

Still Buffering 202: "To All The Boys I've Loved Before" (2018)

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[theme music plays]

Raleigh: Hello, and welcome to *Still Buffering*: a cross-generational guide to the cu—culture that made us. I am Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Raleigh: So close.

Sydnee: Uh, so I was at Target...

Raleigh: Okay?

Taylor: Oh.

Raleigh: Just jumpin' right in.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Well, I—I was at Target. Uh, I needed some... sandals.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Because we're going on the cruise soon, the JoCo Cruise. And, uh, I didn't have any sandals, so I went to get myself sandals and the girls sandals. And I was perusing the clothing.

And I—I have a question for the younger generation. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Okay?

Sydnee: Did you—did—I understand that the 90's are in.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

[pauses]

Sydnee: Did you—did you go through the 90's and, like, pick and choose? Or did you feel that you had to take it en masse?

Raleigh: I've—

Sydnee: Like that—like that you couldn't leave some of it in the 90's, like you *had* to bring it all with you?

Raleigh: I have only enjoyed certain parts of—of the 90's. Like the scrunchies.

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Raleigh: Or maybe, like, layering a babydoll dress over, like, a—like, a t-shirt, something like that. That kind of look.

Sydnee: Yeah, that's—that's back again?

Raleigh: I—I've done that.

Taylor: Oh, that—yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: Um—

Taylor: Do you remember the tank top over the t-shirt thing?

Sydnee: Uh-huh. Uh, I saw some of that, modeled there.

Raleigh: I have not seen that.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Two shirts.

Sydnee: Two shirts

Taylor: One more shirt than you need!

Raleigh: I've stopped paying attention to teen culture now that that's, you know, slightly less what our podcast is about, so I just... not involved.

Sydnee: I just was curious. It felt—it felt—like, there were—there were some things I was looking at and I was like, "[gasps] Is that back in? Oh, I love it!"

Raleigh: Like what?

Sydnee: Shortalls.

Raleigh: Overalls that are short.

Taylor: Short all—oh.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: If you search of overalls that are shorts on the internet, I advise you to use the word "shortall." I didn't know it was a word, but every time I tried to look for overalls with shorts it kept saying, like, "Did you want shortalls?"

And I was like, "Well, I guess I do." [laughs]

Raleigh: "I—I didn't, but I guess I do now!"

Sydnee: "I guess I did, internet! I guess I wanted shortalls! I didn't know that was a thing."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I guess there's no other way around that, but I feel like we should've tried harder on that word as a society!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It's—it's not a good word.

Taylor: It's a dumb sounding word! [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Shortalls.

Sydnee: And I don't like googling it.

Taylor: I'm sorry.

Sydnee: I don't like saying, like, "I would like—I'm a 36-year-old woman who would like some shortalls, please."

Taylor: Well, I—I—

Rileigh: They're cute, though.

Taylor: —it's—I was also looking at overalls not too long ago, and I discovered that they're sometimes called dungarees?

Sydnee: Really?

Taylor: [hesitantly] Yes?

Rileigh: Also the—

Sydnee: Like, specifically overalls are?

Taylor: [hesitantly] I believe so?

Rileigh: Also coveralls.

Sydnee: Coveralls. I've heard that. I didn't know dungar—I thought—I don't know what I thought dungarees were, but I didn't think they were that.

Uh, also, sometimes a jumper or a romper gets overlapped with what I know are overalls.

Taylor: I think that's, like—I think jumper is also one of those things, like, the British do with, like, biscuits and cookies. It means something to us and means something else to them.

Raleigh: From what I understand, from my very limited knowledge of a—a song written by a British artist, uh, jumper is like a sweatshirt, or like a sweater.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: That is—

Taylor: I always—

[pauses]

Sydnee: —that's true, right?

Taylor: —I thought—I thought jumper was basically, I guess, shortalls? I don't know, but without the hooks. It's all very confusing.

Raleigh: Yeah. A jumper is long panted—a long sleeved-legged, if you will, romper.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Yes.

Raleigh: Long-panted romper.

Sydnee: Uh—

Taylor: Long-panted romper.

Sydnee: —well, I am glad that we have brought those. And there were a lot of, um, like, Henley-looking shirts?

Raleigh: Yeah, I have a lot. I have a few of those.

