

MBMBaM 550: The Spider-Man Truth

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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 song plays, to the tune of *Rugrats*:

Griffin: [singing] Here come the McElroys! We've got jokes and bits. We're gonna give advice, and do funny skits. Laughter, it is in store. Come inside, and see. It's time to start, it's *My Brother, My Brother and Me.*]

Travis: I have—I have a thing for the intro.

Griffin: [groans]

Justin: [groans]

Travis: It's really silly and light.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: I don't think we need—I think we should just talk about what's been going on.

Travis: No, that'd just bum everyone out.

Griffin: Let's uh—I like the tension between Travis' instinct and Justin's instinct. Let's see what happens with that.

Travis: Okay.

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

Travis: I'm "Woof Woof" Travis McElroy. A dog?!

Griffin: Still—still doin' it. This is Griffin. Still doin' it.

Travis: Well, I tried to make it um—like, go up at the end, 'cause I had a question I wanted to ask you. Something that's really been kinda, you know, uh, stuck in my old craw.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: It's just an age-old question I've been trying to figure out.

Griffin: A riddle, even?

Travis: No, not quite a riddle.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: But it's more like... When you wear a shirt, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And you go out into the world wearing a shirt.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Right. Right, right, right.

Travis: Which side of the shirt is the side that's getting dirtier: the outside that's out facing the world, or the inside a-rubbing up against your body?

Justin: Well, this is challenging. Um...

Griffin: This is tough. There's parts of my body that are... fucking filthy.

Travis: Right. Yes.

Griffin: And there is—and we take great strides to mitigate that.

Travis: Right.

Griffin: But the armpits, the—are we limiting this to just the shirt, or are we talking pants too—you can't ask that of pants, 'cause you know the answer of pants, and it's which sides the goodger on, and it's in—

Travis: Well, yes, because the extension of this question, right, is if you wear two shirts, right?

Griffin: Yeah. [sighs]

Justin: Yeah, I do.

Travis: If you have an undershirt and an overshirt.

Griffin: And very prominent nipples, Justin's got. It's gotta get two shirts in there, and just pin those bad boys in.

Travis: If you get home, right?

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Which shirt is like, the dirty shirt?

Griffin: The dirty shirt? Yeah, wow.

Travis: Can you wear the undershirt again? Can y—like, can you turn the shirt inside-out and you're good?

Griffin: [sighs]

Travis: Like, where are we at with this?

Griffin: Well, okay, where are you spending your days? Are you spending it in uh, you know, sort of clean office, or are you stink—you've been in a stinky fungus forest?

Travis: Let's say I am walking around... Okay. I'm walking around Columbus, Ohio...

Griffin: Aw, yeah.

Travis: ... on a 72-degree day.

Griffin: Oh, perfect. Columbus really comes to life...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: ... in the springtime.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah. But it's not so hot...

Justin: The finches! Oh, baby!

Griffin: [laughs] Oh, when the finches are flitting down the ol' Ohio.

Travis: The Columbus finches. Oh, when they return from Capistrano.

Griffin: I love it.

Travis: To Columbus.

Justin: [laughing quietly]

Griffin: Oh, that's good, clean air. That's good, clean, American air right there.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: It's good, clean air. Good, clean air, but a recognizable city. Now, I could've gone with Cincinnati, but I already live here, and I don't wanna speak hypothetically.

Griffin: You live there.

Justin: Too much baggage. Too much baggage.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: There's a lot of emotion tied to that city.

Griffin: And during a—during a gameday...

Travis: Oh, forget about it.

Griffin: ... You walk outside, that shirt—that shirt's instantly dirty. It's got sport filth.

Travis: So 72 degrees...

Justin: Oh! [laughs]

Travis: 72—

Griffin: Sorry. Justin and I are just spending time in our memories, thinking about all of our great Columbus springs.

Travis: I understand. We've all been there.

Justin: Can I emerge from the doors of the Center of Science and Industry, or COSI?

Travis: Of course!

Justin: And I'm heading to Cosi, the sandwich place.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: And it's—and he's feeling cozy in this great, comfortable air.

Travis: 72-degree weather.

Griffin: Yeah.

Um, here's—this question's bad—a bad question...

Travis: Why?

Griffin: Well, I can answer it with a single word, and that word is: jackets.

[short pause]

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Hm.

Griffin: You wear a j—you wear a shirt and a jacket.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Outside, in a beautiful 72-degree—maybe it's like, a light—you know, a light jacket. And you come back in, and at the end of the day, you put on your night clothes...

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: ... and you take off your—

Travis: Work your shirt. Night clothes.

Justin: My long night shirt that I have.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Right. And your cap.

Travis: Of course.

Griffin: With your single—your single candle.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: And you retire the shirt that has been rubbing against your huge, prominent nipples, and your stinky arm—like, your arm goodgers, and that goes in the hamper. But the next day, new shirt, same jacket.

Travis: Yeah, but just because we've always done that, Griffin, doesn't mean it's right.

Justin: I c—listen, this is all good stuff, but Griffin started talking about nightcaps, and I was thinking...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You know the cap? And they got the fuzzy ball at the end all the time.

Travis: Right, right, right.

Griffin: We love that. We love that.

Justin: What's that about? [laughs]

Travis: So you can find the end of it easier.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [bursts out laughing] Are you suggesting that I would be casually stroking up the top of the hat, and I would get to a place where I wasn't sure...

Griffin: You'd get scared.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ... if I was touching hair or hat.

Travis: Well, it's dark. You only have the one candle.

Griffin: You only have one candle.

Travis: So you're like, "How high is this hat going?" And you—then you worry that maybe you've moved on to a se—like, now you've reached the chandelier.

Justin: Right.

Travis: You missed the end completely, and you just keep going.

Griffin: You need a sort of anchor, when you're working in the dark in old Victorian times where you just have the one candle. You need something to sort of establish a depth perception, like, target? And that's what the ball is for.

Justin: Right.

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: And it can also be a fun game for when you get bored or you're very, very sick with an old Victorian disease, laying in bed. You sort of swat at it, like a kitty cat does.

Travis: Oh, yeah. Or when you're snoring, and you're going, [makes cartoony sleeping noises]. Your breath is, like, blowing—

Griffin: [crosstalk], yeah, you've got it.

Travis: —that little ball up, and it's bopping you back in the nose. You know what I mean? It's fun.

Griffin: It's so funny and cute. But to answer your question—

Travis: So which side of the nightcap is getting dirtier?

Griffin: The ball side.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: My body makes more filth than the room or area I'm in. I could pretty much guarantee that. It's terrible. My body consumes things, and turns it into, I guess, more bones and meat and flesh that makes me up...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ...and then everything that doesn't make the cut just gets r—impressed into my—into my clothing. It's a real horror show.

Travis: Isn't it wild to think that we spend our lives eating food so our bones can get thicker and thicker until one day we die, and it's just skin on bone?

Griffin: Yeah, it doesn't make any sense.

Travis: Just solid bone all the way through.

Griffin: It doesn't make any sense.

Justin: What are you talking about? This is a comedy show.

Travis: Oh, right.

Justin: You said you had something fun and light for the opener. I'm so disappointed in you.

Griffin: Right. And Justin was—

Travis: I did—that was a fun—

Justin: I am officially revoking your ability to initiate the program.

Griffin: Whoa, shit.

Travis: Hey—hey, Justin? I just killed about six-and-a-half minutes.

Justin: No, I—but that's not about this. I—the new—I've been away from art for so long.

Griffin: It's been a while.

Justin: It's been a while since I've made any art.

Travis: Your friend, Art Garfunkel?

Justin: No—see, that's exactly what I'm talking about.

Griffin: That's what Trav—Justin's hinting at.

Justin: No more fucking duds! This show is no longer about the art—

Travis: That wasn't a dud! You've been away from art...

Griffin: Yes, it was. [crosstalk], you heard the word art.

