

Still Buffering 200: "Jagged Little Pill" (1995)

Published February 20th, 2020
[Listen here on themcelroy.family](#)

[theme music plays]

Rileigh: [quiet and very hoarse throughout the episode] Hello, and welcome to *Still Buffering*: a gen—cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I am Rileigh Smirl.

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: [through laughter] And I'm Taylor Smirl! [laughs] Sorry.

Sydnee: Rileigh, thank you for the intro. That's all the talking you'll be doing.

Rileigh: [cough-laugh]

Taylor: Wow! Oh, man, kid! What's goin' on with you?

Sydnee: Do you—do you wanna tell everybody—I'm sorry. I'm not excited about this.

Rileigh: You sound a little excited about this.

Sydnee: I'm not—I'm not gleeful.

Rileigh: I, um... I have the dreaded mononucleosis, has attacked my vocal cords and left me with this shell that I once filled with a beautiful voice.

Sydnee: We think. We think.

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Well, that's—I'm pretty sure that's...

Rileigh: You're a doctor.

Sydnee: I—well, and she's—full disclosure, you went to your—you went to your own doctor. I do not doctor my family.

Raleigh: Yeah, yeah.

Sydnee: Uh... but we didn't—they didn't actually do the test. But, um... you probably don't have strep, 'cause you don't have tonsils. Probably not. And you don't seem like you have strep, you know, 'cause you seem just tired and sore throat, and that's it. Um... it might just be a viral whatever, and you get better.

Raleigh: Well, either way...

Sydnee: But also it could well be mono—I mean, you live in a dorm. You're the right age.

Taylor: You—you—you mooch people.

Raleigh: Hey, hey.

Taylor: I believe that's called the kissing disease!

Sydnee: That is accurate, Taylor.

Raleigh: But there are other ways to get this than mooching.

Taylor: [sing-song] Well, but that's one of 'em!

Sydnee: That's—it's very true, though. It is very easy to pass through, like, food—like, sharing food and drink or.. I mean... there are other ways than just kissing.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: To get mono. But, like, you live in a suite with seven other people.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Other college-age students. And you were... engaging in... [laughs quietly] questionable activities over the weekend.

Raleigh: [laughs hoarsely] Wh—what?!

Sydnee: You were partying.

Rileigh: Yeah?

Taylor: Did you do a partying weekend?

Rileigh: I did do a partying weekend.

Taylor: Oh, wow. Well, that's where it came from. That's what happens.

Sydnee: I mean, maybe it's just a plain ol' virus, but, um, in the meantime, do not engage in any contact sports, as your spleen may be enlarged.

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: This is... this is—like, I love having a doctor as a sister 'cause it's like, "What's some good advice real quick?" For—but, like, then when I *do* get sick, you always go there to, like, "Also, you could be just casually playing football, and all of your blood in your body could—could slowly be accumulated where your spleen has exploded, and then you'll be *dead*."

Sydnee: Well, it just—the only—the only thing that—I mean, you—you seem just fine, and so I think you're going to get better with rest and fluids and time. But, in case you decided, like, "This is the week. I wanna play... full contact..."

Rileigh: Rugby.

Sydnee: ...whatever, yeah. Then—ultimate frisbee? Is that full contact? I don't know.

Rileigh: If it's ultimate enough.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] What—whatever—whatever—you college kids like to play those sports out on the quad.

[pauses]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Now, you both—

Taylor: Ultimate frisbee!

Raleigh: —you both were in college. Did you do that?

Sydnee: You're gonna engage in some Quidditch this—this weekend.

Raleigh: Right, right.

Taylor: I, uh—

Sydnee: Whatever.

Taylor: —we didn't have a quad, or a campus, or really any sort of structure, so I don't know. I missed out on all that.

Sydnee: We had a quad, and I did play soccer on it periodically.

Raleigh: One of those.

Sydnee: [through laughter] One of those?

Raleigh: One of those.

Sydnee: One of those. Also at the park.

Raleigh: Yeah, that's me. Just always playin' my contact sports.

Sydnee: You might be LARPing.

Raleigh: Maybe.

Taylor: Maybe!

Sydnee: That actually seems more likely for you.

Raleigh: Hey!

Sydnee: I'm just sayin'—no, no offense!

Raleigh: It's true.

Taylor: [crosstalk] dangerous.

Sydnee: LARPing can be fun!

Raleigh: It's true.

Sydnee: I haven't done it, but I have watched it and clapped for it, and it seemed... like it was fun!

Raleigh: "I clapped for it."

Taylor: But possibly dangerous with an enlarged spleen.

Sydnee: The group that LARPs in the park—they don't mind an audience, and so—

Raleigh: That's nice.

Sydnee: —and the girls like it.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It's—it's fun. They think it's cool.

Raleigh: I feel like with this voice I could do a really good, like—" [attempting a dramatic movie trailer voice] In a world..."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: Like, one of those, like—like, movie—like, give me a movie idea. Hold on.

Sydnee: "In a world where you get mono."

Raleigh: " [attempting a dramatic movie trailer voice] In a world... where you get mono. Starring Raleigh Smirl."

Sydnee: That's the main thing, is the "Starring Raleigh Smirl." [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah. I like that that's the plot. "Well, I'm there. And I have mono. That's it, really."

Sydney: Well, before we get into this week's episode, I wanna reduce the stigma on mono.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydney: The vast majority of adults have had mono, whether you knew it or not. Epstein-Barr virus, which causes mononucleosis, infectious mononucleosis, is *incredibly* common. So... it just—you can get it from kissing, sure, but you can just get it from, you know, sharing beverages or whatnot.

Taylor: [laughs] It makes for a good cautionary tale, though!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Don't make out with too many people, or your organs might explode! Like, that is a... there it is. Be safe, kids.

Sydney: If you do—if you do think you have mono, you should see a doctor, because it can cause your spleen to become enlarged—while you're—while you're sick. I mean, it will... go back to its—

Raleigh: It will always be that big.

Sydney: —spleen-y size. No. [laughs quietly] Eventually, but in that—in that time period, you—you know, you don't want to get, like, hit on the side where your spleen is and have it damaged, so it's good to avoid contact sports and whatnot.

But it—but the—the point is, if you're worried about it, go see a doctor. They can diagnose you. For a lot of people, it's just rest and fluids is the—

Raleigh: Yeah. That's all I've been doing.

Sydney: The sore throat can be rough.

Raleigh: Yeah. It kind of feels like sandpaper right now.

Taylor: Ooh...

Rileigh: Um, when I, uh, walked into my dorm yesterday, I told my friends that I probably have mono. And I came in—and they all call me Rilo. And one of them looked at me and was going to say "Hey, Rilo, I'm sorry you have mono." But instead she said, "Hey mono—" [laughs]

Sydnee: Oh, that's your name now!

Rileigh: And now—she laughed about and said, "I didn't mean to do that!" But now they all are just calling me mono whenever I come into the dorm.

Taylor: Aww...

Sydnee: Not a great nickname? [through laughter] As nicknames go?

Taylor: Yeah...

Rileigh: No, I don't—

Taylor: You wanna try to kick that one before you graduate.

Rileigh: —I don't love it. Um... maybe when my voice gets back to normal, they'll forget.

