

MBMBaM 521: Ah, The Soup Mess

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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: Oh, sorry, Griffin, I need you to—Griffin, I need you to go first.

Griffin: You should've fricking told me that, man. Caught me with my—

Travis: I'm sorry, yeah.

Griffin: Caught me with my pants down.

Travis: Okay, do it.

Griffin: Let me see if I can even remember what to say, 'cause I need you as like, the—to be my prompter.

Travis: Okay, well, how about this. [lowly] I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy.

Griffin: And I'm Griffin McElroy, the young—and I'll—I'm do—Griffin.

Travis: [Southern accent] Oh, I didn't see you come in there! Sweep, sweep, sweep, sweep. I was just cleaning up after another Maximum Fun Drive. Sweep, sweep, sweep. Trying to put all of our wonderful characters

and costumes and grease paint back in the trunk for another year. Sweep, sweep, sweep, mop, mop, mop.

Griffin: Hey, it's old—

Travis: Yeah, we sh—what?

Griffin: It's Old Bill! And he cleans up after us, when we do that MaxFunDrive, and Old Bill, I gotta say, we made a huge dirty mess this time, bud.

Travis: Yeah, there's a lot of unused dildo jokes around here.

Justin: [laughs] That's my fault. I've been stockpiling them, thinking I'd get on a great run about dildos, and it never came. I actually—that is part of my—I bought a bunch of dildo jokes from ExtremeRestrains.com.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Justin: Uh, several years back, and I haven't had a chance to burn through 'em.

Travis: Well, don't your dildos. That is bad for the environment. See, that's just one of the jokes you guys could've used this year. You didn't! You're leaving a lot on the table for this MaxFunDrive!

Griffin: Uh, it looks like the Extreme Restraints won't do a refund on these dildo jokes, but they will do store credit if we did wanna make a bunch of lube jokes. Um, something to keep in mind.

Justin: You wanna trade 'em in for lube jokes? Will they—will they um—hey, Griff, will they exchange one dildo joke and give us a sample of the lube jokes?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Uh, so we can get kind of an idea of what we're talking about?

Griffin: Yeah, it just says, "Here comes—here comes slipper—careful around this butt. Careful around this butt. It's slippery when... wet."

Travis: [normally] This is just Travis leaning back in. This one just says, "Lube him? I barely know him."

Griffin: So that's—that could be cool.

Justin: Yeah, I um... I—[laughs] I have a huge contraption with various gears and cranks and turning things. Very complicated and it's just for slamming my butt. It's called a Lube Goldberg machine. [laughs]

Travis: Oh, that's nice!

Griffin: That's great! Okay, yeah. There's a—this deal's going through, baby.

Travis: [Southern accent] Hey, uh, this is Old Bill still, just wondering if you want me to stick around, or...?

Griffin: No, we're doing like a different intro thing now, Old Bill.

Travis: 'Cause I was cleaning up after—'cause this is the last week of the Maximum Fun Drive. Sweep, sweep, sweep. And this is people's last chance to become a member here, at Maximum Fun HQ. Sweep, sweep, sweep. But just keeps the lights on. Keep Old Bill uh, in—you know, I do a lot of collectibles. I have a lot of porcelain figures that I can't afford without your Max Fun membership. Sweep, sweep, sweep, mop, mop, mop.

Griffin: Yeah, and that is Bill Maher, which is weird.

Justin: That's so weird! I wouldn't expect that.

Griffin: That we did—that Bill Maher is the one who cleans up after... us.

Travis: I don't do it for the money, I do it for the love! The love of the—

Griffin: Well, you do do it kind of for the money, Bill... Um, and I—

Travis: Well, for the porcelain figures, but I don't live off of porcelain figures. I mean...

Griffin: Um, who would've been funnier there? If I had said Bill de Blasio...

Justin: Bill de Blasio?

Griffin: Billing ball.

Travis: [normally] Should I give him, like, the—

Justin: Bill Nighy? But that wouldn't explain the...

Griffin: That wouldn't explain the accent.

Travis: No, I'm Bill Nye!

Justin: Ohh.

Travis: Bill Nye the cleanin' guy.

Griffin: Do you think Bill Nighy, people get him confused for Bill Nye saying his name in a cool way? Like, "Here comes Bill Ny-E!"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [Southern accent] So do you guys want me to stick around, and—I was gonna give the web address.

Griffin: No, I don't want you to have been there in the first place, Bill Maher. I think your shit's reprehensible...

Travis: I'm a different Bill Maher.

Griffin: [uncertainly] ... Okay.

Travis: I'm the one who loves cleaning!

Griffin: So this is the final episode of the MaxFunDrive. Fortunately, we've probably gotten all of the money from you that we're gonna get, 'cause you're certainly not going to reward after this, uh, I would say bad introduction, that we have crafted.

Travis: I should also tell you, uh, this is my two-weeks' notice, so this is Old Bill's final episode, too. You guys will have to clean up your own dildo jokes after this. You won't have Old Bill to push around anymore! Sweep, sweep, sweep.

Justin: I've—I have a brief story to tell you.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Is it about me?

Justin: "Bill Nighy was a regular in a restaurant called Fiorello's in the upper-west side back in 2015, while he was performing *Skylight* on Broadway."

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Justin: "He went in one night, and the staff said, 'Hey, Mr. Nighy. The other Bill Nye is in the back of the restaurant.'"

"I said, 'Oh, my God.' The pair met and had pictures taken. So were they friends or foes? There was no conflict. We were respectful of one another."

Travis: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: "I was slightly snippy, because my name is rarer, but he doesn't know that. He was very gracious, and we had a laugh. And he had this conversation with people, same as I had. So it was quite funny to finally be united."

Okay, this story is great...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ... but the person I wanna celebrate is the person who worked the restaurant, who's like, "Oh my fuck." [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: "Oh my God!"

Griffin: [loudly] "It's happeniiiiing!"

Justin: "It's happening, and I'm going to fucking do it."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: That's the weird thing, is like, "I'm going to go to Bill Nighy, I'm gonna go to fucking uh—uh—uh—what's his pirate—"

Travis: Davy Jones.

Justin: Davy Jones. "I'm gonna go right up to Davy Jones, and tell him that beloved scientist Bill Nye is in this restaurant, too. He's going to love this shit."

Travis: The moment I would love to be in the brain of that employee for is when Bill *Nye* walked in, and knowing Bill *Nighy* was a regular that, like—the air of possibility crackled.

Griffin: It must've just crackled. Yes.

Travis: Yes! Of just like, "It's happening. It's all happening. Just like the fortune teller said!"