Travis: [crosstalk] Hey, guys, guys? It sounded like a name, and that name is Art Garfunkel.

Justin: You are, right now, pointing at the basketball underneath the hoop, and it's like, "Well, I thought I threw it high enough to get it in the hole, but I just threw it in the slushy stand."

Travis: Okay. Okay, you're right—

Justin: So that's what happened with that one.

Travis: You're right, you're right, you're right.

Justin: We know!

Travis: Fart Garfunkel.

Griffin: Thank you, there it is.

Justin: No! Like, no—

Griffin: No, Justin. No, Justin, Justin. No, Justin.

Justin: Sorry.

Griffin: Just—

Justin: I lost you.

Griffin: He got there.

Justin: I'm gonna revoke Travis' privileges—from now—okay. We haven't been able to make art for two weeks.

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah.

Justin: [crosstalk]—

Travis: Justin, we haven't been able to make fart.

Justin: Because of the weather and stuff, and because of that—um, because of that, *Borat 2* beat *Hamilton* for the Golden Globe. And we let that happen on our watch, 'cause we didn't make any art for two weeks.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: And America forgot. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: America forgot.

Travis: Has anyone checked on Lin? [laughs]

Justin: I talked to Lin last night after *Borat* beat him so soundly.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I promised him, on my mother's grave, that if *Borat* beat him for the Golden Globe, it would be discussed in the introduction of this program.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: So now, I have cashed that in.

[clip of Borat saying "my wife" plays]

Justin: There it is. [laughs] Thanks for checking in, Borat. Uh...

Travis: Borat, is there anyone you'd like to thank?

[airhorns blare]

Griffin: Oh. Wow, he really—

Justin: He wants to thank [laughs] his reggae horn that he travels with at all times.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: That was a real bump set... just, dookie, right on the ground.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: It was a nice setup, and a failure to deliver. We love *Borat*. Can we—

Justin: Well, we're not—we do love *Borat* here. I'm saying—here's what all I'm saying. Everybody wins at the Golden Globes, 'cause everybody had a great time.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And the stars—

Travis: I didn't. I didn't win.

Justin: The stars came out to play...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Did you guys actually—you guys probably didn't watch, did you?

Travis: No!

Griffin: No, yeah.

Justin: Sydnee likes award shows, uh, so we checked in. Uh, it was all wild.

Griffin: It was a tough watch!

Justin: It was a tough watch, but Trav, this is gonna sound like I'm making it up, but in the interstitial, like, before and after commercials? [through laughter] They would point the celebs that were about to be up for awards, were all, like, logged into Zoom, right?

Travis: Sure.

Justin: And—and they would point—basically point their screens at one another, and encourage them to make fun small talk. So I got to watch Bob Odenkirk trying to lure Al Pacino out of his [laughs] trance.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [holding back laughter] And lure him into some lighthearted conversation, as the announcer was like, "Next up! We've got another award!" And uh, it was all—I mean, really difficult.

Griffin: It was r—it was really, really difficult. Jason Bateman was there with his kids, and it was like, he shouldn't be exposed to this environment. None of them should be.

Travis: Were—were any of them, like, playing Fortnite while receiving their rewards and telling people to smash that like and subscribe button?

Griffin: Jason Sudeikis was essentially doing that.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Jason Sudeikis, yeah, was basically, like, mid-kill streak, I think.

Travis: Nice.

Griffin: Yeah. Um, anyway... can we—let's move onto—

Justin: I just want to say, ser—on a serious note, it's been like, a while since we've been able to record one, 'cause of... Earth, and I just wanna say it's a genuine pleasure, and I'm thrilled to be here with you, and uh... I won't let Travis post up any more fucking dookie.

Griffin: [makes farting noises] Alright.

Justin: 550!

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: This one's a big one.

Travis: A special one. [laughs] We've got a lot planned.

Justin: "I'm a big fan of Formula 1, and a lot of the teams are doing raffles during the preseason period this spring. The prizes are mostly things like merch and invites to virtual car launch events. And some are offering virtual meet-and-greets with the drivers.

"The issue is, that while I'd love a signed team hat, the idea of winning a video call with a Formula 1 driver fills me with terror. I'm trying to mentally prepare just in case, but I'm drawing a blank. What are some cool things to say when you're talking to a racecar driver over Zoom?" That's from Inane in the Pit Lane.

Griffin: That's a—that's a uh—

Justin: I'm Inane! Got pit lane!

Griffin: [laughs] Do you think that the best... sort of telecommuting, telework solution for a Formula 1 driver is Zoom? Do you think they feel very comfortable—

Travis: Oh, I see.

Griffin: —and they're, so, like, "Oh, this is the sound my good, fast, car goes."

Travis: Zoom, zoom.

Griffin: Zoom car love.

Justin: [laughs] Zoom. It's [crosstalk]—

Griffin: "I can tell you're uncomfortable talking to me, Chet Champson. Um, just talking to me over Zoom. But let me tell you, I feel very comfortable, because the name of this application is the sound that my car go."

Travis: Zoom, zoom.

Griffin: "Thank you."

Travis: Now, I—I think we can all agree, the first question is of course, "How fast have you gone?" Right?

Griffin: Yeah, what's as fast as you get.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: That's an—'cause I think that they'd be excited to have—one, to have a nice softball, but if they're not excited to talk about how fast they've gone, why are they in Formula 1?

Justin: Can you—can you get the fake back-of-the-car, like, rear windshield, driving back around, that they used to use for, like, Toonces the driving cat?

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: As your rear Zoom? Can you make that happen, just to make the racecar driver feel comfortable?

Travis: Oh, and then have them be, like, your driver. So like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... you're sitting in the backseat, and just trying to do conversation where you're like, "Hey, could you slow down a little bit?"

Griffin: "You're going very, very fast."

Travis: "Oh, you just did that turn pretty quick."

Griffin: "And I asked you to go to Whole Foods, and you're not."

Travis: "No, I said take a right."

Griffin: "Nope. Only lefts here." Actually, I think Formula 1 courses, they zigzag all over. They don't do just a big circle there.

Travis: Really? Oh, that's too exciting for me.

Griffin: I think so, yeah.

I think that the "how fast you go" question doesn't really have... legs, or wheels.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: In this case. If you want—try bouncing that off me; I'll be Chet Champson, beloved Formula 1 racer.

Travis: So uh, how fast have you gone?

Griffin: "Hahaha! 200."

Travis: Miles per hour?

Griffin: "Yep! Well, we do kilometers, don't we? For European Formula 1."

Travis: Ooh! What's that translate to in miles?

Griffin: "No one knows!"

Travis: Oh, okay. Sorry, my dog just came in the room. Hey, buddy, what's up?

Griffin: "Let me see those precious toe beans!"

Travis: These are his toe beans.

Griffin: "Oh, honey!"

Travis: His name is Chet Champson the Dog. I named him after you.

Griffin: "Hate that."

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: Hey, can I say? That actually felt a lot more—I was gonna try to illustrate, like, "That's a bad topic of conversation 'cause it doesn't really go anywhere from there," but Travis, you are a fucking born conversationalist.

Travis: Thank you very much.

Griffin: Even when I was trying to fucking stump you, you made me feel so comfortable, and—

Travis: How did you feel when the dog came in?

Griffin: I loved that. I—it's not real, um, but I—

Travis: You could envision it.

Griffin: Yeah. I could envision the precious pupper's toe beans.

Justin: I actually—if I could admit this? When Travis said his dog came in, I thought that his dog came in the room.

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: He was like, so deeply inhabiting the rule.

Travis: Well, I've actually been training my dogs to come over when I'm on Zoom calls, because it makes everybody so happy. I give 'em little pieces of bacon, and they come over, and everyone's like, "Oh, a doggo!"

And they get really excited, um...