Sydnee: If you wanted an infectious disease, there are better ones that you could be named after.

Rileigh: Like what, Syd? What would you rather—

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Well, just, like, that sound cooler.

Rileigh: —what would you rather be named?

Sydnee: Like, what if people called you anthrax?

[pauses]

Taylor: Uh—wha—

Rileigh: Okay...

Sydnee: I'm just saying it sounds cooler than mono.

[pauses]

Raleigh: Hm...

Taylor: That sounds much less pleasant, though. That sounds like you're part of a... biker gang in the future, that, like, sells cybernetic drugs.

Sydnee: Sure.

Raleigh: It does.

Sydnee: And it—it is, I would say, less pleasant than mono. I mean, not that mono is pleasant, but if—head to head.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You gotta...

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: "Would you rather?" [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: Uh, I had mono. I'll—I'll help reduce the stigma.

Raleigh: Thanks, Syd.

Sydnee: I know—I know—I mean, Taylor, even if you don't remember, you probably did at some point.

Taylor: Nope, nope. Never mooched. Never had mono.

Raleigh: Taylor's never touched anyone.

Taylor: It's true!

Sydnee: It's—it's funny how often—'cause you can check. Uh, I've seen Barr virus titers later in life and see, like, from the pattern, have you ever had—do you have an infection now, or have you had an infection in the past? And, um, a lot of people don't necessarily remember that they had mono, 'cause maybe they had a sore throat and they felt achy and tired and all the other symptoms, but they just didn't... go get checked out, so they didn't know that it was mono.

I did go get checked out, 'cause, uh, my throat—it's a sore throat! It's really bad, and I thought I had strep throat, and I assumed I was gonna have to get antibiotics to get over it, so I went in and got checked out and they said "Nope. Not strep. Mono."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I had been, uh, on spring break, and I had—I remember drinking Corona to try to... [laughs quietly] ease the pain of my sore throat.

Taylor: Ugh! That's not how that works.

Sydnee: No...

Raleigh: [hisses] No.

Sydnee: But it was—I mean, but you'll be fine. I was fine. I was tired. I didn't do much other than school and sleep.

Raleigh: I've slept even more than I usually do the past few days. But all this to say, I will not be talking as much this episode. I will contribute when I have something important to say... but I'm gonna just... you know.

Sydnee: You'll have—we'll—

Raleigh: Just kick it.

Sydnee: —we'll just need some—some... a few impressions from you.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: On, uh—on what our topic this week—what I have brought for us to discuss this week, which is—

Rileigh: Sydnee, when you—no, I got it. I got it. When you're—when you're sick, what do you... take? What will the doctor prescribe you?

Sydnee: Oh, I see where you're going! I mean... perhaps a pill.

Rileigh: What *kind* of pill?

Sydnee: Maybe a little one.

Rileigh: And would it... be... smooth? [laughs]

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: It would not be jagged. If someone gives you a jagged little pill to take, don't take it.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: They're—they're not the doctor!

Rileigh: Ohhh.

Taylor: Ohhh.

Sydnee: Ahh, how you like that?!

Rileigh: Ohh.

Taylor: Nice.

Sydnee: How you like that?!

Rileigh: Wow. That was great.

Taylor: Is it safe to assume that Alanis Morissette is one of those people that can't swallow pills very well? [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Perhaps. Perhaps.

Taylor: Never—never... describe—described a pill as "jagged" before.

Sydnee: No. I don't think—I can't remember ever taking a jagged pill. Uh, but the album... Alanis Morissette's, um... [pauses] famous, um... wonderful, amazing work—

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Well-known, uh, well-regarded... 1995 album, *Jagged Little Pill* is what we're gonna discuss.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Uh, and you had not listened to it.

Raleigh: I had never listened to it.

Sydnee: That's fascinating to me.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Surely when you did listen to it, you recognized some of the songs.

Raleigh: Yes. Um, more specifically "Ironic," I remember solely because there was a time when at our house, we used to have a very old style karaoke machine. And you and Taylor... one—I want to say... Christmas, performed "Ironic..." together.

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: And I do remember that.

Taylor: Like, a thing that we did? [laughs]

Sydnee: We karaoked in our parents' home to "Ironic." That is so 90's. Everything about it.

Raleigh: And I remember because Griffin McElroy then karaoked to "My Humps."

Sydnee: Did he?

Rileigh: Yes.

Taylor: Hm.

Rileigh: And "Rock Lobster."

Taylor: And that sounds accurate. Yeah.

Sydnee: I don't remember that. I mainly remember karaoke-ing to "Black Velvet" on that thing.

Rileigh: Hm.

Taylor: That was when we were a lot younger. I remember that.

Sydnee: Also, that song, "I've Never Been to Me."

Taylor: Hm...

Sydnee: Do you remember that song on there?

Taylor: Oh, yeah! Yeah. That was...

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] I remember singing that when I was, like... 13?

Taylor: Uh-huh.

Sydnee: 'Cause I remember it has the line in it, "[holding back laughter] I took the hand of a preacher man, and we made love in the sun." [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Oh, God... I remember that. And—and, uh, I remember—we also had, uh, Tiffany's—"I Think We're Alone Now" was one of those that we could do.

Sydnee: Oh yeah.

Taylor: And I liked to sing it, but I also liked to do an acting out dramatically of the lyrics. Uh, with, uh—with, uh, a stuffed Chessy cat that we had.

Sydnee: You did!

Taylor: Little animal. Yeah.

Sydnee: You did, I remember that.

Taylor: It was a—I had a whole emotive dance routine to a Tiffany song. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I—I remember vividly the "Put your arms around me and we tumble to the ground."

Taylor: 'Cause then I would, in fact, tumble to the ground. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Taylor: Wow, yeah.

Sydnee: Uh... I don't remember that, but I'm glad you do, Rileigh. I'm glad that you enjoyed that—

Rileigh: It's—it's a great memory.

Sydnee: The—the album had six singles. That's a lot for an album.

Taylor: Yeah, it—

Rileigh: Um, there were only, what? Ten songs on the album? Something like that?

Sydnee: Hmm... no... there's more. There's... hold on. I have it all up here. 13.

Rileigh: 13.

Sydnee: The last one is the "You Oughta Know"

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Yeah. Blend. The—the, uh, Jimmy the Saint Blend. And then at the end of that—did you listen to the hidden track?

Rileigh: No.

Taylor: Oh, the secret song!

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: I was listening on Spotify. I didn't know if it'd be on there.

Sydnee: I don't—well, I mean, if you listen to that one, it should be—'cause, I mean, it was on the original recording. You just had to—there's a big pause of silence in between.

Raleigh: Okay.

Sydnee: So, like, the only way—the reason people—man, this is interesting to think about. The reason people found this is because of CD's.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: You just leave it playing, right?

Sydnee: Because what would happen is that the last song would end, and then it would stop. And so you wouldn't go up and hit stop, but there would be a big long pause of silence. You assume the CD has stopped, and then all of a sudden Alanis starts singing—by the way, can catch you off guard if you're in your bedroom alone.

Raleigh: Yeah, I bet.

Sydnee: And really scare the crap out of you.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Uh, but that's interesting, 'cause I don't know how you do that—I mean, I guess you could just put it at the end of the track and, like, if you're listening to Spotify or whatever, it would play, but, like, what would you do if your phone went silent for a while? You'd assume something has happened.

