ZipRecruiter.com/MyBrother](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/MyBrother)! ZipRecruiter's powerful matching technology finds the right people for you, and actively invites them to apply. You're not just waiting. You're not just waiting. They say, "Hey, you're perfect. Get in here." So it's no wonder that ZipRecruiter is rated number one by employers in the US, and this rating comes from hiring sites on Trustpilot with over 1,000 reviews.

And right now, our listeners can try ZipRecruiter for free at [ZipRecruiter.com/MyBrother](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/MyBrother). That's [ZipRecruiter.com/MyBrother](https://www.ziprecruiter.com/MyBrother).

Griffin: Would the face on the cat... age... in relation to the cat's body?

Travis: The cat never dies. Nor does the dog.

Griffin: Okay. 'Cause that—just thinking about it getting old and wrinkly very, very fast just kind of bummed me out. But if it's eternal, then um, that's better. Can I tell you all about Casper, though?

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: They are fantastic. They have the mattresses. They have the mattresses that you need, they are the mattresses that you want, they're the mattresses that you crave. Delicious, scrumptious...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: The mattress you deserve.

Justin: On the table?

Griffin: Mm, they are so good. They are—we're supported by Casper this week. They're a sleep brand that continues to revolutionize its line of

products to create an exceptionally comfortable sleep experience one night at a time.

They got, uh, affordable prices 'cause they cut out the middle man, and sell directly to you. We, I think, all have Casper mattresses at this point, and uh, my guests, when they stay at our house, get rave reviews when they—well, they give them.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: But they also get them. Before they lay down on the bed, I say, "Listen, here's how good this bed's gonna be."

Travis: Oh, I thought you meant you look at them, and you say, "Let me tell you how great *you* are."

Griffin: "You're doing great," but Charles M. from Des Moines says, "This cat—this mattress is da bomb! Five stars." So good—look forward to it.

Their mattresses combine multiple supportive memory foams for a quality sleep surface with the right amounts of both sink and bounce. You can be sure of your purchase with Casper's 100-night risk-free sleep-on-it trial.

And you can get 50 dollars towards select mattresses by visiting Casper.com/Brother, and using the promo code "brother" at checkout. Terms and conditions apply!

Justin: Uh, how about another message here from Jenny, and it's for Peter, and it goes a little something like this.

"Happy meet-iversary, Peter!" Now, this one I'm gonna be real clear, and say it's M-E-E-T-iversary, Peter. "You are so wonderful, and every moment with you is pure magic. Thank you for introducing me to *MBMBaM*, *Sawbones*, and *Wonderful!*. I'm super excited for our next laughs, adventure and cuddles in the coming years. I cannot wait to marry you. I love you to the moon and back." And that is so sweet, and was supposed to be read... uh, eight months ago, but it's still so sweet, is the thing about it.

Travis: And you know what else is sweet? Like, *Sawbones* is good, *Wonderful!* is good, but have you tried *Shmanners*?

Justin: Mm.

Griffin: Mmm.

Travis: That message comes to us from Travis.

Griffin: Yeah, pay me and Justin 100 dollars right now.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I will in kisses.

Griffin: No, Venmo me 100 fucking dollars right now, you creep.

Justin: [laughs] You know, I'm gonna do the other one, too, 'cause that's how I—I'm gonna do it. It's for Dylan, and it's from your cat, Special Boy.

Griffin: Uhh, uh-oh.

Travis: Oh, no, no, no.

Justin: [huskily] "Meow... Hello, I love you. Sorry I don't understand 'soft paws,' and break the 'no slapping' rule constantly. Also, sorry for running out the front door all the time. The hallway's just so interesting, but also scary. So please, continue to rescue me... Meow... "

Travis: Oh, no, no, no, no.

Griffin: That's great. How did the cat get the money to...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Can Face Cat get a job in, like, customer service?

Justin: [bursts into laughter]

Griffin: Yeah!

[claps]

Griffin: I'm all about that.

Justin: I love this crazy cat.

Travis: But then—but then Hand Dog could totally be a typist or...

Griffin: Manual labor!

Travis: An electrician.

Griffin: For sure.

Travis: This is what I'm saying: not enough people are interested in manual labor jobs like mechanic, and plumber, and electrician. Hand Dog could fill in that more!