Griffin: Yeah. [sighs]

Travis: I didn't even have dogs before the pandemic. I bought them specifically for Zoom calls.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Um... to make people happy. And you know what? When the pandemic's gone, I'm gonna sell 'em.

Griffin: Alright.

Travis: Sell these dogs.

Griffin: Yeah! And you get a little bit of sweat equity there, the dogs have gotten bigger.

Travis: Got bigger, and I've trained 'em.

Griffin: Right. Um, I think that if you get on a call with this stranger, and you say, "Hey, thanks for taking the time talking to me today, but I really just want a hat. Can you send me a hat, and we don't have to talk?"

And the stranger goes, "Absolutely." And then you can hang up the phone.

Justin: [laughs loudly] If I will say this... I can think of almost no Zooms I've been on in the last year where if someone said, "Justin, you can hang up right now if you promise to send me some kind of hat..." "

Griffin: Sign the hat...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Absolutely. Done. I'm already closing the screen.

Travis: "Hey, Chet Champson? In all your 50 years of racing, what was the best fan interaction you've ever had?"

[southern accent] "Oh, man, let me tell you. One time, this guy let me get off a Zoom call super quick. [laughs] It was amazing. I named my son after him, and I just—I didn't know his name, though, so I just called him Hang-Up Guy. This is my son, Hang-Up Guy Champson."

Griffin: "Happiest I've ever been."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Better than any race I've ever won was that time—it was the fastest Zoom call I've ever been on."

Justin: "And you know me, I love speed. I crave it."

Griffin: "I was in the middle of watching the season finale of *Ozark*. I was like, hell yeah! Get right back into *Ozark*. See if Jason and the kids are gonna get out of *this one*."

Travis: [laughs] "Zoom, zoom. That's the sound my car makes."

Griffin: "Uh, zoom zoom, baby. I went ahead and knocked over a lid, so I could have get-out-of-call-free tickets."

Travis: [laughs] "And now I'm in prison, but it was worth it!"

Justin: "It was worth it to get off that Zoom call, no questions asked."

Griffin: "I knocked over the lids, they fucking caught me while I was driving away, can you believe that?"

Travis: The irony.

Griffin: "Me of all people, Chet Champson."

Um, do y'all want a Yahoo?

Justin: Yeah, I'd love that.

Griffin: This one is sent in by Casey. Thanks, Casey. It's uh, Yahoo Answers User Bush, who asks, "My grandkids want to start a detective agency."

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Nice!

Griffin: "Should I start—should I start staging crimes for them to solve?"

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: "I'm worried about them actually solving it and figuring out it was me."

Travis: Well, yeah.

Griffin: Um, I mean, it depe—the latter worry is a strange worry, unless the crimes you were attempting to do was like... manslaughter.

Travis: No, but I—here's the thing. Even if it's like, oh, you know, Bugsy stole the fucking class pet or whatever.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: If you figure out that's your grandpa—I mean, after two of those, even if it's just—

Griffin: It's always Grandpa. Yeah.

Travis: You're like, "Fucking Grandpa. Like, calm your—are you okay, dude? Like, you stole the class pet, and then you stole that little kid's, like, prized marble shooter or whatever."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Like, what are you doing, Grandpa?"

Griffin: Trav, did you ever watch, um, the Sherlock show with uh, Benekick?

Travis: Uh—

Justin: *Elementary?*

Travis: Yeah, right?

Griffin: Uh, no, the other one. That one had—

Travis: Oh, the one where Sherlock Holmes woke up, and it was like, modern-day San Francisco, and... ?

Griffin: No, that's still *Elementary*.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: This one had Benekick—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh—

Travis: The Hobbit.

Griffin: The Hobbit, and uh, Bay... it was just *Sherlock*. It was just right down the middle, *Sherlock*. There wasn't, like, a special thing about it. It was just this straight-over-the-plate *Sherlock*? Do you remember that one?

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: A little bit.

Griffin: Well, in that one, in every—every case, they'd be like, "Uh-oh, the mummy did come back from the dead..."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "... and is killing all the people at the museum, or the people at the circus have been also killing people." Um, but at the end of each one, turns out it was ju—it was Moriarty. And then at the end of the first season, Moriarty dies.

Justin: Whoa.

Griffin: And you say, "Whoa, hold on a minute. Um, now who's gonna do the crimes?" And sure enough, the next season, there's a big crime that happens where one of the guys, his wife does it.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: And you're like, "Whoa, what?" But then you're like—you find out later it was still Moriarty.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Do you see where I'm going with this?

Justin: I do.

Travis: Is the Grandpa Moriarty in this?

Griffin: Well, yeah, that's what I'm saying, is that you steal the lunch money, and they find out, "Oh, it was Grandpa."

And Grandpa said, "I did that as a test for you."

And then the next thing is, the class pet goes missing, and everybody thinks it's Bugsy, but it turns out it's the grandpa again.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: And they say, "Well, now we know that Grandpa's doing all the crimes."

So Grandpa fakes his own murder.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: And... but it turns out it was a plot by Grandpa, but at that point, Grandpa is no longer with us. And then another crime happens, and the kids go, "Well, it can't possibly be Grandpa; he's dead as hell."

But it—somehow it's still Gra—it's still Grandpa, do you know what I mean?

Travis: Yeah. Hey, I—

Griffin: The only way to get the—to get the kids off your case is to be dead.

Travis: Well, yes. I mean, obviously, Griffin.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That's 101.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Can I just say that my favorite part about this question is if you read between the lines a little bit, the grandpa is worried that the kids will solve it, but not sure they will? So the grandpa does think one of two things. One...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... that these kids are wicked stupid.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Or two, that Grandpa might secretly turn out to be a master criminal?

Griffin: Really good at crime, yeah.

Travis: An unsolvable mystery. [laughs]

Griffin: Right. Yeah. I—yeah.

Justin: You know, we're talking about *Sherlock*. And there's something wild about that, is *Elementary*. You remember that show? We're talking about *Elementary*.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, I like it!

Justin: You know? Every extent of it—

Travis: Well, Justin, you were talking about *Elementary*, but go on.

Justin: Yeah, but I wanna talk about more about *Elementary*. Never watched a single episode of it. Ran for seven years.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Ended in 2019, which explains why I haven't heard a lot about it lately.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: But this is the thing I wanted to say. There's 154 episodes of this show, right?

Travis: Syndication right there, baby!

Justin: It makes—it—yeah. Jonny Lee Miller is, of course, is now the actor who's played Sherlock Holmes the most times.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: 'Cause there's so many episodes of it, okay?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: There's 154 episodes of the show. There's gotta be one... that centers on pro gamers. [laughs] Right?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: There's gotta be one episode where Sherlock's like, "This is the gamers. The gamers are involved. It's gotta be [his mascot?] that did the murders."

Travis: Right.

Justin: You know what I mean? Like, there's gotta be one element that's centered on pro gamers.

Griffin: Right. So there's a bit where Lucy Liu has, like, a Google cardboard headset strapped to her face, and she looks up, at h—at Sherlock...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: But she's obviously still seeing the game world in her headset, and she says, "So if you die in the game..." "

And he says, [bad cockney accent] "Then you die in real life, love."

Travis: Hey, um, real quick—

Griffin: Trav, can you... help us build this incredible episode of *Elementary*?
[laughs]

Travis: No, no, no, no. I understand. I understand. I just wanna read a paragraph here from *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*, a 1997, uh, television movie.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: "Following those instructions, Jane Watson finds a hidden basement containing a primitive cryogenic capsule with a man lying inside, whom she thaws. The man inside the capsule turns out to be her ancestor's friend and partner, the legendary Sherlock Holmes himself."

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Cool, man. That sounds pretty good.

Hey, I have an exciting new segment.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: And I p—I sneak-previewed this to Travis, um, but I am so excited to get started here. I was cruising the web recently...

Travis: Like you do.

Justin: ... and I was so excited to find out that there is a company that makes these decks of cards that you can use for podcasting. And it's to help you do a good podcast.