Rileigh: I would assume something happened if I looked down at my phone and it still said it was playing the song. Like, the little time bar was still moving along. But, um... it did not produce any sound.

Sydnee: Yeah, that's interesting. I wonder—

Rileigh: I know that, uh—

Sydnee: —how do you do secret songs now?

Rileigh: —actually a good tie-in to a previous episode we've done. Dodie did a secret song in her YouTube videos for a year. One word in every YouTube video that she posted was a lyric to one of her songs to the tune of the lyric, [voice weakening] and she put them all together at the end of the year and it was a song.

Sydnee: That's cool.

Rileigh: Thank you.

Sydnee: I guess that's—

Taylor: Hm. How is this—oh, sorry. I—I was just considering that—that one of the other albums that was at the same time as this and also had a secret song was Green Day's *Dookie*, which I would want to talk about at some point.

But, uh—the secret songs, they're both about go—going to someone's house when they're not home, now that I think of it.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: [through laughter] Which is... interesting! I went to look up the timeline. I guess *Dookie* came out before *Jagged Little Pill*, so I don't know. Was Alanis just... a big fan of Green Day? [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Maybe. Maybe. I would say, uh, as a PSA, please do not go to people's houses when they're not there without their permission. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: No.

Sydnee: We do not endorse that here at *Still Buff*.

Raleigh: That's a good—that's a good PSA.

Taylor: No matter what your—your 90's rock icons want you to believe.

Sydnee: Yes. I know—I know that sounds, uh—well, okay. If that sounds romantic to you, you need to stop and do a little bit of soul searching. [laughs] 'Cause, uh, it sounds a little bit troubling here at *Still Buff*. Please don't do that. Um, Alanis, I still love you, and I did love "Your House," the secret song at the end, but I do not endorse entering people's homes without their permission. Ever.

Raleigh: Indeed.

Sydnee: Uh, so the—the big—the first song I remember hearing from *Jagged Little Pill* was "Ironic." Now, I think "You Oughta Know" was, like, probably the bigger, like, caught everybody's attention song, because it played very well into this narrative at the time of angry female... musical artists.

Raleigh: Uh-huh.

Sydnee: 'Cause that was very much, like, what everybody started talking about in, like, the mid-to-late 90's was like, "[mockingly] Why are all these girls so mad?"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: "They're all making these songs about how mad they are! What's wrong, girls?"

Raleigh: "[attempting a dramatic movie trailer voice] In a world where all the girls are mad..."

Sydnee: [through laughter] And it was, like—

Raleigh: "Alanis Morissette."

Sydnee: —and all—and all these—all these female artists are like, "Well, you know, 'cause the world sucks for us! Guys! And... we're angry about it! And so

we're making really good music." And, uh—so I feel like "You Oughta Know" caught a lot more attention, but, um, "Ironic" was the one I remember first, because everybody, uh, at school—I think I was—this would've been, like, seventh grade? Everybody was talking about it. Um, and the music video.

And so I remember watching MTV to try to see the music video. [pauses] This is how it—

Rileigh: That's such a wild thing you just said.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: This is how it used to be.

Rileigh: I'm trying to wrap my head around it.

Sydnee: I would turn on MTV and then just leave it on, and, like, I didn't want anybody to change the channel, 'cause I was waiting for that—for the "Ironic" music video to come on, so I could know what everybody was talking about.

[pauses]

Sydnee: Do you remember these days, Taylor?

Rileigh: [simultaneously] Wow.

Taylor: Oh, yeah. Yeah, it was just the luck of draw, as to—as—what—what you could—what you could watch! It's a crazy concept, right, Rileigh?

[pauses]

Rileigh: Like... sorry, I had a big yawn. Um... like, thinking about not just, like, pulling up YouTube, typing in, like, "Ironic music video—" like, I'm sure I could pull up that exact music video right now in, like... less than 15 seconds.

Sydnee: Yes. I sat and waited. And it did—it did come on. I mean, like, the newer—the newer music videos would be on heavier rotation. So, like, you could see 'em more often.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: But I finally saw it, and I remember, um—and I had no familiarity with Alanis Morissette as an artist, with her music. I had never heard any other songs, the album, anything.

So I remember coming to school the next day and saying, "I love—I really liked that band, Alanis Morissette. Um, are they sisters? They look so much alike."

Raleigh: Sydnee...

Taylor: Oh no, Syd!

Sydnee: No joke. No joke.

Raleigh: Silly...

Sydnee: 'Cause I still remember—I remember—I don't—I mean, I probably wouldn't remember saying it so well if I, uh, didn't have such a vivid memory of the complete humiliation that followed, as everybody in my, uh, science class in seventh grade made fun of me.

Raleigh: [coughs]

Sydnee: For not knowing that it was...

Raleigh: One person.

Sydnee: ...one person named Alanis Morissette, who was just shot from four different camera angles, and was in different—

Raleigh: What a cool band name, though. Like, if you were just two sisters? Like, if we had a band and we all were like, "Alright. What's our name gonna be?" And we just came "Alanis Morissette."

Sydnee: Mm-hm. Well, there's four. In the car, they shoot it from four different angles, and she's dressed differently, with different hairstyles. And so it looks like four women on, like, a joyride in a car, singing "Ironic." Like, it looks that way, but it's really just—

Raleigh: How high tech.

Sydnee: —her. Um—

Taylor: And they all have, like, slightly different personalities, it seems like. Like, they tried to make, like, you know...

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: They're all—all different Alanises in the car.

Sydnee: Um, but I—I did not know, legit did not know, and I feel... uh, I *still* feel a little bit of that—of that embarrassment!

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: To this day.

Raleigh: As you should.

Taylor: Yeah. Well, and now you just shared it with the masses, so.

Raleigh: Now you've shared it with the internet. Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah. A whole fresh batch of people are makin' fun of you right now.

Sydnee: [laughs] So... just know that if you make fun of somebody in seventh grade for not knowing something that they may have... maybe should've known, they'll remember for the rest of their life, Scott.

Taylor: [laughs loudly]

Sydnee: For the rest of their life.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Forever! Scott!

Raleigh: Call Scott out like that, okay!

Taylor: Man, Scott. Why were you such a jerk, Scott?

Raleigh: Gosh, Scott. Hey, Scott?

Taylor: Would you treat your kids like that, that you probably have now? [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That's my sister, *Scott*. I probably wasn't even alive when this happened. *Scott*.

Sydnee: You definitely were not. [laughs]

Raleigh: I definitely was not.

Taylor: Isn't that amazing how we can do that? Does everybody—I don't know. Maybe this is, like, a me thing. But it sounds like it's not. Does everybody just have, like, a—a bag of, like... like, deep embarrassment—

Raleigh: Yup.

Taylor: —that they carry around with them?

Raleigh: Yup.

Sydnee: Mm-hm.

Taylor: And they just—you just pull it out sometime when you're feelin' too good about yourself, or you're trying to go to sleep at night? Like, "Aw, you know what I remember? That time that I fell down on the ice walking into school in the fifth grade. Let me think about that, and remember how—how embarrassed I was for a little while. [stammering] I'm feelin' too good today. I think I need to... [clicks tongue] recall."