Griffin: Anyway, this is the final episode of the MaxFunDrive. Please, if you have not joined the network, if you do enjoy our show and the other stuff that we make, and you want to support us in a very, very direct and meaningful way, you can go to MaximumFun.org/join, and uh, sign up to become a member. Find the monthly membership level that works for you. We know it is a strange time, and an extremely bad time, but we uh...

Justin: So "strange" almost didn't seem to cover it.

Griffin: Strange doesn't cover it at all, but we do need your uh, support, and your support has allowed us to grow over the last 10 years, and turn this into our jobs, and allowed us to do all kinds of really fantastic stuff.

And so... yeah. Go—go check out the different levels. We will talk about them later on in the show. But once again, it's MaximumFun.org/join, and this is the last week of the drive, so if you have been thinking about doing it, don't wait.

Justin: Let's get into questions. Let's, like, help somebody for a change.

Travis: Yeah! Finally!

Griffin: I mean, sure.

Justin: Finally, let's help someone. Let me just open the question from somebody.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Trav, I don't know if you sent 'em.

Travis: I might not have!

Justin: Okay. Well, that's—

Travis: I mean, I'm looking at them.

Justin: The wheels have fallen off here. Let's go ahead and get those over on my desk... prrronto.

Travis: I mean, I've got 'em.

Justin: Yeah, you've got 'em, but does that help me?

Travis: Ho—you know, I guess I never really thought about it like that, J-Man.

Justin: Let's have it, bud. Come on.

Travis: I just sent it.

Justin: You couldn't even put a subject in. Wow.

Travis: No, was rushing! You said top speed! You can't say "top speed" and then get mad at me for not putting in just, "Dear Justin, these are the questions. Love, Travis."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: What if I need to find them for my archives later?

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Um, “I come to you today in need of advice.” That was... unnecessary.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “I sent applications to many a college. Many have sent back swag.” That’s stuff they like to call it. Travis, you know what swag stands for?

Travis: Uh, sweet... willy... agreed...

Justin: Stuff we all get.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: As they like to call it. “Most of it is garbage, but one college sent me the most exquisite shirt. It proudly proclaims I’m a member of the class of 2024, which I am not. I’ve worn this shirt many a time at home, as it is extremely comfortable. I wore it in public once, where someone yelled from a six-foot distance, ‘Yo, mascot represent!’” They didn’t say mascot, obviously.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “I had to pretend I didn’t hear him. What do I do if this happens again?” That’s from Misrepresented Alma Mater in Maine.

Griffin: I uh... I had a shirt from Shepherd University, which I did a tour of when I was weighing my options, that I only recently got rid of, and I did wear a lot, and did have a couple times where people were like, “Oh, fuck yeah! Shepherd! I went there. What—what was your major?”

I’d be like, “My major was... going to Marshall University, a fine—a very fine institution, and I’m sorry that I wore that shirt, but it pop—makes my eyes pop!”

Travis: You know, there’s another four—I got a version of this where I did go to the University of Oklahoma, and I would wear an OU sweatshirt, and

someone would say "boomer sooner," and then, attempt to ask me about what I thought of current football team...

Griffin: Ah, shit.

Justin: Ohhh.

Travis: And I'd be like, "Oh nooo!"

Justin: That's tough. That's tough.

Griffin: That's when you play the part of, "I didn't go to OU. I just like this shirt."

Travis: But I did!

Justin: My thing is having people yell "boomer sooner" at me.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Just like that.

Travis: That's the only way I can feel alive.

Griffin: Mm-hmm. Um, I mean, you gotta know that this is a risk when you wear a free shirt. Like, there's no such thing as a free shirt.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I forget who said that. Um...

Travis: It was Abraham Lincoln.

Griffin: It was Abe Lincoln, and that's why he was what we call the topless president.

Travis: Yup.

Griffin: Always had his—

Travis: Even when someone tried to buy him a shirt, or tried to sell him a shirt.

Griffin: He said, “Nice fucking try.” He said, “You gotta wake up a little bit earlier than that to get ol’ Abe Lincoln.”

And then, unfortunately, someone did wake up quite early. I don’t think you should wear the shirt anymore if you’re not ready to—if you don’t have, like, an arrow in this quiver, you know what I mean?

Travis: Especially since it says “Class of 2024.” So it is not just like—it doesn’t just say, like, “Marshall University.” It says “Marshall University, Class of 2024.” Your shirt is a lie, is what I’m saying.

Griffin: It’s a lie.

Justin: I—it is weird, though—it’s a weird called shot for this school, right? Like...

Travis: [laughs quietly]

Justin: “Well, I’m not gonna come there.”

“[deep voice] Well, but we gave you the shirt. The shirt said you did come here. Your shirt said you’re coming.”

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: I mean, listen. It says right here, it’s an exclusive shirt. Seems like this college is so confident in this shirt...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... that they're like, "Once we send him the shirt, we got 'em."

Griffin: This is like when McDonald's sent me a shirt that said, "I ate 100 Big Macs today."

And then I was like, "Oh, geez. I mean, I do wanna wear this shirt, but—aw, shit, now it's like a prophecy. Now we're—it's *Final Destination*. There's no escaping this. I'm gonna eat 100 big, big, big Big Macs today.

Travis: Yeah, maybe you should just go to the college. Did you think about that?

Griffin: Just freaking go and expand your horizons! Take some classes, learn a new language! Experiment a little bit!

Travis: They still have cool shirts.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: Oh, yeah, experiment with yourself, with your body.

Griffin: With your body.

Travis: With other people's bodies.

Griffin: G—

Travis: With consent.

Griffin: With consent.

Travis: Do not experiment on people without consent.

Griffin: But biohack your body, and give yourself something—

Travis: Yeah, biohack your body. See if you can make your butt glow like a firefly.

Griffin: Fuckin' flash drive somewhere in there? Give yourself, like a—an antenna?

Travis: Oh, yeah! Can you pick up radar signals?

Griffin: That's what college is *for*, is to put in antennas!

Justin: You know what I hate about this show? Is I can't even zone out for 30 seconds and then snap back in, and have any idea what the fuck you guys are talking about.

Griffin: Yeah, it's—

Justin: You know what I mean? I feel like I should be able to check out every once in a while, and check back in, and be like, "Oh, I get the bit. I know what we're doing here." But like, antennas and stuff?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: What are you *talking* about?

Travis: Well, Justin, you see, one time my friend Bob told me that people were inventing this biohacking thing where I can inject myself with some sort of genome that made it so my muscles were engaged all the time, and would give me super strength.

Justin: Uh...

Travis: Now, to Bob's credit, I don't know how much of that is what he actually said, or how much of that is what I just heard...

Griffin: Hold on.