Travis: Thank you, finally!

Justin: I know. And I was like, "Finally, it's time to step up our game." You know, we're pros. We wrote the book on podcasting. It could always be better, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Right.

Travis: That's what we should've called our book.

Justin: Could always be better! I'm gonna—each of you's gonna get a card. And I'm gonna let you choo—I have five different decks of these fuckers here. But we're gonna talk about the—you're each gonna get to pick one. Travis, would you like a card from the interview deck, the would-you-rather deck, or the what-the-heck deck?

Travis: Ooh, would-you-rather.

Griffin: Oh, sh—don't you dare take what-the-heck. I have called dibsies.

Travis: Yeah. I—

Justin: [crosstalk] Okay, Travis, I'm gonna select one a card at random from the would-you-rather deck. Finally, this podcast is going places.

Travis: Yeah, right?

Griffin: This is good, man.

Justin: This is good.

Griffin: We don't even have to think with our fucking forebrains anymore. We can just slip-slide into the...

Justin: It's insti—it's all instinct now, right? It's just instinct.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Alright, Travis.

Travis: Yeah?

Justin: Would you rather...

Griffin: God I hope it's dirty.

Justin: [chuckles deviously] Would you rather...

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: ... have to grow, hunt, and kill your own food, or eat only Taco Bell for a year?

Griffin: This is terrible. That is fucking terrible.

Travis: I mean...

Justin: Now, really think about it, Trav. You are an impulsive person. I need you to really go through it.

Travis: Grow, hunt, and kill?

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: Yeah, I mean, yeah. You could hunt a chicken and then eat it while it's still alive; that seems a little brutal.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Or eat Taco Bell for a year. What wildly different options.

Justin: Yeah, that's kind of what makes it fun, you putz!

Griffin: Well, no, Justin. Typically, in a “would you rather,” they don’t pair up a really, really rough option with an incredible windfall. With an incredible blessing.

Justin: [laughs] I have never ea—I think maybe once in my—no, I’ve never eaten Taco Bell for two *successive meals*.

Griffin: Yeah. [crosstalk]—

Travis: No, but if I eat Taco Bell—if I eat Taco Bell every day for a year, you know what—

Justin: No, no, no, no. Every month. Every meal, I’m sorry. Every meal.

Travis: Sure, sure, sure. But what I’m saying is you know what I am now, Justin? Fucking internet famous. I’ve made a documentary that is called *Live Mas*, and like, I’m...

Griffin: *Live Mas—Live Masy or Die*.

Travis: Yeah. [laughs] *Live Mas, e minus*, you know? And it’s like, okay, now... uh, who knows? Now maybe I’m... uh, rich. I’ve done endorsement deal from Taco Bell, the other option, do a lot of fucking work.

Griffin: Yeah. Uh... there’s a lot. I mean, there’s a lot on the Taco Bell menu.

Travis: And we make a lot of jokes, but Taco Bell is delicious.

Griffin: You could rotate through the menu in a way that you could sustain your body and keep it alive.

Travis: Especially now that papa frites is back.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Uh, alright, Griffin, did—so did you want something from the, um...

Griffin: I want something from—what the heck?

Justin: What the heck?

Travis: Just say “What the fuck?”

Griffin: No, that’s—you don’t get it, man.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: Yeah, you don’t get it, man. It’s a what-the-heck deck. It sounds better.

Travis: What, the tech deck?

Justin: Griffin, what slogan or jingle got stuck in your head forever?

Travis: For-ever.

Griffin: Oh, man. There’s a lawyer in town...

Travis: [laughing quietly]

Griffin: ... and I don’t—I am not familiar with the type of work that he and his firm does, but I do know that he spent several hundred thousand dollars commissioning a song for his—his old firm, and the song, it goes – if I may sing a few bars, it goes: “[singing] Funk and Associates! Funk and Associates!”

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: “[singing] Funk and Associates! Call Funk and Associates.”

[spoken] It was Funk and Associates...

Justin: That’s pretty good.

Griffin: It's good, and what's—what I love about it is Dr. Funk, or whatever his name is—the lawyer?

Travis: Probably Funk Esquire.

Griffin: Funk—Dr. Funk Esquire the Lawyer Doctor had... a really easy bridge to cross there, to have a funky song, but he didn't go that way with it. He went in a much more earnest "Funk and Associates!"

Travis: It could've been "We want the Funk... -and Associates!"

Griffin: Or it could've just been like, "[makes techno noise] [spoken] Call me." Like, literally, it didn't have to be this song that goes as hard and is—it's a—it's a go—you know, I lose track of time when I'm hearing it, 'cause I'm having such a good time, but I could swear, it's like a five-minute-long commercial.

Justin: Um, that's great, Griffin.

Travis: Justin, do you wanna do one for yourself?

Justin: Uh, I'll ask myself something from the interview deck.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: It's the other one I have opened here.

Travis: That would be a fun podcast, by the way, if anyone wants to steal this. Where you just interview yourself every week?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Well, let's see how this one goes. I picked a card at random. I'm not even gonna look at it. I'm gonna read it blind—oh, uh, read it blind—

Travis: It just says, "How big is it?"

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: How big is it, that ding-dong, though?

Justin: How much would someone have to pay for your little toe—I don't wanna answer that.

Griffin: No, tell me!

Travis: You have to.

Griffin: 'Cause—yeah, no. 'Cause then you'll start getting Venmo requests.

Justin: I don't have little toes. Yeah, exact—exactly. I don't need to—

“What's something I would never guess about you, Justin?”

“Well, Justin, nobody knows me better than you. I think that that would be a pretty tough one to answer, 'cause you know me better than I know myself.”

Griffin: Right.

Justin: What is something that people are obsessed with, but you just don't get the point of?

Griffin: Oh, nice.

Travis: Hot takes.

Griffin: Do something about, like, “[dull voice] Sportsball...”

Travis: Or like, *Game of Thrones*? Is that still wildly popular?

Justin: No...

Griffin: That could be good.

Justin: I don't know.

Travis: Do you have any opinions on *Lost* you wanna share, Justin?

Justin: If you were o—stranded on a desert island, and you could choose one person to keep you company, who would it—well, it's my wife.

Griffin: Just draw it from the what-the-heck deck, man. You know what's up.

Justin: Yeah, you're right, Griffin. I'm clowning on myself. I need to just get into the what-the-heck deck.

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: Here we go! What the heck?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: What—this one is [laughs]—this one is—well, I haven't got it out yet, but I bet this one's gonna be... something else.

"If you could bring one famous person back from the dead, who would you pick?"

Travis: What?!

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, what the heck, man?

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: What the heck?

Travis: Uh, Princess Diana, maybe? Or...

Justin: Travis, you—you're not—sorry, sorry, Trav.

Travis: I know it's not like—

Griffin: You already had yours.

Justin: Sorry. This is my question.

Griffin: But now—Travis, do you not realize what you just did? If Justin says anyone other than Princess Diana, he's gonna feel like a real jag-off.

Travis: Okay. Well, if Justin could think of somebody who died before their time...

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: ... was super beloved...

Griffin: Yeah, he could—he's gonna say anyone—anybody else, and people would be like, "Man, I guess Justin really doesn't like Princess Diana. Good job, Trav."

Justin: Oh, I don't know, Trav. I guess I was thinking of Martin Luther King.

Travis: Oh, okay!

Griffin: Hm...

Justin: Maybe that's a little bit better than yours, Travis.

Travis: That is—it is the classic "Would you rather..."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "... bring back Princess Diana or Martin Luther King?" It's a tough one.

Griffin: "Or the Taco Bell for every meal."

Travis: “[laughs] Or just eat Taco Bell every meal for a year?”

Griffin: [crosstalk]

Justin: Or “If you would eat Taco Bell with Princess Diana... ”

Griffin: Mm-hm?