Sydnee: Yep. Yeah. Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah. It's always right as I'm going to sleep.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh-huh. Yeah, if I ever did—I saw that—it was actually a meme on Facebook, which I usually don't, uh, cotton to. But, um—

Raleigh: What a mom thing you just said.

Sydnee: —well, but it was, like—[holding back laughter] if, uh—"Don't worry. If I've ever said anything—if I've ever had an awkward interaction with you, I will be reliving it for literally the rest of my life."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Um, and I thought, "Well, that... yeah. That's fair. That's—that's me."

Raleigh: I have mon—I have montages in my head of every time I've been at a restaurant or been in a movie theater and they've said, "Enjoy your meal/enjoy your movie," and I have said, "You too."

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I just have those playing on a loop over and over again in my head constantly.

Taylor: [laughs] I—I—I have done that multiple times when, you know, like, boarding a flight. "Enjoy your flight." And you say, "Yeah, you too. Oh, you're not going anywhere?"

It's like, you just want to kind of at that point just get out of the line. Just leave the airport. [through laughter] Just—

Raleigh: Give up.

Taylor: —I've lost the—I'm not allowed to fly on airplanes anymore. [through laughter] 'Cause I can't have social interactions like a normal person when boarding them.

Sydnee: You take off running down the gateway—

Taylor: [laughs] Oh no!

Sydnee: —as fast as you can. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry!"

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: I still remember the secondhand embarrassment I felt at breaking the rules when we went to the Chick-fil-A at the Huntington Mall when I was no more than six or seven years old. And it was just me and Sydnee and Justin, and we, uh, got a party tray of chicken nuggets that's made for, like, a party of people.

Sydnee: Mm-hm.

Raleigh: And Justin picks it up and does—says "Thank you, but this is just for us!" And then runs off, going, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry!" And I just remember being, like, "Oh no, how could he do this to me?!"

Sydnee: Everybody knows we're not having a party! [laughs quietly] Uh, we haven't discussed the album itself enough here.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: I'm glad that we've all—[laughs] pooled our collective humiliation from our teen and preteen years.

Raleigh: It's like that scene in *Harry Potter*. Like, they pull, like, the phantom threads out of their head into the—that's what we just did.

Taylor: Oh, cool. Can—can we—can we, like, set them on fire or something? Can we get rid of them somehow, or...?

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Taylor: No? Okay.

Sydnee: No... we—we could—if we had a Pensieve, we could relive—[emphatically] we cannot go down this rabbit hole!

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Nope, nope.

Sydnee: No. Too many problems there, now!

Raleigh: Too many probs!

Sydnee: [sighs]

Raleigh: Anyways. Let's check the group message!

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Nothing gold can stay. Nothing gold can stay! [holding back laughter] Anyway, let's check the group message.

Raleigh: Sisters...

Taylor: Yes?

Raleigh: Who—who—who we talk about this week?

Sydnee: Uh—[laughs quietly]

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: By "we" I mean "you all."

Sydnee: I'm gonna start it out, because I don't want you, um, talking any more than you have to, Raleigh.

Raleigh: They would not sponsor us anymore.

Sydnee: No. Uh, I want to tell you about DoorDash. Okay? Because I don't like to, uh, take off my pajamas unless I have to.

That's not true. I have so many things to do every day. But the rare occasion where I get to just put on sweatpants and relax... like, I just—sometimes I just want the food—the wonderful food, delicious food, to come to me. I don't wanna have to cook it. I'm so tired. These children are wearing me out.

And I use DoorDash, so that I can, uh, order all the great food I like, all the local restaurants that I enjoy, whatever I'm in the mood for, and it'll just be delivered to me wherever I am.

We take full advantage of this when we're on the road, too. Uh, because... with, uh, with kids, you don't always know what a restaurant's gonna be like, but the food sounds good, and so it's—it's a great thing to use, even when you're—when you're out and about in the world, not just at home.

With door-to-door delivery in all 50 US states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Australia, you can order from your local go-to's or national chains. Whatever you—whatever you prefer.

Uh, because with DoorDash, you don't have to worry about where your next meal's gonna come from. It's gonna come... from the restaurant, in a car... via the Dasher... to your door. Then you do have to get up from the couch to go, like, greet them and get—receive the food. But that's it! That's it.

Raleigh: Do you think if you put on your special instructions "Come in, the front door will be unlocked, and hand deliver it to me on the couch."

Taylor: "Say nothing." [laughs]

Raleigh: "Say nothing."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: "Make no eye contact."

Sydnee: Don't—let's not—

Raleigh: Do you think they'd do it? [laughs]

Sydnee: Let's not. Let's not.

Taylor: Yeah, that's...

Sydnee: Don't—listen. With DoorDash, don't make it weird. Just—

Taylor: [laughs] I—I agree with that.

Sydnee: [holding back laughter] Uh, Taylor, if our listeners don't wanna make it weird, but do want to use DoorDash, what should they do?

Taylor: Well, right now you can get \$5 off your first order of \$15 or more when you download the DoorDash app and enter code "buffering." That's five bucks off your first order when you download the DoorDash app in the app store and enter code "buffering." Don't forget! Code's "buffering," you get five bucks off your first order.

Sydnee: Siblings, it's a wireless world.

[pauses]

Sydnee: Wires are so—

Raleigh: Oh?

Sydnee: —I say that while we're sitting in a recording studio covered in wires.

Raleigh: Full of—full of wires.

Taylor: Covered in wires.

Sydnee: Covered in wires.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: But when I leave this studio and go out to the world, I don't—I don't wanna be tied down by wires, and I need earbuds that can come with me, safely tucked inside my ears. [laughs quietly] No wires attached. And, uh, Raycon has you covered. You can get those wireless earbuds, uh, without dropping hundreds of dollars on a pair, which is the great news.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Uh, because usually you do, and with Raycon you don't! They start at about half the price of other premium wireless earbuds on the market. They sound just as amazing as the other top audio brands. Uh, and the latest model, the E25, offers six hours of play time, seamless Bluetooth pairing, more bass, with a stylish, discrete design that gives you a nice, noise-isolating fit.

And I will say that they definitely, uh, do stay in there. I have a lot of problems with earbuds falling out of my ears, uh, which is a pain, 'cause I tend to wear

them mainly, like, when I'm cooking dinner or, like, washing dishes or doing clothes.

Anything like that where, like, you really don't want your earbud to fall out and get into the situation that lies below. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Uh-huh.

Sydnee: Um—[laughs quietly] That happens to me a lot! And with Raycons, they don't. And, uh, I really love that for my apparently very oddly shaped ears. Uh, so Tey, if our listeners want to get some Raycons, what should they do?

Taylor: Well, now's the time to get the latest and greatest from Raycon. You can get 15% off your order at buyraycon.com/buffering. That's buyraycon.com/buffering. You get 15% off your Raycon wireless earbuds. Buyraycon.com/buffering.

Sydnee: So, uh, we talked about "Ironic," which—and I guess we have to—are we obligated—like, legally obligated to say that "No, the things—the situations listed in 'Ironic' are not, in fact, ironic."

Raleigh: Yes.

Taylor: They are just unfortunate.

Sydnee: Yes. Thank you, um—

Raleigh: Aren't they just coincidences?

Sydnee: Would we have known this without the internet? I don't know.