Justin: It is—it is starting to raise the question of, "Which one could move out?" [laughing] Which is usually desirable.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Which one could become autonomous, and not my problem? Yeah, sure.

Justin: I feel like—I feel like Face Cat is gonna be able to get a Social Security Number much easier...

Griffin: yeah.

Justin: ... than Hand Dog [laughs] would, right?

Travis: Hand Dog could drive!

Griffin: No, here's what—here's what it's gonna be in the eyes of the law, and this is it. This is a dog with human hands. This is a human with a cat body.

Travis: [laughs] Oh! Oh, you're right. Oh, shit.

Justin: Yeah. It's true.

Griffin: He has a passport now, 'cause he's a human with a cat body. We can't discrim—but I'm not gonna give a passport to a fucking dog. No—this far, no further.

[advertisement plays]

[music, "Baby You Change Your Mind" by the Nouvellas, plays in background]

Raleigh: I'm Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Sydnee: And together, we host a podcast called *Still Buffering*, where we answer questions like...

Raleigh: Why should I not fall asleep first at a slumber party?

Taylor: How do I be fleek?

Sydnee: Is it okay to break up with someone using emojis?

Taylor: And sometimes we talk about butts!

Raleigh: No, we don't! Nope. [laughs]

Taylor: Find out the answers to these important questions, and many more, on *Still Buffering*: a sisters' guide to teens through the ages.

Raleigh: I am a teenager...

Taylor and Sydnee: ... and I... was... too.

Taylor: [quietly] Butts, butts, butts, butts!

Raleigh: No! [laughs]

[music ends]

[advertisement ends]

Justin: "My husband and I live in a small, haunted apartment building with just six units, mostly occupied by other couples and also some ghosts. We've lived here for seven years, and have become friendly with some of the other tenants, occasionally having meals or cocktails at each other's places.

"Here's my dilemma: when I'm at another tenant's place, and I have to use the bathroom, should I use the one there, or leave and use my own, mere steps away?" Oh! Huh! "Of course, I want the sweet, sweet security of my own porcelain haven, but is that weird, or even insulting? So far, I've just held it, and waited until I got home." This is the right answer.

"Usually, when we socialize with other tenants, it's just us and the other couples, so it's not like a party situation where I could just slip out and back unnoticed. Help me." There's No Place Like Home in San Francisco.

Griffin: This one—this is so easy. Can we just move on to the next—'cause it—you can give—you can give a nearby guest your pee-pee, but you can't give him your poo-poo.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: If it's a poo-poo, you have to go home and do it there. If it's a pee-pee, you do it wherever you want.

Travis: I'm so glad we agree, Griffin!

Griffin: Yeah. Because—we've dealt with that with our hotel rules. If you're, like, hanging out in a friend's hotel room and yours is, you know, 20 feet away, you can give them your pee-pee, but you can't give them your poo-poo. That's it, next question.

Justin: Huge problem. Huge problem.

Travis: Do you have to explain that?

Justin: If what you're saying is the accepted law, and I—from your tone, that is—it seems to be settled law, from what you're saying, then we are creating a culture where if you say, "Excuse me, I have to go to my apartment for a 10—approximately five to 10 minutes," you are then announcing your intent to have a bowel movement. Which is not necessarily, like—part of the culture is not, like, announcing, "I'm gonna go shit." Like, we just—it's simply not done.

Griffin: Yeah. Well, another part of the culture is not dropping a big one...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ... inside of this—this domicile, when yours is so very close, and they're definitely gonna notice how long you've been in there, and they're also gonna notice the bad smells that you did make with all of your process.

Justin: I'm not necessarily arguing that. I'm arguing that if you have this standard where I pee-pee at your house, [laughs] I poo-poo in mine, you are making it so people can always track if you've left to go poo-poo. Which is not great, is what I'm saying.

Travis: This is why we—no, we need a social understanding. We need something like uh—like, how pirates had, like, the black spot, where you just like, slide a card onto the table, and everyone knows what that card means, but in using that card, everyone is also agreeing, like, "If this was me, we would all pretend like this wasn't happening."

Griffin: And let me also say, if I know that the two of you left my house or room so that you could go and poo-poo somewhere else, when you come back, I will have a Harry & David cheese basket waiting for you as a thank you gift.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't know why you think this is an embarrassing thing, as much as it is me knowing that you've done me a great service this day.