Travis: “... or go hunting with Martin Luther King?”

Justin: I’d bring back—I’d bring back, uh, Abraham Lincoln, so I could beat him at Xbox. [laughs]

Travis: That’ll teach him!

Griffin: That would be so good.

Travis: He thinks he’s so tall.

Justin: People think he’s so cool, but when he’s like, freaking out over airplanes, I’m gonna just steal his wallet.

Travis: Can I just say, to jump back to the Taco Bell Conundrum...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... I didn’t think about the implications of eating Taco Bell for breakfast, and the effect that that—do they have breakfast food at Taco Bell? `Cause otherwise—

Justin: Yeah, you want me to list the entire menu for you? I would be happy to. [laughs]

Travis: I’m just saying, if they don’t and I have to eat tacos for breakfast, it’s going to severely impact my uh, ability to get things done.

Justin: Yeah!

Griffin: You know what's awesome, is I am looking at the Taco Bell menu website, and they do have 'categories' like, uh, combos, tacos, burritos, nachos, quesadillas, et cetera. It's sort of the, you know, the major food groups.

But then they also have a little section below that that says, "Can't decide? Perhaps you're craving something... "

And then there's three options, and it says, "meaty," "cheesy," "spicy."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: So it's like, damn, I don't know... what form I want the food to take, but I do know what I want it to do to my mouth... and taste receptors.

Travis: Can I ask you something? If Taco Bell introduced a "surprise me" option, would you take it?

Griffin: Every day.

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Me too, yeah. I think so. If I was going through the—I think most, like, drive-thru places, if I just saw an option that said "surprise me," I think I'd just take that one.

Justin: Fill a—if there's an option that says, like, "Fill a bag of it, Derek!"

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yah.

Justin: And that's only when Derek's working. He's got a special promotion called fill a bag of it, Derek. For 20 dollars.

Travis: Give me 20 dollars worth, Derek.

Justin: [laughs] You got your D-bucks? Come on over.

Travis and Griffin: [giggling]

Justin: Just how many things you can get. You know what?

Travis: Fill it to the top, Derek!

Justin: I was gonna clown on these Pod Decks, but if this is the name of the people that are making Pod Decks. Thanks—that Taco Bell conversation was fruitful.

Travis: Yep! We got there.

Griffin: For sure!

Travis: We've got there!

Griffin: 'Cause now I'm just thinking about Derek throwing a bunch of fucking fire sauce into a bag, loose.

Travis: Yeah. But if it's 20 dollars worth of fire sauce, that's a good deal.

Griffin: That's a great deal. You could resell that, for sure.

Justin: I hate when they ask me if I want sauce there, and I can't—there's no chef to consult.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Yeah. What's the pairing?

Justin: You know, I don't wanna rub anybody— yeah, exactly! "What would you suggest?"

Travis: "What do I want to drink?"

"I don't know! Does Dr. Pepper go with a chalupa?"

Griffin: Mm.

Justin: Uh, we're gonna take a quick break, and the ad guys are gonna come in and do their ads real quick.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Us fun boys will be back right after this.

Griffin: [away from microphone] [yelling] Hey, guys is it time for me yet?!

Justin: Not yet!

Griffin: Okay!

[theme song instrumentals play, to the tune of *Rugrats*]

Travis: Now it's time for you.

Griffin: Hold on! I got to do a bunch of cocaine first!

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Sorry, who is this character?

Griffin: Ad Man!

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Justin, sta—stand back, let him do it.

Griffin: [exaggerated gasp]

Travis: Oh, God, he inhaled it through his mouth.

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: That's not normally how one does the cocaine.

Griffin: I—no one ever taught me. They don't teach this stuff in school, you know.

Travis: They don't.

Justin: Oh, boy!

Griffin: [gasping repeatedly] Squarespace! [pants]

[increasingly high and fast tone] Squarespace lets you make a beautiful website that showcases your work, sell products, and services of all kinds, and promotes your physical or online business and more.

[normally] I don't actually know if Squarespace would love...

Travis: No, I don't think so. I was just thinking the same thing, Griffin.

Griffin: Okay. This is normal Griffin.

Travis: Un-cocained Griffin.

Griffin: I have not done... any drugs.

Travis: This is High on Life: Walking With Jesus...

Griffin: High on Life: Walking With Jesus.

Travis: ...Griffin McElroy.

Griffin: I mean, I smoked a bunch of pot last night.

Travis: Oh, no.

Griffin: And I drank coffee this morning. And I took my sort of, brain regulators.

Travis: Jesus would be okay with all of those.

Griffin: Jesus is cool with all that stuff, and so would Squarespace, 'cause they have beautiful customizable templates created by world-class designers. They got everything optimized for mobile right out of the box, and analytics that help you grow in time, and free and secure hosting, nothing to patch or upgrade it.

Hey, folks! Here's a call to action. Go to squarespace.com/mybrother for a free trial when you're ready to launch. Use the offer code "my brother" to save 10 percent off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Now, here's the—here's the Griffin McElroy... call to action. Squarespace has allowed us to get away with *so much*...

Travis: True.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: ... if you need to make a website, at this point, for the *principle* of the thing...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ... go to squarespace.com/mybrother... even if you don't think if—if you've ever thought to yourself, "I wonder what having a website's like," go to squarespace.com/mybrother, and use the free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "my brother" to save 10 percent off your first purchase of a website or domain.

For—for ya boys, who have gotten away with murder...

Justin: You may be thinking to yourself, "My idea for a website is too rowdy for Squarespace."

Travis: Apparently not!

Justin: “And they will not endorse it.” I can guarantee you...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: ... from life experience, this is not the case.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: I don’t know if Squarespace has a front page, like Twitch or Reddit or something, but if they do, I’m thinking the rowdier the better [laughs] to get into that front page.

Griffin: I think so. I think—Squarespace is the cool parent who’s like, “My kids are gonna fuck up; I would rather they do it at the house.”

Travis: [laughs] Yup!

Griffin: Yeah. We’re—we are safe in this ho—like, Squarespace is gonna get us through this... this bad trip, and they are gonna still pay us at the end of the day, and that’s radical and powerful for us. So squarespace.com/mybrother for a free trial. When you’re ready to launch, use the offer code “my brother” to save 10 percent off your first purchase of a website or domain. Holy shit.

Hey, you know what? Now that we’re doling out accolades, same to you, stamps.com!

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: It says here, “In the introduction and thought starter, if you guys wanna talk about butts or whatever, go for it; we’re cool.”

Griffin: “Go for it. We know we can’t stop you at this point.”

Travis and Justin: [laugh]

Justin: “We—we lost the email [through laughter] that lets us cancel these ads.”

Griffin: Right. “There’s a two-factor sort of code that we have to punch in, but we reset our phone, and we can’t stop the machine at this point.”

But taking trips to the post office isn’t how you want to spend your time. Stamps.com allows you to—

Travis: How *do* you wanna spend your time, Griffin?

Griffin: Reading this incredible ad copy, because they allow you to mail and ship anytime, anywhere, right from your computer. You can send letters, ship packages, and pay a lot less with discounted rates from USPS, UPS, and more!

Travis: I was trying to set it up that we could say something ribald or blue there.

Griffin: Oh. Well, we—I do still wanna promote the business. Because if you’re a small office that’s sending out invoices or an online seller shipping out orders, or even a giant warehouse sending thousands of packages a day. Stamps.com can handle it all with ease! And you get—

Travis: And photocopying my butt, and mailing that to people.

Griffin: There it is. They love that, Trav.

Travis: They love it?

Griffin: They can get dis—well, you can get discounts up to 40 percent off post office rates, and up to 62 percent UPS shipping rates.

Travis: Oh, man. 40 percent off my butt is a great deal!

Griffin: Yeah, it’s like a cheek and a fifth.

So stop wasting time going to the post office, and go to stamps.com instead! There's no risk. With our promo code "my brother," you get a special offer that includes a four-week trial plus free postage and a digital scale, and there's no long-term commitments or contracts.