Raleigh: [coughs]

Sydnee: Who can say. [laughs quietly] But thanks to the internet, there are many things written about how no, they are not ironic. They are just a series of unfortunate events that happen to our protagonist. That is—

Raleigh: Alanis Morissette.

Sydnee: Yes. And that is too bad. It's still a good song. It's fine. We'll all live. It's fine. There are worse things.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, "You Oughta Know," though—I still remember—that's the one—that's the music video with her, like, in the desert with a guitar or something? And it's, like, shot in, like... sepia tone?

[pauses]

Taylor: Hm.

Sydnee: You remember this, Tey?

Taylor: I re—I've—I reme—I feel like there were a lot of people in deserts with guitars in the—in the 90's. [laughs] Maybe she was one of them.

Sydnee: She's so angry. And of course "You Oughta Know" is written about a—a—some jerk. Some guy who was a jerk, and who, you know, did her dirty.

And, uh... what the—the mythology that arose from that song—because whenever somebody writes an angry song about somebody else, the first question is, "[mockingly] Who's it about?"

Raleigh: Right.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: And if they're really famous, it's probably someone else who is also famous.

Sydnee: Everybody wants to know the dish.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: And—

Rileigh: Spill the tea.

Sydnee: —the—I remember the first time I heard this, I thought, "How could this be possible?" That Alanis Morissette song, "You Oughta Know," was about Dave Coulier.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Because—

Rileigh: Hold on, wait. [pauses] Dave Coulier as in Uncle Joey from *Full House*?

Taylor: Yes.

Sydnee: That's right! Uncle Joey. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: What?!

Sydnee: You know. "Cut it out!" Uncle Joey.

Rileigh: *Him?*

Sydnee: "[Mr. Woodchuck impression] Did somebody say... one?" That one. Remember he did the woodchuck?

Rileigh: Oh, you had to—you had to do *two* Dave Coulier bits.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Wow.

Rileigh: One more and you've summoned him!

Sydnee: [laughs loudly] Oh, no!

Taylor: Please don't.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, they—they were... buddies, because of... Canada. No—

Rileigh: [snorts]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Yes. All Canadians—you all know each other, right? And you all—you all hang out with Alanis Morissette.

Rileigh: Sydnee, what?!

Sydnee: I'm joking!

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I'm joking.

Rileigh: They were buddies because of Canada.

Sydnee: I know. No, they were—they had dated back in 1992. I think because of *You Can't Do That on Television*, which is a Canadian show, but I think—I think maybe—

Rileigh: Were they both on it?

Sydnee: I believe? Well, she was, for sure. Or maybe that's how they met—somehow, they met. Um, no, I know—I apologize. I know all Canadians don't know each other. I know. But I feel like you probably get that a lot, don't you?

[pauses]

Taylor: Canada?

Rileigh: Uh—this is just now a—a silent spot for all of you Canadians listening to answer verbally.

Sydnee: [holding back laughter] Well, I feel like that they—they probably do! Like, "Oh, I know somebody from Canada."

And it's like, "Yes, thank you, dumb American."

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: "There are lots of people in Canada. It's a giant country. Thank you very much."

Taylor: There's a lot of Canada.

Raleigh: Oh, this is fun. Like, it becomes, like, a choose your own adventure episode. Like, we wait for them to respond, and we record one episode where we're like, "Oh, cool! You *do* all know each other!"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: While we record one where we're like, "Yeah... that wasn't very smart. It's a very large place."

Taylor: Well...

Raleigh: And then they gotta choose their track based on how they answer.

Sydnee: To be fair, uh, it's the same—I would say it's the same for West Virginia.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: "I knew somebody from West Virginia!"

"Okay...?" [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That's true.

Sydnee: "I know lots of people from West Virginia. I still live there."

Um... but, uh—

Taylor: And usually—actually, when people tell you that, usually they actually knew somebody from Virginia. And, uh—

Raleigh: Yes.

Taylor: —they just don't—they think you're just...

Raleigh: "Oh, I knew someone from Richmond!" Nope.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: That's not... that's a different state entirely.

Sydnee: Do you live in—yeah.

Taylor: Just a whole other state.

Sydnee: "Do you live near Richmond?" I mean...

Raleigh: Why is it always Richmond?

Sydnee: 'Cause it's the only place they know in Virginia!

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: A lot—a lot of people from Richmond get around, I guess.

Raleigh: [wheeze-laughs]

Taylor: They're everywhere.

Raleigh: The only people that actually know all of everybody all those from Richmond.

Taylor: That's the true answer.

Sydnee: I don't know. Uh—

Raleigh: But I did enjoy "You Oughta Know." That was one of my favorites. I think it was in my—my top three.

Sydnee: It was—I found it, uh, liberating and shocking when I was a young woman.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Shocking. She used—

Taylor: Yeah, I definitely... remember being a little embarrassed to listen to it when I was, uh—when I was young.

Sydnee: She uses the F word.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: It's the only explicit one, right?

Sydnee: Uh...

Raleigh: 'Cause I know I—I was scrolling through Spotify and, like, they've got the little "E" next to all the songs. I think that was the only one that caught my attention. Yeah. That's the only one.

Sydnee: It, uh—it—I—I remember hearing that and being like, "Whoa!"

Taylor: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: "Did she just say that for real?" And then—about Uncle Joey? [laughs]

Raleigh: "She said that about Uncle Joey?"

Sydnee: "Whoaa! What did you do, Uncle Joey?!"

Raleigh: Can we talk about how 90's this album cover is?

Sydnee: It's cool, yeah.

Taylor: Oh, it's great, yeah.

Raleigh: Like, it reminds me of the font and the editing techniques that they used for those after-school specials about, like... you know, not—not doing drugs or something.

Sydnee: Listen, there was nothin' after-school special about Alanis.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: She was—she was puttin' the truth out there. She was... tellin' it like it was. Um—

Raleigh: No, I actually did really enjoy it. But it did—it was very 90's. All of it's very 90's.

Sydnee: The, uh—uh, so I thought this was interesting. Dave Coulier did come out once and say that he thought the song was about him.

Raleigh: Oh?

Taylor: Is that where—

Sydnee: He—he—

Raleigh: On an episode of *Full House*.

Taylor: Is that where the myth originated? That—or the—the—belief originated?

Sydnee: I don't think so. I think it predated him, because he—what he said was that—and she admitted this, that he called her and said, "Is this song about me? 'Cause people are telling me it's about me. Is that true?"

Um, and she was just like, "It's about—it could be a lot of people."

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Uh... but he—he thought it was, because at one point she did call him in the middle of dinner, and he said, "I'm in the middle of dinner. Can I call you back?"

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: "[singing] I hate to bug you in the middle of dinner."

Raleigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: That—yeah.

Raleigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: So. Uh, so he said that. And later she was like—she just kind of said, "I just think it's interesting how many people think it's about them." [laughs]

Taylor: Well.

Sydnee: Pullin' a—pullin' a line from a "You're So Vain" there.

Taylor: There you go, yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. So—

Raleigh: I do think it's interesting that there was still a news article written about this on December 6th of 2019.

Sydnee: It's—we just—"You Oughta Know"? We *wanna* know!

Raleigh: That still starts with "Fans still want to know if it is about her ex, Dave Coulier."