Sydnee: Those seem to be in, and I like that. Uh, I like the, um—I like in general some of the, like, baggy, buttoned shirt kind of looks.

Raleigh: Sure.

Sydnee: Yeah. Uh, those kinds of things.

Raleigh: Corduroy, lots of corduroy.

Sydnee: Yeah, I like corduroy. I like the corduroy. All that. But the, uh—the kind of Lara Ashley stuff?

[pauses]

Taylor: Who?

Sydnee: Like, super floral?

Raleigh: Oh. Like the tiny flower print?

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: If you look up a Lara Ashley dress, like, everyone had them back in the 90's. You had one too.

Raleigh: Me?

Sydnee: Tey.

Raleigh: Oh.

Taylor: Me?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Prob—probably. Sounds right.

Sydnee: Remember all those, like, really, like, floral print...

Taylor: Yeah, I didn't... yeah, I remember that being popular. I wasn't too into that, but I definitely—definitely think I had a few forced upon me. [laughs]

Sydnee: I saw, like—

Raleigh: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: —yeah, some of those there. And I, uh—it just—it felt like somebody felt—somebody went back to the 90's and, like... Like, it became their, like, religion? And now they're 90's fundamentalists, and they brought it all back. [laughs quietly] Like, you have to—you can't pick and choose. You can't interpret the 90's how you want it.

It felt very much like Target said, "We take the 90's as literally true. [laughs] And we accept it all... [pauses] in—in totality."

Raleigh: Even at its—at its worst.

Sydnee: Yes, even at its worst. 'Cause I wanted to say, like, "No, don't do this part. Just do these parts. This was good. I was there. This stuff was cool. This was not! It wasn't cool then—I don't—I don't wanna wear it now!"

Taylor: I don't think you can be the arbiter on that, though. Because maybe everybody is enjoying something that the 90's—the return of 90's, like the Saturn return, the 90's return is giving to us. I personally am very glad that all of the, like, brightly colored plaid pants that I wanted to wear but didn't have the confidence to when I was a teenager I can now wear as a 34-year-old. I—now it's kind of sad because I'm so old, but it's fine. I do it anyway. [laughs]

Sydnee: That's—

Taylor: Also, also leopard print cargo pants. Somehow, in this realm of return, that exists, and I will wear them now. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: That's true, and that—I do appreciate that part. I like that part coming back. Um, I—cargo pants—

Rileigh: Cargo pants?

Sydnee: —if cargo pants are back, that's great for me. I love cargo pants.

Rileigh: The utility.

Taylor: I just like pockets, yeah!

Sydnee: Yeah! All those pockets!

Taylor: You don't know what I'm gonna—

Rileigh: What are you gonna put in all your pockets?

Taylor: I—who knows?

Sydnee: I don't have to tell you.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: They're buttoned up in my cargo pants!

Sydnee: Cassettes! [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah! There's—there's a hammer hook on—on a pair of pants I bought. I'm like, I might—I might need a place for a hammer. That's there.

Rileigh: [through laughter] Wait, did you—did you say cassettes?!

Sydnee: [laughs] Maybe. I was so excited to see all these people in, like, cargo pants and flannels and, like, t-shirts with, like, funny things on them. Like, ironic t-shirts—I was like, "This is—oh, this is all so good!"

Rileigh: And then, like, the little tiny pair of flip flops.

Sydnee: Yeah, yeah.

Rileigh: To go with the cargo pants.

Sydnee: 'Cause I know Birks are back big, yeah. I saw a lot of knockoff Birks there.

Rileigh: The only thing I'm upset about are that low—like, extremely low rise pants.

Taylor: Oh, yeah. I don't know.

Rileigh: Seem to be all I can find anywhere. And, like—

Sydnee: Really?

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: See, I was frustrated for the exact opposite reason. I was trying to find some pants and all I could find were the high rise, and I don't want—

Rileigh: Well, all of the—

Sydnee: —I know that that's in.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: The quote, unquote "Mom shorts."

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I know those are in. It's just not my thing.

Rileigh: I like the mom pants. I like the high waisted stuff, because the high waisted stuff is just so comfortable, and got all that extra coverage. And the mom stuff is just loose. It's comfortable. Not, like, super tight jeans.