Justin: We're joking about this. I cannot tell you how many times every single one of us on this call [laughs] have been on tour with the other ones, and they've been in their room, and they say, "Well, I'm gonna wreck your bathroom real quick... "

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah.

Justin: "[through laughter] ... and then come back to my room. It happens constantly."

Griffin: Yeah. But now we must put away our childish things. Please do not poo-poo in my hotel room anymore. It is so bad.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't know what you two do...

Travis: Well, because here's the thing: just mention why you're doing a favor, 'cause you could wreck their bathroom and leave three minutes later, like, you're basically saying, like, "This is yours now." You know what I mean? Like, no, no, no, no, no.

Griffin: And if they don't notice right away, and pin it on you, they're gonna pin it on somebody who uses the bathroom at some point. It's just so bad. Poo-poo at home. Can I do a Yahoo?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Yes, please.

Griffin: Here's a good one. This one was sent in by lots of people. It's from a Yahoo Answers user named Jack, who asks, "Do planes—do planes move fast or slow?"

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: "When I look at a sky plane... look slow... "

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "... I run faster than I see plane move, like what—how plane look like move so slowly?"

Travis: Mm-hm. Well, it's—okay. So—and they won't teach you this in school, because they're afraid, but basically, the plane hovers in the air, and then the Earth turns underneath it.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And then the plane lands back down.

Griffin: Yeah, they're—part of that's probably right, Trav.

Travis: So like, I would say, the plane moves probably about as fast as question-asker is running, but then add to that rotation of the Earth, and that's why the plane gets to Phoenix slightly faster than if you ran to Phoenix.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [hesitantly] Okay.

Griffin: So if I could [awkward intonation] jump *up* super high like a Mario brother...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ... I could be in Phoenix right now. Then it'd be like that movie *Jumper*, but quite literally.

Travis: Yes. That's why skipping is faster.

Griffin: Huh.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Here's the problem.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Sky is big.

Griffin: Oh, damn.

Justin: And plane fast, but sky is big.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: And not like ground. Ground is small, and you can walk around pretty much anywhere you want to, but sky is so big that it take plane long time to cross.

Griffin: Hmm. Hmm.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: So that is the main, kind of, issue, is that sky so big.

Travis: But less to move around.

Griffin: Less to move around, Travis is right.

Travis: Ground—ground, building, mountain, tree. You've gotta—

Griffin: Now, the problem—the problem is, I go in house, and sky go away.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: So it can't be—it can't be that big, can it?

Justin: Fickle. Fickle.

Griffin: Yeah, it's just a fickle baby.

Travis: Well, sky is sneaky.

Griffin: Sky *is*—yeah.

Justin: Also—let's also remember. Hold your thumb up, and look at plane. Plane very small.

Griffin: It's so fucking small, and I don't know how they do, like, the shrinking machine inside of it, or when it—'cause I've been on so many planes, and I have never felt the shrinking machine go off, but I know they're using it. Um, maybe that's why you're not allowed to stand up when the plane's, like, going up, because it's shrinking very quickly, and your bones aren't good, and you might fall over.

Travis: Griffin, you dullard.

Griffin: What?

Travis: The Earth is getting bigger.

Griffin: That's ridiculous, because it would have to get bigger for every flight that's going on—

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: No. Travis, no. Come on.

Justin: You're getting kinda silly, Trav. We were all...

Griffin: You're getting really silly.

Travis: No, I'm telling—

[crosstalk]

Justin: No, hey, Travis—Travis...

Travis: I know it's a little out-there.

Justin: We were all just having a lot of fun...

Travis: I'm a Big Earther. I'm sorry.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That's a real—that's a real Hand Dog way of thinking about this situation.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: I'm telling you, Earth get bigger.

Griffin: Now...

Justin: I'm the one who looks at the glass, and says, "Face Cat."

Travis: Do you think this has been our weirdest episode? [laughs] Of, like, 2018?

Justin: Uh, well, it's our spookiest one, for sure.

Travis: Oh, for sure.

Justin: "So I have a coworker who took my cookie. It was a wrapped cookie, like you would pick up at a gas station, so it definitely was obvious that it wasn't for sharing. It was meant as a treat for me between doing work. Another coworker told me he saw him take a big bite out of it, and set it down like it was his.

"When confronted about the cookie, he said, 'Aw, my bad. You can punch me, if you like.'"