Travis: ... but ever since, like—

Justin: A very fickle thing, isn't it, memory? Tricky.

Griffin: [laughing quietly]

Travis: So ever since I heard that, I've just thought about like, "Hey, can we hurry up and perfect that? Because that sounds really cool."

Griffin: So you're telling me, like, you go to the optometrist, and they're like, "Oh, yeah, Trav. It looks like your eyes do need a slightly stronger prescription. It looks like your cones have deteriorated a little—"

But what you're hearing is, like, "Yeah, we're gonna give you super-cool laser glasses..."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "... uh, that kind of turn your eyes into x-ray eyes, and um... you're gonna love it."

Travis: I am always disappointed when I get the eye test, and they do the lens things, and they're like, "Better like this, or better like that?" And I want it to just keep getting better.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, where's that glasses technology, right? Like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: If you know how to fix my eyes to normal, just keep going.

Griffin: That's good. That's good.

Travis: Right?

Griffin: That's that—*that's* that *Seinfeld* shit. Here's a Yahoo that was sent in by—

Travis: That's not a joke! I am angry about this!

Griffin: I know, I know. Uh, Graham Roebuck sent this one in. Thanks, Graham. It's from an anonymous Yahoo Answers user, who I'm going to call, uh, Lucius, asks, "I dropped my library book in the toilet, and I need to return it by tomorrow?"

Travis: Oof. Yeah.

Griffin: "After pulling it out of the toilet, most of the pages were wet. Can I still take the book back? If not, how can I dry it without damaging it even more?"

I don't know that... there is a level of dryness that is ever going to make it not a toilet book. Like, you could—

Travis: Well, okay—

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: You could desaturate the book, but you cannot de-toilet the book. It will always be a toilet book forever now.

Travis: And here's the thing, folks. Before you all jump to email us, "Dear Justin, Travis, and Griffin, maybe it was a clean toilet."

One, no such thing.

Griffin: No.

Justin: No.

Travis: Two, are you saying that this question asker was just standing over the toilet, not using it, just like, that's where they had stopped randomly to read their book, over the toilet?

Griffin: I'm so glad Travis finally brought this up, because every episode, we get these clean toilet people.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Like, coming after us, because we talk about, like, "Oh, no, you dropped your phone in the toilet. It's done." Every fucking episode, somebody—we get 50 emails...

Travis: Ugh!

Griffin: ... like, "Uh, toilets can be clean if you clean 'em!"

I—people, listen. At the toilet factory, where they make the toilets, somebody finishes, you know, screwing on the toilet seat and gives it one final spit shine, and then they look at it, and they go, "Ugh, gross."

It's a toilet where people do the wor—the *worst* stuff we can do with our bodies, we do to these—to these chairs.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: There is no cleaning them.

Justin: When they raise the toilets in captivity...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: The elders tell them, "There is no better life for you, child. You must accept now, you are a dookie machine." [laughs] They don't aspire to anything better than that. This is what they assume they are made for.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Justin: And that is—that is unshakable.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Like, you can't—if you drop a book—if you drop a book in a toilet that's just come off the—they come out of the store, it still has been raised to know...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... that it accepts only excrement. And pee-pee.

Griffin: Now, now...

Justin: There should be a fancy word for pee-pee. [laughs]

Travis: I know, right? Well, here's the—the good news is this, that a book was already written that lets you know at what temperature books burn, so if you pop that book in the oven at 450...

Justin: [wheezes, bursts into laughter]

Travis: ... that's gonna dry that out.

Griffin: 450's gonna get it done *fast*.

Justin: [through laughter] You may even wanna—[laughs] I don't know how precise your oven is. Calibration is important. But you may even wanna bump that down a few degrees.

Travis: No, no, no. If you're talking about how fast you could do it? 450, but Justin is right. You're gonna want an accurate temperature in there. Sometimes it can be plus or minus five degrees.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But here's the thing—

Griffin: And then you're gonna fucking call Ray Bradbury, and be like, "I have a complaint to regist—oh, he's not—he's pa—oh."

Travis: Do you think ol' Ray Bradbury was doing, like, some really in-depth testing with that? Where he was like, "Okay, 450, no. 452, definitely. Let me see..."

Griffin: Nice. "There's gotta be..."

So it—here's the good news. You can look inside of the library... book for that little card that I'm guessing is still in there, that shows you how many times it's been checked out.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Let's say... if your name is the third one on there, if you are at least the third person to have been loaned this book, it's been in a toilet at some point. At some point, you can just—

Travis: In the toilet, or around the toilet?

Griffin: Uh, I mean, I'm not so much of a prude that I think if it's in a bathroom somewhere, that it has been permanently befouled as it would if it had actually entered the commode, like, perimeter. Uh, but if you—if you're the third person to get this book, odds are, one of the first two people did drop it in the loo.

Travis: Now, one time I did leave a paperback copy of *1984* in the rain?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And it did dry, but when it dried, it was all wrinkly and crinkly, which I don't understand the chemical reaction that happened there, but it

was pretty obvious that something dynamic had happened to this tome. So I don't know that you could, even if you dried it thoroughly, roll back up and be like, "Yeah, uh, I finished it. It was a real page-turner. Heeere you go!"

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, that's a good point. There is no sort—I don't know what kind of book conditioner you need to rub all over these pages in order to get back the—

Travis: "I would like you to trust me with another book now, please.

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: [laughs] It's weird how, even if a book dries out after you get it wet, it still looks wild.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Isn't that weird? It's—the book's like, "Aw, finally, I can kinda stretch out a little bit."

Griffin and Travis: [laugh]

Justin: "Aw, thank you so much. This is the real me."

Griffin: Uh, how about another question?

Justin: Aw, Griff, I'd love that, bud. What I'd love even more is if it'd just happened organically, 'cause I think we all felt the moment, and I was about to just launch into it.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: So just kind of... okay. Just a note.

Travis: How about another question?

Justin: "I recently got a new water bottle that's big enough to hold the recommended daily intake." That's. Not. Possible!

Travis: [laughs] You don't think you can have a 64-ounce water bottle?

Justin: Nobody should be drinking 60—I *scoff* at 64 o—I have 64 before breakfast.

Griffin: Wait, do you...

Justin: I'm putting away—

Griffin: I'm confused.

Justin: I'm putting away 120 on the daily.

Griffin: That's a...

Travis: Are you okay?

Griffin: That's a lot, though.

Justin: What—you know, if you look at that 64 ounces recommendation? That doesn't take into account height, weight, activity. None of that stuff. And it's also antiquated. We need to be pounding water 24 hours a day.

Not so much that you die, lawyers. Sorry.

Travis: But what about when I'm asleep?