Sydnee: My belly button's gotta breathe, though. [laughs]

Rileigh: Um—but all the places I go to look for pants and clothes—I was looking for some new, like, shorter pants. Now that it's getting a little warmer outside I needed some shorts, some Capri type pants. Um, they were all, like, low rise!

Sydnee: Hmm. That was very in back then.

Rleigh: All the shorts! And that's the worst kind of shorts are the low rise shorts, because then it's like, what even is the point? It's low rise and it's short? Like, what—I should just wear my underwear!

Sydnee: [through laughter] There's—there's so little fabric!

Rleigh: There's so little fabric!

Sydnee: The low rise was definitely in in the 90—see, I don't wanna—I don't want the low, low rise. I need mid rise, I have found. I am... [laughs] I need mid rise, please! Just—that's just right for me.

Rleigh: A middle. A middle, please.

Taylor: I mean, I think that's fair. I want my belly button to breathe, but I don't want my butt crack to show.

Rleigh: Yeah!

Sydnee: There we go.

Taylor: Like, that shouldn't be so hard! [laughs]

Sydnee: There we go.

Rleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: That's it. Please—so, Target, there you go. [laughs] There's my review.

Rleigh: I will say, I, uh, went shopping for some new spring clothes and I got a few shirts, and all the shirts I got were corduroy, and I also got a dress that was corduroy.

Sydnee: Mm!

Rleigh: So now all of my closet that I wear now is corduroy, and I don't know what to do with that information, but I felt like I just wanted to share it.

Sydnee: I love corduroy. It's—I was trying to find some, like, warmer weather pieces, so corduroy is not, like, ideal.

Taylor: No. No, not breathable.

Raleigh: Yeah, I don't know why it's—yeah.

Sydnee: No, uh-uh.

Raleigh: It's very cute, though.

Sydnee: Yeah. Very cute.

Raleigh: Yeah. So...

Sydnee: I'm gonna start wearing a bucket hat.

Raleigh: That's in.

Taylor: Now that's—is that the one thing that—oh, it came back? I was gonna say, that's the one thing I thought we could all agree not to let come back.

Raleigh: It's very in.

Sydnee: It is?!

Raleigh: Like, when I was at Urban Outfitters, when I was with my friends a weeks ago in Pittsburgh, they had furry bucket hats—

Taylor: Oh, no!

Raleigh: —that were, like, entirely faux fur.

Taylor: Yeah, those things.

Raleigh: Or they have, like, denim bucket hats.

Sydnee: Ugh...

Raleigh: Sydnee looks so excited.

Sydnee: I'm a—[holding back laughter] I'm gonna wear a bucket hat. I love bucket hats.

Raleigh: It actually is very in.

Sydnee: Um, not furry ones. I don't wanna wear—I mean, like, that's fine if you wanna wear a fur bu—furry bucket hat. But I want a denim—or khaki! A khaki bucket hat?!

Raleigh: With your cargo pants?

Sydnee: [through laughter] Khaki bucket hats and cargo pants... are my love language. Is that right? [laughs]

Raleigh: All the things that Sydnee wanted to wear when she was a teenager but did not have disposable income now are available to her again, now that she can buy her own clothes as an adult.

Sydnee: A tank top with a razor—racer—racer back—razor—racer—whatever that cut is. That and a loose shirt, a loose linen shirt.

Raleigh: And what shoes are you rockin'?

Sydnee: Uhh... [pauses] I don't—I just wear my chucks.

Raleigh: Okay.

Sydnee: That's—I—that's where I—I've worn those for so long. That's not even—that's not a statement. This is not, like, a—

Raleigh: That's all ages.

Sydnee: —this is not a fashion statement. This is just me. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: So you're—you're ready for a safari... in a Gushers commercial.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Yup!

Taylor: [through laughter] You're hunt—you're hunting the Flavoursaurus Rex in that outfit.

Sydnee: Uh... I'm so excited for this. Alright. Well, let's—let's talk about what we're gonna talk about so I can go buy bucket hats. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Um...

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: I don't even know—we're talking about *To All The Boys I've Loved Before*.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Yes.

Rileigh: There is no transition I can find there.

Sydnee: This was your—this was—oh, okay. I was gonna say—

Rileigh: I was thinking about it.

Sydnee: —did you not remember? 'Cause it was your idea.