Griffin: [bursts into laughter] Oh, fuck.

Justin: "With no offer of recompense, brothers, what do I do? I just wanted a sweet chocolate chip treat." That's from Lost Munch in Midland.

That is...

Griffin: Fuck, that's good.

Justin: ... amazing, 'cause what it has said is, like, "I can't make it up to you. I don't have another cookie. But we're square, because I offered you the chance to do violence to me."

Griffin: "Yeah, aw, shoot. Well, beat my ass, I guess."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Hey, no, it's not my kink. I don't know why you—no, just uh, I ate your cookie, and you beat my ass. That's just a regular thing."

Griffin: "I don't unders—yeah, so this is a—this is how we do—the cost of doing business! I knew when I took a bite of that cookie, I was running the risk of getting my ass beat, and that's why I justified it and thought it was an okay thing to do to *unwrap a wrapped* cookie."

Justin: Unbelievable.

Griffin: You fucking murderer!

Justin: Unbelievable.

Travis: That is definitely, though, the calculation that this person did, right? Like, "Ugh, if I bite this cookie, they're probably gonna wanna punch me. But I will have gotten a bite of the cookie."

Justin: You shouldn't work at this place anymore. That's obvious, right? We're all agreed on this? You have to get a new job?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: You can't work with a person like this. No way, no how, nowhere.

Travis: This is step maybe two, maybe three, of like, a 10-step path in which they end up probably killing you.

Griffin: Now, can you... punch them so hard they go through the glass of the vending machine? And then you can reach in and get all the fucking Famous Amos that you want.

Justin: Mm.

Travis: Mm. A victimless crime.

Griffin: A victimless—well...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: There's two victims, actually, as far as I can tell. It's a double-victim crime.

Travis: The person you punched, and Amos?

Griffin: And Amos.

Travis: Amos Lee.

Justin: [laughs] Um...

Travis: That's why he calls himself Famously Amos Lee.

Justin: What would they have done if you had just fucking laid them *out*?

Griffin: They might have.

Travis: What if you had punched him so hard that he died?

Justin: [laughs] What if you had punched him in his appendix, and it burst and...

Griffin: And he died. Yeah.

Travis: And then you had—oh, happy Halloween! Okay.

But then you had to go... to court.

Griffin: Yup.

Travis: And the judge was like, "So what happened?"

And you're like, "Well, long story short, he took a [laughs] bite of my cookie, so I killed him."

Griffin: Yeah, the jury would find you guilty, but then the coroner would run in, last-minute, and be like, "Hold up! We just finished cutting his tummy open. There is a bite of cookie in there."

And the judge is like, "[relieved] Whew, okay. We're good to go."

Travis: And a note in his pocket that says, "If I took a bite of someone's cookie, they're allowed to punch me as hard as they can."

Griffin: Did you do it, though? That's what I need to know, is if you did it. 'Cause you didn't say if you did it or not.

Travis: Because if not, what you need to do is, you need to wait. You need to hold that.

Griffin: That's so much better.

Travis: And then one day punch him, and when he's like, "What the hell?" you're like, "That's for the cookie!"

Griffin: Yeah. And he—he didn't specify where to punch him. You could punch him on the crown of his head, and he wouldn't like that, I bet.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Ooh, wait 'til he's eating a cookie! This could be years later.

Griffin: Oh, yes.

Travis: And then you punch his hand, knock that cookie right out of his fucking hands...

Griffin: Into your mouth.

Travis: ... so it shatters on the ground.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, that's good. Yeah, that's fucking good. Punch his butt so hard, his wallet comes out, and you get cookie-buying money from it. There's a lot of options, actually. It depends on how accurate your punches are. Can you punch a wallet out of a dude's butt pocket?

Travis: "This week, on *MythBusters*..." "

Griffin: "This week, we brought it back for this one special, and it's a McElroy brothers' special. Can a cat have a face?"

Travis: [laughs] "Where should you poo-poo?"

Griffin: "Where should you make—where should you make poo-poo? We tried doing it at our friend's house. He didn't like it. Myth confirmed!"

Justin: [laughs]

[repetitive high pitched beeping sounds] I got a Haunted Doll Watch.

Griffin: Yeah, I know. That's what that sound means.

Justin: 'Cause it's a Halloween episode, and I thought this was perfect to help us bridge the gap between seasons, so I was very excited to find it.