Sydnee: Of course! Of course we wanna know the dish.

Taylor: I think that's just been accepted into, like—like, modern day myth, right? Like, that's the truth. It's about—it's about... Uncle Joey.

Sydnee: The other—the other big songs that came from that—uh, "Hand In My Pocket."

Raleigh: That was another one of my favorites. That was also in my—my top three.

Sydnee: Yeah. Uh, that—that was a good one. That was, like, just a good... feel-good... not shocking...

Raleigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Good song. Um... "All I Really Want" was apparently a single, which I really enjoyed "All I Really Want," but I don't think I remembered that it was a single.

Taylor: Hm.

Raleigh: Now, singles now, in my experience, for—for more recent modern music, are, like, one, a single, hence the name, that is released before the album to kind of, like, get some—get some hype for the album.

Sydnee: Mm-hm?

Raleigh: And the album is released, or EP or whatever.

Sydnee: Sure.

Raleigh: But... I—I—I don't think—I mean, albums are smaller than this, that I listen to, so I don't really—if you release seven singles, that'd pretty much nearly be the entire album. The point is, like, I think now releasing the album; not, like, the—the singles—

Sydnee: Well, I don't think that all of the singles were released ahead of time, necessarily.

Taylor: Yeah. They—they're just the ones—

Raleigh: So then what's the—what would the difference be, then? If they weren't released separately, how would you—

Sydnee: They were the—they were the ones that went into wide radio circulation.

Raleigh: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: And... I would guess these are the same ones that had music videos.

Taylor: Yeah.

Riley: Okay. Okay.

Sydney: I—I know that—I know that, um, "Hand In My Pocket" did too—and "You Learn," right?

Taylor: Yeah, definitely. That one was... well, and I feel like at the time—

Sydney: "You Learn" was huge.

Taylor: —I—it was pretty common, like, even when an album was out, you would still—like, they'd still release, like, standalone, like, singles of a song. I mean, isn't that a crazy concept, Riley? You could just buy a single song. And it wasn't, like, "Preview this album."

Riley: That is wild.

Taylor: It's like, "Here's just that one song that everybody likes."

Sydney: Yeah.

Riley: Yeah. 'Cause, like, now of course you can listen to one song on the album when it's released before, like the Jonas Brothers before they released their big comeback album released one song. And you could listen to that one song, and you knew the album wasn't coming out for another few months.

Sydney: No, I—I feel like it's—I—I don't know, but my guess would be "You Oughta Know" was the first... single. Yeah. Yeah, it was. I just confirmed that.

Riley: [laughs quietly]

Sydney: It came out in July of 1995, and then followed by "Hand In My Pocket," then "Ironic," and "You Learn," "Head Over Feet," and then "All I Really Want." That makes sense that was the last one. Um... "Head Over Feet." Man, that was a good one. That's one of my favs from it.

Riley: That's a good one.

Taylor: Hm.

Sydnee: I thought that was a nice love song.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I always—I think I realized, like—I don't know. I don't know where I was at in my teenage years, but I like the—[through laughter] the kind of sad songs about sad people. I liked "Mary Jane" and I liked "Perfect." Those were the—those were the songs—

Raleigh: I also like "Mary Jane."

Taylor: Yeah. That song still gets to me, I feel like. Like, there are certain lines in that song, like, that—you know, like, ugh.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: The angst.

Sydnee: No, "Mary Jane" is good. I think "Mary Jane" was an underrated song, because it didn't—it didn't get the wide—it wasn't a single. It didn't get, like, the widespread—if you talked to people during the time about what songs they love, almost nobody ever mentioned "Mary Jane" as one of the top ones.

But I thought, like, musically and vocally it was a really beautiful tribute to a person. Um, like... love letter, letter of concern, comfort, "I'm still here." Like, that kind of—I thought it was a really beautiful song. I agree. One of my favorites, too.

Um, I, uh—the—"Perfect—" it was always this weird thing where I connected to the feelings without, like—I didn't feel like—obviously the character in "Perfect," like, their parents are pushing them. And that's, like, the perspective is, like, a parent shoving a kid. And I didn't really feel like our parents did that to me personally, but I—I did understand, like, the compulsion that was within that song.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I had that voice in my own head. It did not sound like Alanis Morissette.

Rileigh: Sydnee was her own parents.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Uh, but—uh, but I mean, I thought—I thought "Perfect" was—you know, and that's the thing. Like, "Perfect" got a lot of criticism for being, like, too on-the-nose. But, like, I think it's one of those things where we only think things are on-the-nose or, like, "Oh, it's so, like, played out," or whatever, um, in retrospect; because it was maybe the first one that was saying that so boldly and openly. And, like, easily understandable to teenagers.

Taylor: Right.

[pauses]

Taylor: Yeah, I—I don't—

Sydnee: [simultaneously] You know? It—

Taylor: —'cause I I think that was really—I don't really feel like that was—there were other big hits at the time that—I mean, that wasn't, like, a—it wasn't a song about havin' a crush on a girl that's too cool for you, which... so many songs will always be about. It was a very unique sentiment, you know?

Sydnee: Yeah. I thought it was. And same with—man, I remember at this point in my life, like, hearing a song like "Forgiven" and being like, "Whoaa!"

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Again, shocking!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] "Can you *do* that? Alanis? You're gonna get in so much trouble!"

Rileigh: "Alanis, you can't *do* that."

Sydnee: "You're gonna get excommunicated, Alanis!"

Taylor: Well, and that—but that was interesting. Like—like, sort of looking at those two songs. Like, it clearly was directed at a teen audience. I mean, it had themes that were directly meant to appeal to that. But then you had such heavy concepts like that. Like, kind of, like, dark stuff on there that—

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: —I feel like that's one of the reasons that people loved it so much, was it had a sense of respect towards its listeners, you know? Like, these are things that you... you might actually be feeling or thinking about, but you're not—I know you're young, but it's okay. You can think about big things.

Sydnee: And, uh—I would say the same for "Right Through You." I remember "Right Through You" really, like—as I got older, like, really connected with that idea of, like... I mean, it's different depending on what field you go into, and certainly, like, I think there's a lot more—it seems to me, in the entertainment industry, a lot more of this, like—like she describes.

Like, she's treated as this, like, sweet, naive little—"Oh, you got a guitar and you write your little poems and make 'em into songs? Oh, that's adorable. I bet you wanna make a record. Well, what are you gonna do for me?"

Raleigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Like, I—I—like, I can see where that existed—probably still exists—hopefully, I would assume, is getting—I would *hope* is getting better. I don't know. This is not the industry I'm in.

In medicine, obviously it's not like that. Um...

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: [laughs] That is not—that is not my experience, uh, in the sciences. But, I mean, sexism exists.

Raleigh: Right.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: In different forms in different industries.

Taylor: [sarcastically] What?!

Sydnee: [laughs] I know!

Raleigh: [sarcastically] Sorry. What?!

Taylor: Oh, no!

Sydnee: And there is a—there is a—a buttoned-up, uh, sexism that exists in—in the sciences. Um, sometimes it is not quite so overt. Um... but is still—is still very much there. And I—I remember that just the opening, like, "Wait a minute, man. You mispronounced my name."