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: Sorry, lawyers! Not so much you die, asterisk!

Griffin: And Justin's not gonna say not to—Justin's not gonna say, "Don't pee, so you keep all that good water inside your body" *anymore*, because he used to say stuff like that, and we did get in a little spot of legal trouble.

Justin: Yeah. You just uh—anyway. It's not po—it's not possible. I have a 20-ounce water bottle that I drink, uh, six to eight times every day. Uh, you need more water. Anyway...

Travis: And you're big, strong boy.

Justin: I'm a huge man.

Travis: That's not what I said.

Justin: "I recently got a new water bottle to be able to hold the recommended daily intake," which we've established is a fabrication, but moving on. "I've been filling it up with my work's water cooler, no issue. But as I was filling it up today, two people got in line behind me. One of my coworkers started talking about how we only have a limited number of water jugs for everyone to use, how I should just take one of the huge gallons back to my desk, and joked if I was going to replace the bottle when I was done.

What's the etiquette here? Should I fill my bottle up at home instead? Should I step out of line if other people are behind me? I just wanna stay hydrated." That's from Professionally Parched in [crosstalk].

Travis: Your coworker's a fucking asshole.

Griffin: Yeah, I think a good tactic here is to sort of hoist up your leg and lift up the bottom of one of the pant legs, and tell them to huff the farts right out of there.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: If that's the fucking energy and attitude they're gonna bring to your doorstep.

Travis: Your job has so few benes, right? Like, what, maybe if you're lucky, insurance. Maybe, like, a parking space, right? Maybe even a company car. But... water is a basic human building block.

Griffin: [muffled] It's so shitty! These coworkers are complaining, are like, "Yeah, we've all signed on to work until our bodies die and we'll be kept at just sort of the poverty line the whole time, but too much of free wa-wa over there, don't you think, Jeffie?"

Justin: No. Okay. I wanna—I wanna leap the coworkers' defense. Which, they don't listen to our podcast...

Travis: Oh, here he goes.

Justin: ... so I don't know why I'm doing this, but... if this person does have—and we have to assume it's a 64-ounce bottle of water, 'cause I think anything larger than that is... would be wild. I mean, I've maybe seen Big Gulps that are—are bigger, uh, but—very rare.

This is a la—I mean, this is a tankard, okay? This is a big, big ol'... big ol' jug. If you just wanna get up and enjoy a cup of water, and someone is like, taking five minutes to fill their tankard...

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... I think that you're getting into, like, grocery rules, right? "I have one thing, you have, you know, 50 things. I'll go ahead—"

You know, "Oh, you only have one thing. You go right ahead, 'cause I don't wanna hold you up with my hundred things that I'm buying." I feel like if you're gonna fill up a huge jug of water, and there's somebody behind you that just has one of those delicate little cones for no one...

Travis: [laughs] Yes.

Griffin: [laughs quietly]

Justin: ... then you should let them have their delicate cone of... water like they're a fucking hummingbird...

Travis: Yes.

Justin: ... that knows shit about hydration.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: What I like is all the memory of a drink. Where it's just like—yes.

Justin: Imagine—imagine if—one of those paper cones probably holds six ounces of water, right?

Travis: If that.

Justin: If that, right? So your daily amount of hydration is 10 times—oh, sorry, I'm reading now, four ounces.

Griffin: [quietly] Jesus.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: So that's basically non-applicable. I have to get a calculator out, now, to figure out—

Travis: 16.

Justin: Let's say we're—we're working off 64, it's four ounces, that's 16 cups of water. Imagine if you were standing behind someone, and they filled that cup up and pounded it 16 times right in front of them?

Travis: [laughs] No, that'd be amazing.

Griffin: I'd watch that.

Justin: It'd be amazing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: How about this? The next time that asshole coworker is up there—because here's the thing, Justin. You're not wrong about the grocery rules, I do agree with you on that. If they had said, "May I fill my cup real quick..."

Griffin: That's not what he said, though, is it?

Travis: No. So here's what you do. Next time you see them getting up, you beeline over there and get in front of them. And you have taken an empty water jug jug, and you're just gonna transfer all the water left in the jug into your giant jug, and then take your empty water jug back to your desk, leaving an empty water jug on the top.

Justin: [gasps] And then the juice... is running.

Griffin: [laughs] Uh-huh.

Justin: And that's gonna come at a premium.

Travis: And what's that? You've moved all the full jugs to your desk, where you sit atop them in an H2O throne.

Justin: And what will you do after you are fired that day?

Travis: Well...

Griffin: [laughs] I mean, they can't fire you at that point. You're fucking Immortan Joe. You are the keeper of the water! The water flows when you say it does!

Justin: "I drink your bottled water!"

Griffin: [laughs] Um...

Travis: Just start filling up—

Justin: Abandon my job?

Griffin: You're gonna replace—

Justin: You won't have time to work. You're hoarding water.

Travis: Right.

Griffin: It's the fuckin'... the fuckin' gall. "Are you gonna replace that?" The fucking gall of it. No one wants to be here. It's *water!*

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Can you not just fucking chill? Go to the sink! The sink water's fucking fine! If you're that impatient!

Travis: I'm giving you a 10 minute excuse not to work. You're welcome!

Griffin: We should be in the boss' office, fucking tearing them limb-from-limb.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: For what they are doing for us, and then we are going to take this building hostage, and dismantle the entire fucking economy, brick-by-brick and nail-by-nail. But you're in here, like, "Too much water, Dougie!" Are you fucking kidding me?!

Justin: Yeah. This is something that the—the ruling class has invented.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Keep the peasants occupied.

Griffin: It's not even counting deck chairs on the Titanic. It's like someone coughed on the Titanic while it was sinking, and another person was like, "Can you cover your mouth!?"

Travis: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "How rude!"

Griffin: It's like somebody—it's like somebody fucking drop-kicks you off of a lifeboat on the Titanic, so all the riches can get on it, and you accidentally bump into another poor on the way, and they're like, "What's your fucking problem, man!?"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: You think there were—there had to be—God, I bet what you're describing with the coughing did happen at least one time on the Titanic.

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Justin: That would be so choice.

Travis: Could you tell me a little bit about MaxFunDrive?

Justin: Alright. Let's say that I love supporting the things that I love. I'm already at MaximumFun.org/join, I'm ready to pledge some money to help keep these wonderful shows going.

But uh, I'm doing this out of the goodness of my heart, but guess what? I'm gonna get some gifts in return. If I pledge five dollars a month, I'm gonna

get over 200 hours of bonus content. Our amount of stuff there is, uh, wild? There's uh, commentary tracks for our TV show. We've had episodes where our wives do the show for us, out of—which was one of my faves, because uh, it didn't require any work.