Just go to stamps.com, click on the microphone on the top of the home page, type in "my brother." That's stamps.com, promo code "my brother." Stamps.com: never go to the post office again.

[static in background]

Speaker 1: Maximum Fun is a network by and for cool, popular people, but did you know it also has an offering designed to appeal to nerds?

Speaker 2: A show for nerds? On Maximum Fun? The devil, you say.

Speaker 1: It's true! It's called *The Greatest Generation*. And they review episodes of a television program for nerds called *Star Trek*. They've reviewed *TNG*, *DS9*, and are now reviewing *Voyager*.

Speaker 2: Hey, *Star Trek*. My daughter enjoys that program.

Speaker 1: Well, if she enjoys that and she enjoys humor of the flatulent variety, might I recommend she subscribe to *The Greatest Generation*?

Speaker 2: Hey, are you calling my kid a nerd? Why, I oughta...

Speaker 1: Well, gotta go! Become a friend by subscribing to *The Greatest Generation* on maximumfun.org today!

[advertisement ends]

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Alright!

Justin: [continues rock guitar]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [continues rock guitar] [singing] I wanna munch.

Travis: Squad!

Griffin: Squad!

Justin: [continued rock guitar] I want to munch—

Travis: Squad?

Griffin: We've already talked about Taco Bell *so much*.

Justin: [spoken] It almost counts. We're not gonna talk about Taco Bell. We're gonna talk about Dunkin'!

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Real quick note about Taco Bell, though...

Griffin: [sputters]

Justin: ...they are [laughs] testing a crispy chicken sandwich taco.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Uh, which is gonna be a taco with crispy chicken in it.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Um, there's only one thing that I wanted to point out here. It's crispy—it's got premium, all-white meat crispy chicken marinated in jalapeno buttermilk, then seasoned with bold Mexican spices and rolled in a crunchy tortilla. God, I'm extremely hungry. I'm just now realizing...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... I would eat 50 of these.

Griffin: Yep.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: I d—I just wanted to read this paragraph. “Taco Bell is offering both a regular and spicy sidekick. Each sandwich is served in a puffy bread.”

Hey, thank you, Taco Bell. Thank you finally—this is a huge moment, where Taco Bell has finally let go of any illusions that they are serving anything that in any way approximates Mexican cuisine.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: They’re saying, “This here—here’s what this is in. It’s puffy bread. [laughs] We don’t have anything to add to it, okay? It’s just puffy bread.”

Travis: Can I tell you what I love here? This is like if...

Justin: Don’t get hung up on this, ‘cause this isn’t the Munch Squad.

Travis: No, I know, I know. But we talk about the Chicken Wars a lot, and this is like, if like, in World War II, like, some other c—like, if—let’s see. What’s a country I can pull out of my head?

Justin: I’m gonna sit here.

Travis: If like, uh... mm... If, like, Brazil. Oh, no, Brazil, I think, was in it. Who’s someone?

Justin: [disheartened] Yeah, Trav. Go on.

Griffin: Antarctica.

Travis: Yes. If someone in Antarctica at a science research facility, said, "You know what? Now Antarctica is in the World War II as well. And we're a major player."

Griffin: "Which side? We don't know yet!"

Travis: "If somebody wants to court us..."

Griffin: "We're still figuring it out!"

I'm—I'm s—I—fellas, I'm sorry. I'm looking at a picture of one of these fucking bad boys, and I would do some t—I would do t—

Justin: Yeah, I [crosstalk] the whole thing.

Griffin: I would do *terrible* things to get one of these in my mouth right now. Ter-ri-ble things.

Travis: I need to learn which countries were all involved in World War II.

Griffin: [laughs] You very much do.

Travis: Like, I can tell you some that definitely were, don't get me wrong!

Griffin: Yeah. [laughs] The big boys.

Justin: [laughs] Yeah.

Travis: It's just that I don't know—

Justin: There were some that definitely were, some that definitely weren't, and then there's like a whole kind of mushy gray area where maybe they got into it, maybe they didn't.

Travis: Yeah, right? And I don't wanna take a swing at those, right?

Griffin: Oh, no.

Travis: Because then that's what I'm gonna hear back, like, [laughs] "Oh, no, I did terrible things."

Justin: There's probably some that were on the bad guy's side that aren't exactly crowing about it, right?

Travis: Yeah, right!

Justin: They may be—you could ask them to their face, they'll be like, "Eh, [high-pitched] I don't know! I don't know!"

Travis: Hey, was that you?

Justin: "I don't know! I have to check up on that."

[spoken] Um—

Travis: The same thing's happening in the Chicken Wars, by the way.

Griffin: Yes, thank you, we understood.

Travis: We're gonna find out 20 years from now...

Griffin: We know exactly where you were going with that.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: The—uh, Burger King, by the way, getting into the Chicken Wars...

Travis: I knew it.

Justin: They got a new sandwich they've been working on since 2019.

Travis: It's got chicken on it.

Justin: Probably gone bad by now.

Dunkin' has added avocado toast to the menu, folks.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Alright!

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I wonder what Kevin—I wonder what Kevin Sorbo thinks about that.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Somebody get—somebody get Kevin Sorbo on the phone to ask him about the Dunkin', the avocado toast.

Justin: "What is it? Dunkin' avocado toast—" you know what it is "—is a popular pick for breakfast for brunch, and now it's available to enjoy quickly and conveniently, as part of any busy day."

"Dunkin's avocado toast features creamy avocado spread."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: "Made with four simple ingredients... [pause] Avocado."

Travis: Oh, thank God.

Justin: "Sea salt, black pepper, and lemon juice. This smooth combination is—" Man, they really do have eight paragraphs here about what "avocado toast" be.

"The smooth combination is spread out edge-to-edge."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: “On Dunkin’s authentic toasted sourdough bread.” And this is my favorite part: “Dunkin’s authentic toasted sourdough bread, made from a recipe created especially by Dunkin’.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [wheezes] Okay!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] Wait, what? Hold on! I thought you were gonna say anything else. Because that is the least surprising thing you can say.

Travis: Can I also just throw this out, as someone who’s been making a lot of sourdough bread over uh, the last year? There’s only like four ingredients in there, Dunkin’.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That’s not wildly impressive.

Justin: Yeah, but “It’s a recipe created especially by Dunkin’, using a true sourdough starter for a tangy twist that elevates the avocado toast.”

Travis: Okay. You put some old flower water in it; we get it.

Griffin: Yeah, this is not necess—“And for this one, we have... salt.” Yeah!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, yes.

Justin: “Then, for an extra dash of flavor, the avocado is topped with everything bagel seasoning, which includes sesame seeds, poppy seeds, onion, and garlic—” everything, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: That's everything bagel seasoning.

Justin: "A Dunkin's avocado toast is available for \$2.99, and is served in a special portable box."

Griffin: Oh, w—oh, sorry?

Justin: "It replaces our—it replaces our previous option of a non-portable box."

Travis: [laughs] "You have to sit here and eat it; we're gonna watch you.

Justin: We're gonna watch you. It's chained to the table, like a 3DS at E3.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "The shape of the box is non-Euclidean. Your hand will pass right through it."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Your hands go through the bread.

Travis: You may not even know it's the box, when you see it.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: Uh, Dunkin's—this is from Jill Nelson, the veep over at marketing and culinary, or markcul, as I call it, at Dunkin'. Uh, Jill says, "Dunkin's new avocado toast is the definition of quality!"

Travis: Oh!

Justin: “Delivered at the speed of Dunkin’, we’ve taken a popular brunch staple, and made it accessible for *anyone* looking for something easy and delicious on the go.”

This is—so this avocado toast is for people who have been hearing a lot about avocado toast, and just thinking, like, “How can I get me some of that? ‘Cause I cannot piece it together on my own.”