Like, I f—I—I've had that feeling, that urgency. Like, "Wait, you didn't even—hold on! Just wait! Just stop—okay, no, I'm not done! Like, just stop talking for a second."

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: No, yeah. "That was just the—that was my opening statement, and I have more to say, and I have a case to make, and if you'll just *shut up* and stop interrupting me, there's more." And, like, feeling like in a very professional way, I've been... silenced and put off and ignored. Um, in a way that is overt in the song.

That really connected to me. And it still does. Like, as an adult, there are moments where I recognize that happening. It's like, "Hold on. I'm gonna—I'm gonna break into an Alanis song from 1995 right now, okay?" [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] "If you don't stop..."

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: "I'm going to break out into song."

Taylor: Just the middle of a conference room, like, in a meeting. "Here's the thing."

Sydnee: [laughs] Just—just wait.

Taylor: Oh, that'd be great.

Sydnee: That would be a really powerful moment, to be fair.

Raleigh: It would be.

Sydnee: [laughs] Um...

Raleigh: I do feel like it's worth mentioning, as we near the end, that this is a musical now.

Taylor: Yes.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Yes.

Raleigh: Like, a jukebox musical, if you will.

Sydnee: Mm-hm.

Raleigh: Um, Tey, I know you had talked a little bit about it. I'm not super familiar with it. The first I had listened to this music was just the original album. I thought you all might be mad if the only album I listened to was the Broadway recording, so...

Sydnee: Yeah...

Raleigh: I did listen to the original.

Taylor: Yeah. No, I—

Sydnee: I would hope so.

Taylor: [laughs quietly] Well, apparently it's, uh—it, um—and this was on Alanis's request, that she did not want it to have anything to do with her life. She wanted it to be completely different. Uh, and the book's written by Diablo Cody, which I thought was cool.

Sydnee: That is cool.

Taylor: Yeah. But, uh—but yeah. It follows, like, a suburban family dealing with a—a variety of... you know. Important issues. Sexuality and—and, you know, uh, racism and—the—the mother of the family is named Mary Jane, so there's—so there's that.

Raleigh: Gotcha.

Taylor: Yeah. I mean, I don't know. It's got pretty good reviews. Sounds—sounds fun.

Raleigh: So it's basically *Escape to Margaritaville*.

Taylor: Uhh, well...

Sydnee: Uhh... [laughs]

Taylor: I don't know about *that*, per se, but, uh... in the—in the same wheelhouse.

Sydnee: I'm—only—only in the sense that if—if—if the criteria is "Musicals that Sydnee would love—"

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: These were made for you.

Sydnee: —then yes. These are—[crosstalk] for me.

Raleigh: In the Venn diagram, they are just two circles that perfectly overlap.

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Raleigh: Where it's just musicals that Sydnee loves. Just these two.

Sydnee: These two. I mean—no. I mean, I love a lot of other musicals!

Raleigh: I know.

Sydnee: But, like—

Rileigh: Those just—yes.

Sydnee: —yes. Those—those—I mean, those are the two—that would be the main thing the two have in common, is that I would—I—I do love *Escape to Margaritaville*, and I am certain I would love... uh, is it *Jagged Little Pill*? Is that what it's called?

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: The musical? Um, I'm certain I would love it. I—I just—for—I think for some of us of a certain age, it was the first... [holding back laughter] CD that I went and bought.

Taylor: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Um, for me. It wasn't the first CD I owned. I asked for other ones for Christmas. But... [laughs quietly] and—and there were—mom would periodically just buy me things and be like, "You would love this." And sometimes she was right.

Rileigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: Um, but it was the first one that I went out and sought out, probably at, like, Suncoast. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yeah, [crosstalk], yeah.

Sydnee: And bought. Yeah. And—and bought for me, and took home, and played over and over and over again on my giant stereo. Gosh, CD players were so big!

Taylor: They were. Well, and I—

Sydnee: They were s—

Taylor: —I remember you playing that song on a road trip. We were going down to the beach one summer, like, in the car. And I—it—I remember it so vividly

because it was so awkward to hear some of those songs trapped in a car with our parents.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: But they—they let you play the whole thing, beginning to end, and you sang along with every word. And I'm just like, "Well, this is... awkward." [laughs]
"This is—this is weird for me!" [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I know—as you were saying this, I realized that I am going to experience this on the other side someday.

Taylor: Uh-huh, there you go! Revenge.

Sydnee: I will be the parent in this—in this situation someday. I—I already know this is gonna happen. Um... yeah, I—it—it was the first—I felt like it was for me. And there was—there were a lot of other musical artists at the time who did this for other people. I mean, like, as I was sitting and thinking about what had the most impact on me, it's hard to sit there and—and deny somebody like Tori Amos. But, like, this was, for me personally, this was my first—I listened to it and went, "Oh, there's music for me!"

And then—and then it opened this whole idea of, like, "Well, if there's music for me, then that person who made the music—they see things a little bit like me, and they've had some of the experiences I've had, and they think about and worry about and get angry about the same things I do, and there must be more like me!" [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Right.

Rileigh: Mm-hm.

Sydnee: And there should be more stuff for us, and maybe it's already out there, it just doesn't get promoted as much as everything else. And, like, once you break into that idea that there are lots of people who like what you like and think like you do and, like, they're out there, you just can't see them because everything is made for not you? [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: Everything that gets promoted and put broadly, you know, accessible, is not you. It—it's a very empowering idea. Like, we are here, and I just have to find the rest of us.

Taylor: Well, and that's—

Sydnee: And find that media.

Taylor: —that's such a good point, because I think that, you know, I—a lot of—like, a lot of approachable music gets flack for being approachable. But, like, especially something like this, I feel like a lot of people probably listened to Alanis Morissette and it opened the door to kind of dig deeper into alternative female musicians, you know? Like—

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: —like, I had a similar experience. I was—I loved Veruca Salt growing up, and Veruca Salt was very nicely packaged pop music that had, like, a little bit of a rock and a little bit of punk to it, but it led me to so many other, like, artists, because that was kind of the gateway towards it. Like—

Sydnee: Your gateway rage.

Taylor: Yeah. Well, and you know, I know we talked about this when it came out, but that, uh—I think it was a Muse article about how *Jagged Little Pill* is actually bad? But, like...

Sydnee: Ugh.

Taylor: You know, that was title? Which... okay.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Uh, and about how, like—you know, kind of crucifies it, because it is simple, I guess? Which is just *such* a—a... annoying double standard on music, because I feel like most of iconic, like, male-fronted musical artists, simplicity is intrinsic in—in... their design, you know?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Like—like, once again, at the same time period, I don't think anyone—like, Green Day's *Dookie* will always be held up as, like, a masterpiece. Green Day was simple, and straightforward, and told you things that you felt as a teen. Alanis did the same thing, but now we have to go back and be like, "Actually, I relistened to it, and my childhood feelings were really *basic* and annoying."

Like, what?! [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: It—it's very frustrating, and it's a way of—of demeaning, like, the emotions we experience when we're young. Because as we get older, our—you know, our views become a little more complex, and so we don't feel things exactly the same way. But you can't negate those very formative, important experiences that, like, a giant chunk of the population are having right this minute, and need to have an experience and feel.

And then secondly, it's a—I mean, I think it has to be a gender thing.