Travis: And they're better at it than we are.

Griffin: And they are much better.

Justin: They're better—better at it than we are. Their advice is actually, like, worth taking, which is a big departure for us.

Um, if you can pledge 10 dollars from others—many other shows—I mean, many dozens of other programs to enjoy. If you can pledge 10 dollars a month, you can get all the BoCo, as I hate saying. But you're also gonna get one of 40 different enamel pins, uh, from your favorite Max Fun show.

There's other gifts. 20 bucks a month, there's a game pack with Max Fun dice and cards. But really, what you're doing is you're pledging money to help keep the shows you love coming. Out of every pledge, a small portion of it goes to Max Fun, and then the rest is divided amongst the shows that you say you listen to when you sign up. So it's a way of directly supporting these shows.

That money goes to... well, for starters, it helps us pay our bills and feed our kids and put clothes on their backs, which is so cool of you.

Travis: Yep.

Justin: But also, like, buy audio equipment, and hosting, and, you know, everything else. So we very, very, very much appreciate your support. It's the only way we are—I mean, literally, this is not a lie, it is the only reason we are able to do what we do.

Especially currently, with the world as shitty as it is, we can't go tour, do any sort of live stuff, or anything like that. So... you know, we really are depending on you. So please, please, please, please, please, please, please,

MaximumFun.org/join. This is the last time you're gonna hear about it on our show, except for maybe a brief reminder at the end.

If you've been waiting 'til the last moment, this is practically it. Please, MaximumFun.org/join. If you are already a member, we really appreciate you. You are the best. Thank you so, so, so much, and please, if you can find it in your heart, and you're not already a member, please go ahead and join.

Travis: And we should just say, I mean, we're pitching this, right? This is the Max Fun time of year, but if you're not able to, we also understand that. And it's uncertain out there. We were just talking about like, we haven't been able to tour, we haven't been able to do stuff, we get it. It's tough out there for everybody.

If you're not able to, you can do things like share that MaximumFun.org/join link. You can use the hash tag #MaxFunDrive, you can share clips with people, you can retweet tweets about the show, anything – like, all that support matters to us, too.

We also have a thing this year called boosting. In the past, we have talked a lot about, like, upgrading your membership. And maybe you're not ready to move up to a new level this year, but you still wanna give a little bit more to support the shows you love.

You can do that by boosting, which allows you to incrementally increase your membership without having to move up to the next level. It won't qualify you for the rewards – other than the bonus content, because every member gets that – but it's a way to support a little bit more, if you're looking to do that.

Griffin: Uh, how about another Yahoo?

Travis: What?

Griffin: From Yahoo Answers. Yahoo? The website?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Does email—they do email and they do answers. Those are their two services they provide. Uh, this is one of the latter. It was sent in by uh, Emma Kant. Thank you, Emma. It's Yahoo Answers user James, who asks, "How do I get the most out of my time at the Olive Garden?"

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: We've talked a lot about sort of, like, maximizing... exploiting the Olive Garden economy is a constant source of conversation on this show.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: We've talked about, like, minimum age requirements for even entering the Olive Garden facility. Which is important, we've squared that away.

This is more... listen, it's tough to get out to restaurants right now, isn't it? And by tough, I mean... morally... indefensible, but also tough. So when you're there, we know you're family... how can you really make each fucking moment [clicks tongue] matter?

Travis: What's—what's great about that question, Griffin – I'm so glad you brought it to the table – is like, it is subjective in such a poignant way, right?

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Because one could argue pasta and bread are very filling. Right? So you can't just say, "Eat some pasta and bread sticks," right? Because then, you're gonna get full very quickly. But also, counterpoint, you can't say, just like, "Eat some, like, lettuce and cherry tomatoes, and get the most lettuce and cherry tomatoes you can," because are you really getting the most out of your Olive Garden experience?

Griffin: You're not. Yeah. So—wait. Now, this is interesting. Instead of coming to a compromise between those two ideas, we should measure which

one is the best, which is to say, those two extremes are... you enter the Olive Garden, and never eat. And never leave.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: They won't kick you out. It's fucking Olive Garden.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: You can just kind of ride...

Travis: You're family.

Griffin: You're family! They can't—they cannot kick you out. You're their dad now. And you can just kind of chill, and never eat, and be there forever. And there, you are making the most out of your time, because you have given yourself infinite time.

Travis: Right.

Griffin: The alternative to that is you walk into the Olive Garden, and they shoot you in the face with a spaghetti gun. And then you get what you get...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ...you slam what you can slam, and you turn and you—you turn on your *heels* and walk right out the door. You have just—

Travis: And this is a lot like asking about life, Griffin, when you think about it.

Griffin: It's interesting that you say that.

Travis: Yeah. Should you live a timid life, but be in the Olive Garden for as long as you can...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: ...or, lead an adventurous, aggressive life...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ...but only have a limited time in the Olive Garden.

Justin: Okay, you guys are fucking wasting time. When you first show up, you're gonna be waiting for a table. You can tell them, while you're waiting, you can get half-off wine. Okay? So that's one thing that you need to know right now, okay?

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: And I know that from my time as an employee. That's huge.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: That's gonna be maximizing your budget, and also your time.

Griffin: [laughs] What—well, before you even do that, though, be saying the word—be *shouting* the word spaghetti as you walk in the door.

Travis: Now—

Griffin: As you are in the vestibule, in the like, in the airlock from the front door to the door in, be saying, like, "Spaaaghe—" like, ready to get it going.

Travis: May I take it one step further?

Griffin: Please.

Travis: Call as you're driving there, and request that a server meet you outside with a basket of breadsticks, so you can be eating the breadsticks as you walk into the building.

Griffin: Good! Have them hang breadsticks from string, from the ceiling, that you can nibble on as you sprint at full speed to the table they've prepared.

Travis: Maybe you open your car door to drive to the Olive Garden. What's that on your driver's seat? Basket of breadsticks.

Justin: [seriously] Hey, hey guys? I have stumbled upon an article called "Olive Garden Hacks..."

Travis: [gasps]

Justin: "... 24 secrets straight from your server."

Travis: Yes!

Justin: 'Cause I wanted to—I wanted to make sure that that half-off wine thing was legit. I'm worried, from the journey I'm about to take you guys on, I'm worried we're not gonna have time to do the rest of the podcast, but I'm just gonna...

Griffin: Okay!

Justin: I'm just gonna...

Travis: Now, we do have to go to the Money Zone. Should we go ahead and do the Money Zone?

Justin: There's 24 secrets here...

Travis: No?

Griffin: We gotta cancel the ads.