Got a haunted doll, Gloria, active, paranormal, winter/Christmas spirit dolls.

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: "I am sharing my special winter and Christmas spirit doll collection."
[laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Meet Gloria. She was 22 years old when she passed away. She had high ambition to accomplish a lot of different—"

Griffin: Happy holidays!

Justin: Happy holidays! "She had a high ambition to accomplish a lot of different things. She was an activist, and often was protesting issues that she felt were unjust. I'm not sure how she died, but she is a strong-willed, independent spirit. She will speak up when she sees someone lying or treating someone else badly or unfairly by slamming a door, or turning our lights off, to get your attention.

"I have heard her yell, 'No!' before when she didn't like something."

Travis: Huh!

Justin: "She will talk to you through a spirit board, then in your dreams. She is a loving, compassionate spirit who really cares about what happens to others, and will watch over you and your family with protection and care, and will stick up for you when needed."

Do you know how bad your self-confidence has to be for you to be like, "Don't let my doll hear you talking that way, because she's got my back"?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "The doll itself is 16 inches high, and has brown, curly hair, and blue eyes. She's wearing a beautiful dark blue velvet dress with white, fuzzy trim, and has a matching hat. She has bloomers, socks, and black boots. She is also holding a silver gift. Gloria will make a wonderful Christmas gift for you or someone you love."

Travis: Mm. Okay.

Justin: I don't know what is wilder: the idea that you would say, "Merry Christmas, it's a doll with a dead activist inside," or that you would say, "Merry Christmas, me, surprise! I got you a haunted doll for yourself."

Travis: Maybe you need someone who's gonna give you that little boost of self-confidence every day.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Who's gonna be like, hears you, like, looking in the mirror, and you're like, "Ugh, I'm such a loser." And then you hear a door slam, and you're like, "Hey, thank you, doll. You're right!"

Griffin: [laughs] You hear the door—you hear the doll yell, "[booming] No!"

Is that what it sounds like? Can you imagine being anywhere in your house at any time of the day with any number of people there with any, like, level of security that you feel in your heart of hearts, and just hearing, yelled out loud, "No!"

Justin: "No!"

Griffin: That's bad. That's *bad*. That's not good.

Travis: What if a Face Cat did it, Griffin?

Griffin: Then I would know. I would know—I would expect it. I would anticipate it.

Um, yeah, I mean, how is this doll boosting my self-confidence? Is it like a Teddy Ruxpin where it's got a cassette tape and Wilson Phillips's "Hold On" in it? 'Cause I could be for that. I could be all about that.

It's just there is never gonna be another doll that—Justin, you've jumped the fucking shark. You cannot shock me anymore in this segment after the very sexual, very sensual spirit.

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: You can't do it anymore.

Justin: Yeah, I'm gonna have—I'm gonna have to go back to the woodshed, and uh, chop up some of these dolls, glue 'em back together...

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: ... and uh, see if we can find something a little spookier than a sexual doll.

The thing is, that this doll—I just didn't know that dolls... had seasons and trends. Because if you look at this doll, like, its dress is blue and it looks kind of like—it has, like, that frosted, just kind of snow-like trim, and it's got, like, silver holly on it. And it's definitely a yuletide haunted doll.

A question for you: if you had this haunted doll that was very Christmas-ey, would you... feel okay about packing it up...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ... 10-and-a-half months out of the year? How would you feel about that?

Griffin: Uh, if this thing's yelling, "No," in my house...

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: ... I believe it will find itself packed up 12 out of 12 months of the year.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Now, but—

Justin: That's worse.

Travis: I actually—I'm more okay with the doll randomly, like from a shelf somewhere, yelling, "No!" instead of, "[muffled] No! No! No!"

Justin: Yeah. From the attic, just, "[muffled] No! No!"

Griffin: Ohh.

Justin: "[muffled] No! No! No!"

Griffin: Now, that's—that—we're talking about maybe the most effective form of "elf on the shelf" imaginable. 'Cause it's not just, like, "Oh, don't steal a cookie because it's a sin, I guess, and the elf will tell Jesus, and you won't get any uh, presents or heavenly reward at the end of your life." You

also have this doll as maybe backup for this elf, who literally will chide the child. Just chide them so good and so loud and so scary.