Griffin: No.

Travis: I do like—hey, avocado toast, now, for everyone!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. Now ev—you don’t have to be some snooty hipster.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Now even your racist uncle...

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: ... can eat avocado toast.

Travis: Do you think that this marks the end of avocado toast? And I—here’s what I mean.

Griffin: Noooo.

Travis: Not that I think Dunkin’s gonna ruin it...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: But now that it’s for everyone, I – a snooty hipster – am less interested in it.

Griffin: Right. Now that it’s not fun anymore to blame the collapse of the housing market and diamond exchange and...

Travis: Stocks?

Griffin: ... uh, travel and stocks... on this mashed-up... vegetable?

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: Then it's not... Who cares? Like, who cares anymore?

Travis: Also, do you think that when avocados came along, the person who had named eggplant before it was like, "Ah, fuck."

Griffin: "Fuck me."

Travis: "I should've waited."

Griffin: "I should've waited. That would've been a fucking *great* name for this thing!"

Travis: "This is way better! This is way more like an egg! Fuck!"

Griffin: "I'm gonna call this—I'm changing this one, guys. These are called sick pumpkins now... "

Justin and Travis: [giggle in background]

Griffin: "... and eggplants is avocados."

Justin: [laughs] Uh, here's a question. "I live on the edge of a forest. There have been cougar sightings in the area recently."

Griffin: Ooh.

Travis: Ask 'em out on a date!

[pause]

Oh, like the animal.

Griffin: That's—that's—yeah, that's why we um... that's the stuff with the intros again.

Travis: Oh, okay. Yep, yep, yep.

Justin: Remember? We gotta think about things before we say them.

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: Got it, got it, got it. I was thinking of cougars, a sexy older lady.

Justin: Yeah! No, no, no, no, no, no, no.

Griffin: Yeah, no, for sure. And your response to that was "They live in the forest, and you should go ask them out on a dinner date."

Travis: Well, why else would they call them cougars, if they don't live in the forest?

Justin: "I'm sorry, Mr. Umpire, I thought the ball would be lower."

Travis: [laughs] Don't you see?

Justin: "That's why I swang lower, and I just missed it entirely. That was the situation there."

Travis: Oh, son, this is football.

Griffin: Clearly was misdirected by the goalie.

Justin: Yeah. The pitcher tricked me...

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Cause he did his body in a different way... and then I thought I would hit it pretty hard, actually. So I'm gonna—you know what? Let me take the double, and we'll just call it splits. [crosstalk].

Travis: Don't worry; I can't run. I'm not making it to third.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So "There's cougars in the fore—" You've com—you've ruined me.

"I want to make sure there are no cougars nearby before I let my dog out in the backyard. I have been told the best way to scare them off is to speak loudly, as they will not approach humans if they know we're nearby. My question is, what exactly should I say that will deter cougars, but won't make my neighbors think I've lost my mind when I say it loudly, alone, in my backyard?" That's from Matt in Vancouver. He/him.

Okay, Matt...

Travis: [suggestive tone] Any cougars out here?

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah.

Justin: [suggestive tone] Hey, cougars. Get out!

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: [through laughter] I can't think of anything else.

Griffin: Um, this is... this question is gonna be a no from me on a couple levels—

Justin: Just—holistically, a holistic no.

Griffin: Just like a holistic no for a couple reasons. One, there is nothing... you can shout... out of your windows, that your neighbors will hear and say, oh, it's okay.

There's no—you can shout, "I'm yelling to scare cougars away!"

And even that, will your neighbors will hear like, "Aw, that's—"

Travis: He—

Justin: What if it's just like, "Soup's on, Hezekiah! Come in from the fields!"

Travis: [laughs] But then they're gonna know that one, no fields. Two, no Hezekiah.

Griffin: Right. Yeah.

Justin: That's a good point, though.

Griffin: And on the flipside, what if one of the cougars' names is Hezekiah, and they hear that and they say...

Travis: [laughs] "Me?"

Griffin: "Mm! A good dog treat for me."

Travis: [laughs] "It's dog soup! Can't wait!"

Griffin: "Mm!"

Travis: What if you just yelled out the window: "Does anyone want to talk about the latest episode of *WandaVision*?"

Griffin: Mm!

Travis: And then people are gonna be like, "Oh, this is nice. In the virtual age, someone still wants to talk face-to-face." Oh, but then, mm, what if a cougar's watching *WandaVision*?

Griffin: What if, then, they are?

Justin: It's gotta be an important neighborhood announcement. Something like, "Hey, I'm gonna be selling lemonade tomorrow; if anybody wants to get some, I'll have it outside my house."

Travis: "Get your quarters ready!"

Justin: You might have to follow through on that.

Travis: Oh, that's a problem. Mm...

Griffin: Does it—[sighs] Does it have to be talking, or will singing also scare the cougars? 'Cause this is—

Justin: I would think singing would be even more scary.

Griffin: Yeah, I would think so too... and maybe this is why, like, barbershop quartets are a thing.

Travis: No, okay, there's no way a barbershop quartet is gonna scare away a cougar. I mean, I was thinking, maybe like, metal, or like—but if that's a soothing thing, that cougar's gonna be like, "Well, now, hold on."

Griffin: Well, no, I'm sorry, Travis. It's gonna be a shitty barbershop quartet.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: It's gonna be audi—daily auditions for a barbershop quartet. It's gonna sound like complete shit.

Travis: Oh, like it's gonna be like four tenors, you know what I mean?

Griffin: It's gonna be like all tenors, who are all coming like, "[singing indiscriminately]"

And everyone's like, "N—n—no, I'm gonna do that one." And it's so discordant.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: The—sorry, the other—I had two reasons. This was the first one, and the second one is that there will be deterring these cougars from eating whatever they damn well feel like.

We live close to nature, and we have coyotes, and that's not a joke. You hear `em every night! Howling—apparently over jubilation over some poor animal that they have, uh, turned into a meal.

And you hear that enough times, and you think... "I hope these guys don't know how to pick locks, `cause if that's... "

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: There is nothing but a couple skinny locks keeping me from turning into coyote power.

Travis: This is fair, because if—if a cougar moved into my neighborhood...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ... and then left on my porch, like, a bag of Wendy's...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Right? I wouldn't be like, "I don't think this Wendy's is for me."

Griffin: Right. [laughs]

Travis: And so you moved to the cougars' neighborhood.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And you left a bag of dog [laughs] on their front porch.

Griffin: Your dog is named Wendy, which is confusing.

Travis: And the cougar's gonna assume that dog was brought there, some kind of peace offering from you, you moved into their neighborhood.

Justin: If you want to help protect your dog, Wendy, there is only one thing, really, that would be useful to yell, and it's, "Hey, Wendy, you better get jacked, or you're gonna get eaten by a cougar!"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh-huh. [laughs]

Justin: "Wendy! You need to get swole!"

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Do some exercises – I can't help you!"

Griffin: "Here's your magic knife that's poison to cougars, Wendy. Take it outside in your teeth, but be careful with it!"

Travis: Just yell, "Wendy, please don't kill another cougar."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] D—d—be careful with it, Wendy. It's double poison to dogs. I'm sorry.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Which is a design flaw, admittedly.

Justin: "I'm sorry about the knife."

Griffin: God, cougars are so big. We forget about cougars, don't we?

Justin: We've almost never talk—at least it's been a few hundred episodes since we talked about how big cougars are.

Griffin: You see lions on TV or whatever, and you're like, "God, I am so glad I never have to fuck around with any one of those boys," but cougars are in our—just our backyard. Like, there's always—we're always within... screaming distance of a cougar.

Travis: Well, this is what's fun, is just—

Griffin: Unless you live in the big city.

Travis: It's a mountain *lion*, right? And it's like, somebody named it a mountain lion, and someone said, "That's too scary! I'm gonna call it a cougar."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And it's like, "Okay, but it's still a lion."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: "It's a—that's a—a lion."