Rileigh: No.

Sydnee: I watched it.

Rileigh: It was—okay.

Sydnee: Just for you.

Rileigh: Did you all watch just the first one? Did either of you watch the second one?

Taylor: I watched the second one.

Raleigh: Oh? Sydnee?

Sydnee: I have only seen the first one. I'm sorry.

Raleigh: Sydnee... now you're the only one who hasn't.

Sydnee: I'm sorry. You can talk about it.

Raleigh: Okay. There will probably be spoilers for both. Um, *To All The Boys I've Loved Before* is a Netflix movie. The first one came out in 2018. The second one just came out this past Valentine's Day.

Um, it was originally, like, a YA novel, and it had two sequels, so they are coming out with a third movie to finish the—the trilogy. Um, about a girl named Lara Jean Covey who writes all these letters to all the boys she's been in love with before and keeps them to herself throughout her life, like elementary school, middle school, that kind of thing.

Now she is in high school, and her younger sister, Kitty, who I love very much, um, sends them to all the boys that she had crushes on.

Sydnee: This, uh—the fact that it was a YA novel—

Raleigh: Mm-hmm. Makes sense.

Sydnee: —it makes more sense to me now. Like, it felt... there. were some plot devices that I thought were odd. Like, I was wondering, why did you do it that way? And it makes sense.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Like, it felt—it felt book-y.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You can—sometimes you feel in a movie, like, "This is a weird turn—ah. This is a book."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Hm.

Raleigh: Um—

Sydnee: Sometimes it makes more sense in a book.

Raleigh: Yeah. But she sent—her little sister sends all these letters, and... They do that typical, uh, romcom YA movie trope where, like, they pretend date and they actually fall in love... to make someone jealous.

Sydnee: Aww.

Raleigh: Yeah. So Lara Jean ends up dating Peter... K—Kavinsky?

Sydnee: Kavinsky, I believe.

Raleigh: Yeah. Um, they fake date to make his girlfriend jealous and then they real date, and then they're in love. And that's the whole first movie.

Sydnee: Whose name is Gen.

Raleigh: Ge—which is short for Genevieve, I believe.

Sydnee: Because G-E-N.

Taylor: Yes.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Yeah. We watch things with subtitles.

Raleigh: Me too. [laughs]

Sydnee: Or with captions on. Sorry, not subtitles. Captions on, because... I don't know. We just always do. I don't know what—we got used to doing that from having to have the TV so low while babies were sleeping, and we've never gotten out of that—

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: —habit. But yes, G-E-N.

Rileigh: But this movie is—I—I really like the series. One, because it's—I think it falls well into that category of yes, it's a cheesy YA movie that you can tell was probably adapted from a book, but it's not super just, like, cringy and hard to watch. To me, at least.

Sydnee: No.

Rileigh: Like, it's a very pleasant—just, like, this is—this is nice. This is lovely. Um, and it's got a very diverse cast, and I appreciate that. The entire main family, Lara Jean and her sister, are Asian-American. And... I think that's very cool. I know that the creator of the movie said that when she wanted to make it, she said that that was what she wanted to make the main character to be. She said, "I don't want this to be an all-white movie. I want the main family to be Asian-American." And she got some backlash for that. But then it came out this way.

Sydnee: Really?

Rileigh: Yeah. Um... I was reading an article that that was just—she had—I don't know if it was the author of the book that was adapting, helping adapt this movie, and that was what she wanted, but... she got it. That's where we've left.

Sydnee: I have to say one thing, and this just shows my age.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I kept needing to know more about how Dad was doing?

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah...

Sydnee: [laughs] Like—

Taylor: Aw, Dad was good Dad, though.

Rileigh: Dad was good Dad.

Sydnee: He was! I know, he was good Dad, and I—and so I felt for him, because of course a—a pivotal plot point is that their mother passed away a long time ago. I don't think it's made clear as to what the circumstances were.

But, uh—but—so, he's—so he's a single dad raising these three young women on his own.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And that... would be hard. I—I worried about him a lot. I thought a lot about—but I think that's just 'cause I'm old, and so I was thinking, like, "That would be tough. That'd be a lot to do on your own as a single parent." Not just 'cause he's a dad. It'd be tough just a mom. Just anybody.