Justin: Yeah, we may not have time for the ads.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Okay. There's some that are less wild, right? Split your meal with your partner in order to use two coupons at once. Okay. That's a little annoying, but sure.

Here's the first one: "Never pay full price for your kids to eat at Olive Garden. About once every two months, two to three months, Olive Garden runs week-long promotions where kids can eat for only one dollar. Unless you just gotta have those breadsticks now, I recommend waiting for these promotions."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Can you imagine staring at your kid straight in the fucking face and being like, [laughs] they're like, "Mommy, can we go to Olive Garden?"

You're like, "Well, when you cost a dollar, we can. Until then... absolutely not."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "We're just gonna keep aspiring to it."

Um, "Don't buy the wine. Bring your own cheaper bottle instead."

Travis: What? What?

Justin: "And you bring your own wine to Olive Garden, they're gonna charge you a seven-dollar corkage fee." That's *insane*.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: That's *unbelievable* that that structure is in place.

Travis: For that to work, then that means that whatever bottle of wine you bring has to be at least seven dollars and one cent cheaper than what you were—like, you can't—

Justin: You won't—okay. Now, almost certainly, yes. The mark up there has to be—you probably will be saving. Just the idea of being at Olive Garden, and you reach and take your giant cargo short pants and pull out from the cargo shorts pocket a bottle of wine, and say, "I'll be paying a corkage fee..."

Travis: Oh, my gosh.

Justin: "...for this wine I brought." Get this: "You can sample up to three wines for three. The sample pour is three ounces." That can't be right!

Travis: That's nine ounces of the good stuff!

Justin: That can't be right!

This is number 12 on this list: "Employees get 50 percent off meals after their shift. This is one of the highest employee discounts I've ever seen. Considering a career in the restaurant industry and you love pasta? You're all set." That's not a tip.

Travis: Wow, that's not so much a hack, really.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: That's... not a tip.

Griffin: That's a pivot of your life.

Travis: "Hey, honey, you wanna go eat at Olive Garden tonight?"

"Hmm, give me a second to fill out this employment form online."

Griffin: "Let me call my boss at the hospital to tell him I'm quitting being doctor."

Justin: This person, um, must have sold the article as 24 tips, and then started to get really desperate, because number 16 is, "Ask your server to box up half your meal when they serve it to you. Voila, two meals!"

Travis: What? No!

Justin: [laughs] Not at all, in any way, shape, or form, [through laughter] is that the truth.

Griffin: And how is that an Olive Garden hack? And not just sort of like—

Justin: [laughs] It's a life hack.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Ah, hey, um... when you bring me the meal, box up half of it before you bring it to the table."

"Someone's been doing their research!"

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: "Yeah, you heard that you can get two meals for the price of one that way!"

Griffin: "Daddy, I'm doing my math homework. What's 16 divided by two?"

"Oh, you mean like at Olive Garden?"

Justin: [laughs] Okay, this one is... "Order half-and-half soup if you can't decide which soup you want."

Travis: [distressed] Uh. Uh?

Justin: Olive Garden has four different kinds of soup. You guys know, say it with me, minestrone, chicken gnocchi, zuppa toscana, and pasta e fagioli.

Griffin: [stumbling echoing Justin]

Justin: "How do you decide? You mix and match."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: "Ask your server to mix the zuppa toscana soup and the chicken gnocchi together, or enjoy the pasta e fagioli with the fudgy, heavy minestrone for less calories." So basically, you're [through laughter] saying to be just a soup lunatic...

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: ... who just says, "Hey, I'm sure you worked on these recipes or whatever, but go ahead and just dump 'em all in one vat for me. And if you could bring a straw with that, I'd appreciate it."

Travis: "I just wanted to check and see if you guys were ready to order."

"Ah, yes, could you ruin some soup for me please?"

"Of course, of course."

"You know what? How about just give me one fifth a portion of all five mixed together."

"Yes, of course. Yes, sir. Yes, the soup mess, as we call it."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “Ask for an Italian soda, even though it’s not on the menu.”
[laughs] That’s... uh—uh, so, “It’s not on the menu anymore, but you can order an Italian soda with the flavors from the Olive Garden lattes.”

I think that if you ordered an Italian soda from the server at Olive Garden, they would stare at you blankly.

Travis: Yup.

Justin: And then lie on the ground until you left, is what I would’ve done.

Travis: This—all of these tips do seem to assume a certain level of engagement from the Olive Garden employee.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: That they wouldn’t just say, like, “No!”

Justin: You can—um, and the last tip here is, “Buy Olive Garden dressing in grocery stores.” Um...

Travis: Huh.

Justin: So I guess, maybe, you can bring your own bottle of dressing [holding back laughter] and just pay the corkage fee on that.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: Like, “Oh, no, I brought my own. Thank you.” Um, that’s wild.

Griffin: Now, we really... we *really* should go to the Money Zone, though.

Justin: Alright! Let’s go! Come on!

[theme music plays]

Travis: MeUndies. What more needs to be said? They're comfortable—

Griffin: Well, the ad has a lot more than that.

Justin: About 60 seconds more.

Travis: Okay, I was doing it—I was trying to do like a prestige-y thing!

What more needs to be said? They're comfortable, yes, but they also want you to be comfortable expressing yourself. Because they've dedicate—okay, you—

Griffin: Do you remember when I said, "Let's try and get through these fast"? And now you're doing it like some sort of, like... damaged magician robot.

Justin: [wheezes, laughs]

Travis: I was trying to do it like it was like an Apple, like, present—okay. MeUndies—

Justin: You sound like a broken clockwork man. Please, do it faster.

Travis: MeUndies is dedicated to making the world's softest undies in classic colors, but also fun prints like dinosaurs and surfboards. I have one that has slices of pizza on it that I really, really enjoy. Every time I put it on, it makes me feel like a real tubular dude.

And these super-soft fabrics stars sustainably-sourced beech wood trees, that magically turn from pulp to yond undies. And I never want anyone to explain to me how a tree becomes my underpants. They're just great.

So if you wanna try these tree-based underpants, you can get 15 percent off your first order, free shipping, 100% satisfaction guarantee, by going to

MeUndies.com/mybrother. That's MeUndies.com/mybrother, put your legs in some trees!

Griffin: Hey, we are supported in part by Squarespace this week. They're the website ones, they're the ones that they give you the tools that you need to showcase your work, sell products, and services of all kinds to promote your physical or online business. It also says, "Dot dot dot, and more," which I've never really read as suggestive, but now it's the only way I can kind of read it.

And they got the beautiful, customizable templates created by world-class designers. Everything's optimized for mobile right out of the box. They got analytics that help you grow in real time. They got free and secure hosting, and you never have to patch or upgrade fuck-all. So it's a great—

Travis: It says it right there!