And he's like, "No, no, no, no. It's not a lion. It's not a cougar."

Griffin: Hey, can I do another question?

Justin: Yeah, I'd love that.

Griffin: Here's a quick, uh, Yahoo. It was sent in by Amy. Thanks, Amy. It's an anonymous Yahoo Answers user who I'm gonna name Bianca, asks, "Why did it take so long to invent vape pens?"

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: "Come on! I could imagine them being invented at least in the late '80s."

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: There's some Monday-morning vaping venting going on here, isn't it?

Travis: No, but I—I like this idea, because there are many things that I can imagine being invented way earlier than they were.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: You know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, cars? Why did it take so long to figure this out? I could imagine those being invented in, like, 1500.

Griffin: Yeah. We—we have wheels and boxes, so...

Justin: So...

Griffin: Can't believe it took us that long to sort of squish those two concepts together.

Travis: Now—okay. Okay. Wait. Wait. To Bianca's point, the '80s. What do we know about the '80s? They were wild.

Justin: I love 'em?

Travis: I love the '80s. Vaporwave was a thing. It's right there.

Griffin: I don't necessarily know that the vaporwave aesthetic really peaked in the—in the '80s, or even existed in the '80s.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: But I know—I know what you're saying.

Travis: If—

Justin: It makes sense.

Travis: If they could've figured out a way to vape cocaine, I think it probably would've happened in the '80s.

Griffin: They probably would've gotten that done. I think we s—we were *clearly* smoking, and there was lots of digital technology at that time.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Cell phones, pagers.

Travis: Car phones.

Griffin: Car phones. And I can't believe somebody didn't—wasn't like, smoking while using their car phone, and thinking like, "What if the car phone was the smoking?"

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: You know what I mean? Which is basically what a vape is—what a vape is.

Travis: Imagine if we could have watched Zack Morris vape in *Saved by the Bell*.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: If they'd developed it in the '80s, they would have it by the '90s. There would have been *Ninja Turtle* episodes about how bad or cool it was. I'm not sure.

Griffin: Yeah. Um, these new *Truth* ads, where they show the children, and they're battling big dragons made out of scrap metal, and it's like, this is vaping?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Hey, guys, could you have made it a little less... radical?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Like, there's some part—there's gotta be some kids out there who were like, "I would love to go on an adventure fighting a big metal dragon. And you're telling me this—"

Travis: "Hi, I got a pitch for a new *Truth* uh, ad. It's gonna be some *Fortnite* characters vaping, but who's that? It's a cool youth pastor, who shows up..."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "... and tells them that vaping's bad, and then they all eat some apples together."

Griffin: Yeah. "They go and play laser tag with Spider-Man!"

And it's like, is this...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: ... is this for vaping, not vaping?

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And it's like, "But be careful, because vaping... makes you lose."

Okay, but it still seems like we have a lot of fun along the way.

Travis: Yeah, we have a lot of fun!

“And now they’re vaping corndogs.”

“Wait, what?”

“Do *you* know the truth?”

Griffin: The real vaping was the laser tag we played along the way with Spider-Man.

Travis: [laughs] “Remember kids, only cool kids vape, but then they do maybe later regret it. Alright, Spider-Man out!”

Justin: Hey, maybe they don’t.

Travis: [laughs] I don’t know. The—

Justin: I don’t know. The science isn’t in. Goodbye!

Travis: And red wine’s good for your heart. Or maybe it’s not. Goodbye!

Wait, Spi—hey, um, the Spider-Man message is getting a little muddy with the red wine stuff. Can we cut that? Like, “No, that was in Spider-Man’s contract. It’s a—he feels very passionately about the red wine thing.”

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: “When we went on a great adventure to battle the space monster Thanos. That’s a lot like vaping. Now, we won, but maybe you won’t.”

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: “But you’re gonna have a lot of stories to tell, won’t you, kids?”

Justin: “Science is out, folks. Listen, I gotta go.”

Travis: “Don’t call me again.”

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "I'm really busy."

Justin: Is it better than smoking? Probably.

Travis: Who—who the fuck knows?

Justin: Is it better than smoking? Probably. Is it better than breathing?
Absolutely. [wheezes]

Travis: You know, when my friend the Hulk wants to chill out...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: ...he vapes! There it is!

Justin: I vape, we all vape, but we are metahumans.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Would it affect you the same way?"

"I don't know. The science isn't in yet."

"Reed is working on it."

"Yes, Dr. Reed Richards is working on the effects of vaping."

Travis: "Are there more important things you could be working on?"

"We don't know!"

Justin: We don't actually know, 'cause it could be so bad, but it also—what a lot of people won't tell you, and your mom won't tell you, is like, it could be good. [laughs] It's just the science isn't in yet.

Travis: This is my new character, uh, Rip, and he uh, vaped a radioactive vape, and now he has super vape powers. And we don't know if this is encou—is he a villain? Is he a good guy? We don't know yet.

Griffin: All I know is that when I got bit by that big magic spider, it made all the vape damage to my lungs instantly go away in a second. So there's a way out! There's a way out of this.

Travis: [laughs] Don't let the doctors tell you there's no cure!

Griffin: There is! Big magic tarantula!

Justin: Hey, folks, thank you so much for listening to our uh, um, our program. We uh, very much appreciate you, and we uh, love you, and we're so happy that you have us here with you.

Griffin: We have a lot of stuff going on. We had to the postpone *The Adventure Zone* live show that will be uh, an interactive installment in our Honey Heist series uh, that so far has only been one episode, but it's gonna be fun. We're doing choose-your-own-adventure stuff. We got Erika Ishii that's gonna be, uh, on it with us. And uh, we had to postpone that.

Now it's March 5th, this Friday, at 9:00 PM Eastern time, and uh, you can still get tickets for 10 bucks at live.themcelroy.family. Um, or if the—if you already purchased tickets, obviously those are still good, and if you can't make the show and need a refund or whatever reason, that's at bit.ly/tazrefunds.

Travis: It will be ava—available video on demand.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Of course, you'll miss out on the interactive part, but uh, it'll still be there.

Uh, speaking of interactive, I just real quick wanted to mention I started a Twitch channel! I'm trying to do it—

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: Oh, my gosh.

Travis: Trying to do it regularly! [Twitch.tv/thetravismcelroy](https://www.twitch.tv/thetravismcelroy). You—

Griffin: Well, I'll have to tune in to that, see if you got—see if you got what it takes.

Travis: I think I do! I've been playing some fun ga—uh, we got a new pin of the month. "It's Sausage to Me!" Uh, which is a fun German phrase. Uh, and it—we talked about it on *Shmanners*. And that benefits Feeding Texas, which is the largest hunger relief organization in Texas. Currently, their network is supporting warming shelters for the unhoused, as well as those without power and water, in addition to replacing perished food and feeding Texans in need. So go check that out.

We got an *Empty Bowl* pin designed by Samuel Rardin, and a 20-Big-Dog-Run pin designed by Mel Westfall. Check those out and everything else at mcelroymerch.com.

Don't forget to preorder *The Adventure Zone: Crystal Kingdom*, the latest in our graphic novel series. You can preorder that at theadventurezonecomic.com. That comes out July 13th 2021.

Griffin: That's it. That's, like, literally everything. Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. Go to maximumfun.org, check out all the great shows there. And um... hey, let's wrap up. Y'all want the final?

Travis: Yes, please!

Justin: Absolutely.

Griffin: Okay. Well, this final one was sent in by Amy. Thank you, Amy. It's by Yahoo Answers User Pandora X, who asks, "Alcohol. Can he go on a pizza?"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

[theme song, to the tune of *Rugrats*:

Griffin: [singing] Okay, that was the show, hope you had some fun. Talked for an hour, and now our job is done. Go back into the world, face the day ahead. Please don't tell our grandparents all the cuss words we said.]

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