Rileigh: Yeah. Also, there are—there are three sisters there. There are three of them, there are three of us, so I was just thinking, like, there's lots of—lots of parallels here.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Makes me Kitty. Taylor, that makes you Lara Jean.

Taylor: Oh, I'm the main character! That's nice. [laughs]

Rileigh: You're the main character. Sydnee, you're the one that travels and is gone.

Sydnee: [laughs] Well, that sounded accusatory!

Taylor: Alright!

Rileigh: That's it— Which—well, that's her—

Taylor: Wow.

Rileigh: —that's the character of older sister, is pretty much, like, she's on Facetime more than she's in person, because she travels so much.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Um... yeah.

Sydnee: She also sorta, like, dumped her boyfriend at dinner.

Rileigh: Yeah...

Taylor: Yeah, that was rough!

Sydnee: Which is rough. That's a rough scene.

Rileigh: That was rough.

Taylor: Yeah. I—I felt bad for the boyfriend too 'cause, like, there's a lot going on in the movie and he's just kind of in the background being ignored and sad.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: And, like, could we—you know, that dude that was, like, important, like a friend to you? I get that you—you have this awkward crush but, like, also... Is he okay? [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. I'm a little worried about him! [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah! [laughs]

Sydnee: He got his heart broken—and didn't he, like, buy a plane ticket?

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Did he get... a refund?

Rileigh: It is unclear.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: I would say no.

Taylor: I hope he got flight insurance.

Sydnee: I hope so that, 'cause that really sucks if he bought—I mean, I'm assuming, like, a round trip ticket, unless it was a one way. [through laughter] Just goin'—

Raleigh: That's even worse!

Sydnee: —and figuring out his way back from Scotland later!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I don't know. But... man!

Raleigh: Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee: I hope he got reimbursed. These are the—this is the problem with being old. You watch a movie and you think, "How is that dad coping? I hope he's doing okay." And "Did he get reimbursed for his flight?" [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs] You know, you—that \$35 *seems* excessive when you're booking the flight, but then when your... romantic hope dies, you wish you had the insurance!

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: You wish you would've spent that \$35. Um, but I think this movie's really great, because I think it talk—like, it—that idea of writing letters that you keep to yourself to everyone you've had crushes on—I feel like that's something that most people can relate to. That, like, at some point you've, like, secretly written this love letter to this unrequited love, when you're in, like, fifth or sixth grade, and you'd never want them to see it, but all your feelings are on paper, and...

Sydnee: She did address them, which they talk about in the movie.

Raleigh: Which is very odd, yes.

Sydnee: It is odd.

Taylor: Yes.

Sydnee: It is like a whole other—like, it's a—there's an element of risk once you put an address on it that I did not quite connect with.

Raleigh: Which I know this movie is set in modern day, but did make it feel like the—the era was a little blurred, because I feel like now, I wouldn't even know people's addresses.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs] Right?

Raleigh: And I f—[laughs quietly] I feel like when you all were growing up it was probably, like, a hundred times more likely that you knew someone's street address to send them a letter, or to go to their house.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: I don't know any of my friend's addresses now.

Sydnee: Well, you had to look—you had to look up directions on MapQuest and then print them out.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: And then [laughs] have them on the dashboard while you were driving.

Raleigh: I mean, even people—

Taylor: After looking them up in the phone book. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rleigh: Yeah. Even people I've dated, I couldn't tell you their address now. Going to their house dozens of times. I just, like, knew where it was. I don't—I don't know people's addresses.

Taylor: Uh, well—

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rleigh: I know my own. That's about it. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, I mean, I think—I know what you're saying. It does seem odd. I think maybe it's explained a bit by—you get the impression that the main character really loves, like, old romance books.

Rleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: What they call *bodice rippers*.

Rleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Uh, and so maybe she has, like, an old fashioned kind of sensibility when it comes to romance, and writing—like, physically writing a letter and, you know, addressing an envelope and all that would be... part of that.

Rleigh: Speaks to that. That's true.

Sydnee: May—maybe? I don't know. That's—

Rleigh: Yeah. Um—

Sydnee: Maybe I'm reading into it too much.

Rleigh: Yeah. But... I don't wanna spoil the entire second movie, but one of the other boys that she wrote a letter to comes—

Sydnee: I've seen that in the trailer.