Taylor: It is! I mean, that—it's so—'cause—oh, God. I remember the article—the—the framing of it, 'cause it's a—a woman who's trying to introduce her husband to it, and I guess her—it's, like, trying to please—"Here, look, husband. Here is this music. Oh, you're right. It's really bad, husband."

It's like... ugh. Man. Like—like...

Sydnee: It's—it's—I found it very... like, upsetting. It—it really put a bad taste in my mouth. That—that whole article. I didn't agree with it at all. Um, and it—it's just the same—it's the same old thing, right? We've talked about it on the show before. If teenage girls like something, then all of society and culture has to declare it bad and stupid and wrong, and make fun of it mercilessly until we all agree that it's crap, and then move on. And, like, you can't—if you're a teenage girl, whatever you like automatically becomes bad. And it just sucks.

Taylor: No, that's really—like, that's—if one thing changes any time soon in, like, youth culture—it's like, "Hey, young—young non-men. Like, you can—stand up for the things you like. The fact that you like it, that's all you need to qualify that you—you are allowed to like it. If you like it, it's yours."

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Like... you can defend it. You can embrace it. You don't have to cast it off to gain somebody else's approval.

[pauses]

Sydney: *Grease 2* forever!

Taylor: [laughs] Well...

Raleigh: Oh...

Sydney: *Grease 2* forever! [laughs]

Raleigh: I knew it was gonna happen...

Taylor: I don't think that's, like, a teen girl thing, Syd.

Raleigh: [crosstalk].

Taylor: I think that's a you thing. You specifically. If there was a party of people that just, like, repped *Grease 2*, it's a party of one, and it's just you!

Sydney: [laughs] I'm fine. I love this party. I'm gonna stay at it forever.

Taylor: Alright. You have your party.

Raleigh: Tey, what will be discussing next week, when hopefully I sound better?

Taylor: Uh, yeah. Well, alright. So, I wanted—I wanted to do something from, um, the, uh—the kind of 90's Nicktoon era. Um, and I—I chose *Hey, Arnold!* I, uh—now—now, as a—a—weird... pigeon person in Brooklyn, [through laughter] I feel like I've come full circle with my—my love of *Hey, Arnold!*

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Um... yeah.

Sydney: Alright!

Raleigh: It's great. I'd love to watch some *Hey, Arnold!*

Sydnee: Yeah, I'm excited to go back and—I—I feel like it was right on the edge of my youth, so I didn't—like, I think you watched it, and so I remember it, and I watched around it, but I wasn't as deep in it, and so I'm excited to—I'm gonna try to get Charlie into it.

Taylor: Yeah. I mean, there were a lot in that era that are really—I loved at the time, like, when I was younger. But I feel like *Hey, Arnold!* was the one that, like, I—I've rewatched it recently and I'm like, "Oh, there's—" it's one of those first shows that I think kind of got, like, "We can make a show for kids that adults can enjoy too." But on, like, a deeper level. Like, the thoughts and the feelings behind it were really—were really powerful and beautiful.

Sydnee: So, to find it, do I just turn on Nickelodeon and wait 'til it comes on?

Taylor: Yeah, yeah, you do.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Is that—okay.

Taylor: Yeah, exactly.

Raleigh: Yep.

Sydnee: Okay. [holding back laughter] I'll—I'll be in front of my television on... on basic cable.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: I—I would like to say—

Sydnee: Or network, whatever. I don't know. Whatever it is.

Raleigh: —before we finish, um, this is our—our 200th episode of *Still Buffering*.

Taylor: Oh!

Sydnee: Really?

Rileigh: Yes. Uh, I didn't realize that until I was posting the show last week, and realized last week's was 199. This is 200. So, thanks for j—this journey of 200 episodes.

Taylor: Wow.

Sydnee: You could've said, "You Oughta Know—"

Rileigh: [simultaneously] Listeners and siblings and—

Sydnee: —that this is our 200th episode.

Rileigh: I'm very tired, Sydnee.

Sydnee: Sorry.

Rileigh: I didn't think about it.

Sydnee: That's okay.

Rileigh: But yeah, this is 200 episodes, so siblings and listeners and—and everyone, Maximum Fun, all those—those people, thank you for having us on for so long. It's been a—it's been a fun 200 episodes.

Taylor: Yeah!

Rileigh: That means it's pretty much been four years, which is... insane. But...

Sydnee: You've changed so much.

Rileigh: I know. Gosh. I'm almost not a teenager anymore.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] You've gotten your first mono.

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: Okay. Well—

Taylor: Glad we could be here.

Sydnee: I mean—

Taylor: Glad you could commemorate our 200th episode with mono. That feels very fitting for the—of this show, actually.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly] For the evolution, the actual aging of the show, yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh-huh. Yeah. I'm very proud of you. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Thank you. It was planned.

Sydnee: [tearfully] Our little Raleigh's growin' up!

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: Got my first mono.

Sydnee: Uh... hopefully your only. I mean, that's kind of the way it usually works.

Raleigh: I mean, yeah. Yeah. My only mono.

Sydnee: Okay. Uh, thank you. Thank you, then. Thank you listeners, for hanging with us for 200 episodes.

Taylor: Wow.

Raleigh: Wild.

Sydnee: Here's to 200 more!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Woo-hoo!

Raleigh: Woo!

Sydnee: Uh, thank you, Maximum Fun, for letting us be part of your network. Everyone should go to Maximumfun.org and check out all the wonderful podcasts that they would enjoy. You can tweet at us @stillbuff. You can email us at

stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, "Baby You Change Your Mind."

Rleigh: This has been your cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I am Rleigh Smirl.

[pauses]

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

[theme music begins in the background]

Rleigh: [holding back laughter] I'm *Still Buffering...*

Sydnee and Taylor: And I... am... too.

Rleigh: Man, Sydnee. You almost forgot to say your name, and that stayed the same!

Sydnee: [through laughter] I don't know—

Rleigh: Still just say your name. That didn't even change.

Sydnee: What happened?

Taylor: I got real confused. I'm like, "Wait, do *I* go next? No."

Rleigh: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: "No?" I was just... [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I don't know what happened there! I just went totally blank.

Taylor: It all falls apart so easily!

Sydnee: Hangin' by a thread, here.

Rleigh: And I'm Dave Coulier.

Sydnee: Told ya, nothing gold can stay.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: "I don't know, Ranger Joe!"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Manolo: Hey, you've reached *Dr. Gameshow*. Leave your message after the beep.

Speaker One: *Dr. Gameshow* is my favorite podcast, and the only podcast my parents let me listen to, because I'm 12.

But even old people love this show. Basically, you call in, play games, and have fun. If you win a game, [unintelligible] will send you a magnet in the mail.

I have *soo* many magnets, and put them all over my locker, and pretty much everyone at school is jealous, because they are very cool custom magnets, and it also means that I'm really good at winning games.

And they even let me practice my recorder live on the air! [a few squeaky recorder notes]

Listening to this show is like going to a real doctor, but... pretty much kind of better. *Dr. Gameshow* rocks! [a few squeaky recorder notes with a trill]

Jo: Listen to *Dr. Gameshow* on Maximum Fun. New episodes every other Wednesday.

[chord]

Maximumfun.org.
Comedy and Culture.

Artist Owned.
Listener Supported.