Griffin: It's a super cool service, and it lets you use a website and make a website for you, and then you'll be on the internet. And that's... cool.

So go to squarespace.com/mybrother for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "mybrother," all one word, to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Griffin: Okay!

Travis: Oh, boy!

Justin: [singing] Celebrity Wine! Why Not? [imitates guitar]

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Travis: Huh!

Justin: [imitates guitar] [singing] Celebrity Wine! Why—[imitates guitar]

[singing] This is the mashup. Ma—ma—mashup! Celebrity Wine! Why Squad?

[normally] Welcome to Celebrity Wine! Why Munch Squad? It's a podcast within a podcast within a podcast that profiles the latest and greatest of brand eating and wine. This is not a celebrity wine, per se, but it is a—where the world of wine and the world of Munch Squad meet, uh, so this is, uh, extremely exciting for me to finally get these two great brands together.

And it's funny that I'm bringing two great brands together, because—oh, thank you to Chris, before I move on, for sending this along. Uh, the pack is back. Cheez-It, white cheddar, and refreshing House wine rosé combine for to—a year to toast.

“Just in wine—” just in time, sorry. Unintentional pun. “Just in time for national win-and-cheese day, Cheez-It and House wine,” which are neither, “offer the perfect summer pairing.

“The FOMO-inducing... Cheez-It and wine box that had everyone buzzing last year is back.”

Travis: What? Wait. So—

Justin: Remember?

Travis: Huh.

Justin: When everyone was buzzing a year ago about this?

Travis: But more than that, the implication being that I might see, perhaps, some sort of influencer on Instagram enjoying this Cheez-It and wine box combination, and I would be like, “Oh, God, I'm so afraid I'm missing out.”

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: “This year’s limited edition offers a brand-new, summer-ready combination: Cheez-It white cheddar, and House wine rosé.” Why do they continue to put the “white cheddar” after Cheez-It? I don’t know. It’s very irritating.

“Made with 100-percent real cheese, Cheez-It white cracker...”

Griffin: [laughs] House wine.

Justin: House wine. [crosstalk]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: “And Cheez-It white cheddar crackers...”

Griffin: “I don’t know, man. We keep squeezing the cheese, and this incredible rosé keeps squishing out of it.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: “Your guess is as good as mine, dude, but don’t stop the cash cow!”

Justin: That’s some slippery language. “Made *with* 100% real cheese.” All that is guaranteeing you is a single molecule of cheese.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: At some point in the process. “White cheddar crackers pair perfectly with the crisp, refreshing flavor of House wine rosé. All in one convenient package,” if your idea of convenience is carrying around a sloshy box of crackers...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: ...from your kitchen to your living room.

Travis: And also, definitely, uneven weight, right? There's no way...

Justin: Oh, for sure.

Travis: The wine side must be heavier than the Cheez-It side.

Justin: Yeah. It's like an adult box of Nerds.

"It's no secret that rosé is the ideal beverage for peak of summer." That's true. You know, rosé seemed to be so looked down upon, but there's a lot of great rosés—

Travis: Are you saying it right, and I've been saying it wrong all my life?

Griffin: How have you been saying it, Travis?

Travis: Rosé.

Justin: Pink.

Travis: But you're saying it like "ro-say."

Justin: [awkward enunciation] It doesn't mat-ter.

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Justin: "The crisp flavor—"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: “—of everyone’s favorite summer drink, the tasty combo, is perfect for a socially distant happy hour.”

Hey, pos—[through laughter] Imagine—[laughs] Imagine this socially-distanced party where the only concessions available are a single box of Cheez-It and wine.

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: Which, by the way, is distributed through a spigot on the front of the box.

Travis: Yeah...

Justin: Which I would argue makes it the least perfect beverage to have at your socially-distant happy hour.

Travis: Now, I will say, just as far as, like, getting across the room, my friends and I did use to play space bag in college, where we would take the bag out of the box of wine, and hurl it across the room at each other, you know, like a space bag. And if you got hit by it, you had to drink, but if you caught it, the other person had to drink.

Griffin: Yeah. That’s space bag. We know space bag.

Travis: Yeah. So you could get it across the room easily without having to get in within six feet of each other, but as Justin has indicated, there is a point in all space bag games where you have to put your mouth on a spigot.

Griffin: Your mouth on it, and that ain’t gonna get the Fauci seal of approval.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: No.

Justin: “The tasty combo is perfect for a socially distant happy hour, a virtual book club, or a cozy night on the couch.”

You know, we all contain multitudes for sure, but I’m not sure there’s a huge demographic that loves uh, books almost as much as they love, uh, chugging down dirty crackers with rotten strawberry water.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: “Or a cozy night on the couch, watching reality TV with a few friends.” We’re actually not doing that anymore.

Travis: Yeah, that’s not—

Griffin: [bursts into laughter]

Justin: [through laughter] I don’t know if you all actually heard that that’s not actually what we’re doing anymore.

Travis: And this is definitely—someone was writing this copy, and they could think of two things...

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: And they’re like, “Aaand, you know, when everything reverts back to the way it was...”

Justin: “You know, these are for dirt bags too, who don’t give a big shit about people. They can enjoy our thing.”

Travis: [laughs] And this is—and you can really be enjoyed by yelling—while yelling at people in the supermarket.

Justin: “Following the success of our first edition of Cheez-It and wine, which sold out in minutes...”

Travis: What?!

Justin: "... we knew we had to bring the partnership back this summer with a new flavor pairing," said Jeff Delonis, senior director of marketing for Cheez-It.

Travis: Was it sold online? How did—

Justin: Yeah, it's just online only. "White cheddar is a long-standing flavor favorite of Cheez-It fans, and what better match than a light, refreshing rosé? Not only does it perfectly complement the cheesy goodness, it's also the unofficial wine of summer." You can just call it the official wine of summer. I don't think summer's gonna fucking sue you.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Limited-edition Cheez-It white cheddar and House wine rosé will be available online for \$29.99 at OriginalHouseWine.com, beginning at 2:00 PM Eastern on July 23rd." Don't worry; it's already sold out.

Griffin: Huh.

Travis: Oh, okay. Cool. I was worried, because I knew I would have to look deep into my soul, and like, decide if I was gonna buy it or not, and I'm glad that they have saved me that level of introspection.

Griffin: Well, Travis, great news. I have found listings for a box of House wine rosé, and a big box of Cheez-Its white cheddar, and a listing for super glue.

Travis: Huh. Okay.

Griffin: So you can kind of just do your own thing, and I would argue that mine has double cardboard in there to protect from fluid cracker contamination.