Rileigh: —back. And it is played by Jordan Fisher, who is, I think, the love of my life. He is very talented. He was in *Hamilton* and now is in *Dear Evan Hansen*.

Sydnee: And he was in the *RENT*—

Rileigh: And was in the—

Sydnee: —movie.

Rileigh: —the live *RENT*.

Sydnee: Yes.

Rileigh: He was in the *RENT*. Um, he was Hot Mark.

Sydnee: Hot Mark.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I know. That's what I said last night. We watched the trailer and [laughs] Justin said "Who is that?" And I went, "Hot Mark!" [laughs]

Rileigh: It's Hot Mark. Uh—

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: —and of course there's a little tension now that Lara Jean is dating Peter and she's like, "Oh no, now I'm—I'm seeing..." [pauses] oh gosh, now I'm completely forgetting his name! Um... [pauses] well, this other character. This other boy.

She's like, "Oh no, now I'm—I'm hanging out with him a lot, and is he better? Would I rather date him?"

Of course she—spoiler alert—ends up still with Peter.

Sydnee: Ohh, okay. I wondered who she was gonna end up with.

Rileigh: Which I have some problems with.

Taylor: Really?

Raleigh: Because he was obviously not the best fit for her.

Taylor: You think so?

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Does neighbor—

Taylor: I don't know.

Raleigh: I gotta figure out his name so I can talk about it.

Sydnee: Okay. Does neighbor boy factor into things any—like, does he vanish?

Taylor: Yeah, he's not in the—the sequel.

Raleigh: Yeah. He's just gone.

Sydnee: Oh, he's not? He's just gone?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Did they even—do they talk about it? Does he, like, go to... college, or get a job, or move? Or—

Taylor: I—I don't think it's particularly concerned—

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: —with that character's, uh, happy ending.

Sydnee: Well, I just want him to go do—get to do some—does he go to Scotland now? Does he finally get to go? [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I don't think they check in with him, do they? Is there—

Raleigh: No, not that I remember.

Taylor: No?

Sydnee: Is Margo in it?

Raleigh: She is on Facetime. With them once.

Sydnee: And they never mention, like... [pauses]

Raleigh: She's in Scotland, I think is—

Sydnee: Still?

Raleigh: I guess? She's somewhere in another country.

Sydnee: Is she there forever? I thought it was just a year.

Raleigh: She's there forever. [laughs] Well, that would be in a year.

Sydnee: Okay.

Raleigh: This movie takes place just a little bit after.

Sydnee: Okay.

Raleigh: Um, John Ambrose is his name.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Maybe she was going there forever.

Taylor: That's it.

Sydnee: Maybe she's going to college forever there. That may—maybe.

Taylor: Forever College. Is that what they do in Scotland?

Raleigh: College forever, mm-hmm!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: That's what happens if you make—if you make college affordable, people just stay. They just never leave it. That's why we can't have [through laughter] affordable college here in America. People won't ever do anything with their lives! What Scotland doing? Nothin'.

Raleigh: I actually—[laughs] I didn't tell you all. I'm going to Oxford this summer. I'm actually going there forever.

Sydnee: [laughs] I'm gonna go to Oxford forever.

Raleigh: To study, yes.

Sydnee: What are you gonna study there? Everything. [laughs]

Taylor: Just—

Raleigh: All.

Sydnee: Inevitably, right?

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: Yes. Yeah.

Sydnee: Everything. All. [through laughter] I'm majoring in... His—the history of the world and everything within it. And the universe.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] And all of its mechanisms.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: You know, one thing that I did like about—this is the sequel, but, um, I—I was waiting for, like, the—I don't know. I guess my brain is just trained from, like, kind of cliché 90's romcoms. I thought for sure there was gonna be, like, a twist where, like, the John Ambrose character was trying to steal her from Peter as revenge, 'cause he makes a statement about how girls only dated him to hang out with Peter.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: And I was kind of happy that they didn't—like, there wasn't really a bad guy.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: It was legit the conflict of the movie was really just her making up her mind. They even redeemed Gen! Which I thought was nice. 'Cause you know, I feel like there's always, like, you know, the—it's the mean girl and she's mean, and that's kind of as invested as we get into her narrative. And it's just like—you know, I like that they gave, like—all of these are just people. They're not bad. Like, they have, like, some, you know, conflict between them just because of their feelings. But no, like, just cliché, "This character's bad. Don't worry about 'em."