Travis: [sighs]

Justin: Oh, boy. It's kind of sad, this one.

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: I just got a sad doll. You know? I don't know.

[pause]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: Kinda bummed myself out with this one, 'cause somebody is gonna buy themselves a haunted doll for Christmas.

Griffin: Oh, yeah, yeah. Now, that—

Justin: That bums me out. I shouldn't have thought about that. Um...

Griffin: Well, maybe it could be like a "Christmas Shoe" situation.

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: And it's like, [singing] if Mama meets Jesus tonight, and needs a ghost to guide her up the spiral [singing, trying to hold back laughter] pathway, into the crystal heavens...

Justin: [singing] If Mama meets Jesus tonight, I wanna have a doll for her spirit to leap into.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [singing] I'm channeling my mom's ghost into this special Christmas doll.

Griffin: Do they sell husks on eBay, or is that just—can I go—if I go into any, like, American Girls store, is it just husk city, baby? Husk, husk city?

Justin: The way this population is expanding daily, we are soon going to have two designations: dolls and not-haunted dolls. Those would be the two...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... different things there are, because it would be such a rarity to find one that doesn't have a ghost inside of it.

Travis: Yeah, it's like trying to find an apartment, you know what I mean? You're gonna have to find a real—like, when you die, you're like, "I'd really like to—ugh, I can't find an empty doll anywhere! Geez."

Griffin: Yeah. This is how, um—this is how, like, Polly Pocket and all that shit came about. This just, sort of, efficiency. Just you get a big box full of Polly Pockets, and you can fit like, you know, 60,000 people in that one.

Justin: [laughs] You ever see that Matt Damon movie? It's basically that.

Griffin: It's awesome. He gets shrunk down, and he gets put in a hell box uh, full of just a bunch of writhing flesh. It's really... it's funny. It's a funny movie.

Justin: *Honey, I Shrunk the Matt*, I believe it was called.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, meet Matt, 'cause he pilots a giant Matt Damon.

Hey, folks, that's gonna do it for us for this episode of our podcast, *My Brother, My Brother and Me*. We hope you've had a deliciously spooky time with us here. Uh, we would remind you, though, that you should *please* go vote.

Griffin: Please.

Justin: Pleeese go vote for good people, please? [laughs]

Travis: [Steve Urkel impression] Did I go vote?

Justin: [Steve Urkel impression] Did I go vote?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Did you? Please go vote. We got a mailing list that is uh, gonna get rolling here. Uh, the first one may have already gone out, possibly? Is that possible? May have. But uh, if you wanna sign up for it, go to bit.ly/McElroyMail. M-A-I-L. It's not a pyramid scheme, and a lot of people uh—uh, have been buzzing about that, and I don't know who keeps saying that. It's not a pyramid scheme; it's just a regular mailing list.

Travis: Uh, I also wanna say, if you are anywhere near the Cincinnati area, I've got one of my Underground Society Shows coming up November 16th, you can get uh, tickets for that at bit.ly/CUSSNovember2018.

Uh, we got a lot of fun guests, and you can come out and hang out with a bunch of cool people, and you'll find out who the guests are once you get there and join the Society or whatnot.

Griffin: I wanna thank 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*. Fantastic song, fantastic album, good band, great band, great dude, good times.

Travis: Great oldies.

Griffin: Great oldies. Uh, I also wanna thank Max Fun for having us on the network. Go to MaximumFun.org, and just start clicking on shit, and you will find so many good shows! And you're gonna love listening to 'em. We have other stuff at McElroyShows.com. Anything else, boys?

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah! We've got exciting new stuff at McElroyMerch.com, including, I believe, some Candlesnights stuff you should go check out?

Um... and also, uh, we got our shows coming up in Denver and Austin, so please send your questions in for that, with "Denver" and "Austin" in the subject line.

And the Adventure Zone Graphic Novel Book Two is available for preorder now at uh, TheAdventureZoneComic.com.

Griffin: How about a final Yahoo?

Justin: Yes, please.

Griffin: It was sent in by Adrian Cowles. Thank you, Adrian. It's an anonymous Yahoo Answers user who I'm gonna call Julian, who asks, "If I can catch a scorpion, does it become my pet?"

Travis: Hmm!

Justin: Hmm. My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

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

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Speaker 2: Hey, maybe I just let him go and whip us up some guac?

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