Travis: Yeah, but Griffin, if I do it myself, that's *nothing*.

Justin: There's—I'm on the website where you go to order it, and I just got really sad for a second. [laughs] Okay, uh, I missed it, of course. And they said, "Our Cheez-It and House wine pairing boxes are sold out, but don't worry, we wouldn't leave you hanging. Click below to learn more about this collaboration, and see our favorite House wine and Cheez-It cracker pairings, so you can recreate it at home."

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: And I just feel like... the idea—the fact that they... they didn't think that I could think of how to buy Cheez-Its and wine myself...

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Justin: That I, a human person, would go to the store and be like, "Well, they're in different aisles. I mean, the law's the law. I can't—"

Griffin: [laughs loudly]

Justin: "I can't recreate this... [wheezing laughter] ... at home. Help me. Help me, brands. Fix this for me."

Travis: It is also as if the emperor was the one who was like, "Look at my new clothes, and also, I'm naked!"

Because like, you've just said, like, "We just charged you money," as Griffin put it, "to glue two things together, you dummies! You could do this! You didn't need us to do it. The magic was in you all along."

Justin: Uh, I should point out that um... the regular box of wine from them costs \$21.99. This box, this partnership, when it was available, cost 30 dollars. So you are also buying a nine-dollar box of Cheez-Its, which is airplane level fancy.

Griffin: Uh, they're white cheddar Cheez-Its, so...

Justin: To be fair, yeah, that is absolutely true, Griffin. Absolutely true. Um... my advice to these two companies: make more... of them. They keep selling out instantly. If you like the money parts, just go ahead and make more of them.

Travis: Some—

Justin: A lot more.

Travis: Some human being, who already thought that they were pretty eroded inside, saw how quickly it sold out, and thought, "Should I have charged more for this?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "I already thought I was kind of pushing it with that \$30 price tag, but could I have been more of a dirt bag about this?"

Justin: "I feel like I should've charged... more."

Travis: "Huh!"

Griffin: [laughing quietly]

Travis: "I already thought I was, you know, charging a lot of money for Cheez-Its, but... people seem to really wanna spend this kind of money on Cheez-Its!"

Griffin: "Am I *helping* people?"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Wait a minute, am I... a hero?"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, similar—the press release continues, undaunted. “Similar to the many varieties of Cheez-It, our wines run the full spectrum of flavor,” said Hal Landvoigt, winemaker for House Wine. “We’ve seen rosé skyrocket in popularity over the past few years.” Apparently, it skyrocketed so much that we’ve had to duct tape it to a box of Cheez-Its.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: “Especially during the warm season. For the second year of this partnership, we knew the pairing had to feature rosé as the perfect complement to the real cheese flavor in Cheez-It white cheddar.”

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Um, “House wine is the recipient of several Best Buy accolades,” um, which I’m assuming is Frank from loss prevention at my local Best Buy.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: “You’re gonna love this stuff! Cheese and wine in one box!”

“From leading industry publications such as wine spectator and wine enthusiast,” which I’m assuming was in no way a joke. “For additional details on this partnership, be sure to visit CheezIt.com and OriginalHouseWine.com.”

Travis: “Hey, welcome back for—this is year three of the Cheez-It House wine collabo. This year, a bold step, we just removed the divider. So now it’s just wine and Cheez-Its sloshing around in there...”

Griffin: [laughing quietly]

Travis: “... and we’re charging \$140 for it. Oh, it sold out. Fuck!”

Justin: Fuck!

Griffin: It’s gone.

Justin: Fuck! [laughs]

Griffin: It's also—we also just threw a random fucking Funko Pop in there. It's just a sloppy, soupy surprise box.

Justin: Can you imagine—there is a pairing, uh, guide on here, on the website. Where—what—how you can Cheez-It and cheers it?

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: And they, of course, have white cheddar and rosé, they have... [through laughter] ... extra cheesy and pinot grigio. They have extra toasty, and the sauvignon blanc. They have original plus a nice red blend. There's cheddar jack plus cabernet sauvignon. Um, and then there's uh... Malbec and Cheez-It grooves zesty cheddar ranch.

Griffin: Makes sense.

Justin: And I just hope that somewhere in this world, there was a 70-year-old Argentinian man looking out over his uh...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: ... Malbec, and thinking...

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: "I just hope, one day, that my family's vineyard, which has been in our family for generations, and we've been fermenting this wine. I hope, one day, the Malbec we make can be paired to use to wash down Cheez-It grooves zesty cheddar ranch. That is my fondest hope. This is what my grandpapa imagined when he planted this vineyard."

Griffin: "My grandpapa, who is buried in this vineyard. Whose very life force is—"

Justin: [laughs] "In this vineyard. My grandpapa, who was part of the terror of this—this wine that we make, can finally be used to wash down Cheez-It grooves zesty cheddar ranch."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [sighs]

Griffin: So anyway, that's the end of the show.

Justin: Hey, thanks so much for listening. Um, last plug about MaximumFun.org/join. Please...

Griffin: Pleeese?

Travis: Pweeease!

Justin: Pretty please! Pwease. You like our podcast, right? Please. This is the last time. Come on! MaximumFun.org/join. Come on! What do you got to lose, except five dollars a month?

Griffin: Thank you to John Roderick and The Long Winters for the use of our theme song, "(It's a) Departure," off the album *Putting the Days to Bed*. And that's all I'm gonna say about that.

Justin: Wow.

Travis: There it is. We have a podcast book coming out. We wrote a book about how to make a podcast that you are proud of and enjoy making. It's called *Everybody Has a Podcast Except You*.

Justin: We haven't talked about this. That's weird.

Griffin: That's weird, huh?

Justin: It's very unlike us.

Travis: If you wanna preorder it, you can go to McElroyPodcastBook.com. It's a how-to guide. And listen, it's kinda funny, but mostly, it's gonna help you make a good podcast!

Justin: How did we wrestle that URL away from whoever was squatting on it?

Travis: I know. McElroyPodcastBook.com. You can preorder it now, it comes out in January, don't wait!

Justin: Well.

Griffin: Well!

Justin: There you go.

Griffin: Well, that's it! Uh, so... we're gonna... end the show now.

Travis: Mosey on along.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: With a final Yahoo. This one was sent in by—

Travis: Ah, sweep, sweep, sweep. Yep, all done now.

Griffin: This one was sent in by the Prospector, Merit Palmer. Thank you, Merit. It's Yahoo Answers user—they're anonymous. Gonna call 'em, uh, Jerm, asks, "If I get blood all over my tax return form, will they audit me? I don't feel like starting over."

Justin: [sputters, laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: [laughs] 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 and ends]

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