Raleigh: And they actually show in the second movie, like, talk about the friendship that they had and how close they were. And then they—they make up, and they're friends again.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydney: That's cool.

Raleigh: And John Ambrose is just—he just likes Lara Jean. He just likes her. He's not trying to do anything. He just likes her, and he's so good.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: He, like—

Sydney: That—that is a nice shift. Um, let's—before we dig more into that, 'cause I think there's more to say about that—but before we do that...

Raleigh: Let's check the group message.

Sydney: What do we have first in our group message?

Raleigh: Well, we've got big plans for 2020. We all do. But when are we gonna find time to do all of it?

[pauses]

Sydnee: I don't know.

Rileigh: When are we? I don't know.

Sydnee: I don't know!

Taylor: [crosstalk]

Sydnee: I don't have an answer.

Rileigh: So—so since we are running out of tie to do all these big plans, I think we should all order delivery with DoorDash.

Sydnee: Yum. Yay, I'm hungry!

Rileigh: To take back time in your day that maybe you don't have time to cook, you don't have time to go out for dinner, lunch, breakfast. Order it with DoorDash. Finish that novel, shred that workout, or clean that cupboard.

Sydnee: Finally.

Rileigh: Do it. All of it. All of it! You can do with DoorDash. They make it easy to. All you do is open the DoorDash app, you choose what you want to eat, and your food will be delivered to you wherever you are.

They have door to door delivery in all 50 US states, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Australia. You can choose from your local go-to's or choose from your favorite national restaurants like Chipotle, Wendy's, Chik Fil A, and the Cheesecake Factory.

Sydnee: Wendy's has breakfast now.

Rileigh: Yeah! The Cheesecake Factory has everything, all the time.

Sydnee: We checked out the Wendy's breakfast.

Rileigh: How was it?

Sydnee: It was pretty good!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Pretty solid.

Raleigh: They said it was America's favorite.

Sydnee: That was—I—I thought that was bold, since they had not yet—

Raleigh: It was a big statement, since they hadn't released it.

Sydnee: That's—that's prior to the release—

Taylor: Eh, they're pretty sure it's gonna be.

Raleigh: [laughs] Um—

Sydnee: The sausage does taste a lot like a hamburger, but hey, I mean, I like hamburgers. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well, it's probably the same. [laughs] So, Taylor, so our listeners never have to worry about their next meal with DoorDash, what should they do?

Taylor: Well, right now our listeners can get \$5 off their first order of \$15 or more if you download the DoorDash app and enter code "buffering." That's \$5 off your first order when you download the DoorDash app in the app store and enter code "buffering." Don't forget, one more time: the code is "buffering," get your \$5 off your first order with DoorDash.

Sydnee: I'm sweaty.

[pauses]

Taylor: We know.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Gross.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Why—you should've done something about that. You're sitting at home.

Sydnee: I know! I should've. I don't have to be sweaty, because of Native Deodorant. It's not necessary for me to be sweaty. I should go put on some Native Deodorant.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: That's right. Uh, because, you know, we all—we all, sometimes, get a little heated, get a little sweaty. [out of the corner of her mouth] Maybe a little smelly.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: And maybe you don't want to. I mean, if you want to, that's fine. But if you don't, like me, check out Native Deodorant.

Uh, it's made from ingredients you know. Things like coconut oil and Shea butter and, uh, you—most of us are gonna wear deodorant every day anyway, so how about you like to know what's in there, and... and it smells great!

Uh, they have something for everyone. It comes in a wide variety of options for all genders and ages. They offer an unscented option and a baking soda free formula, for those with sensitivities.

Raleigh: Nice.

Sydnee: So, whatever you're looking for. And, uh, they're excited for the relaunch of their toothpaste line!

Raleigh: Ooh.

Sydnee: Two minty flavors, and with fluoride and fluoride-free options. So—

Raleigh: Lots of options.

Sydnee: —which is good for little kids.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah, it's—it's good for—as someone with little kids, I can tell you, you don't—'cause sometimes they just eat it? [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: And you don't want them eating all of that.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: [laughs] So, uh—but for the rest of us, the fluoride's a good idea. So, uh, if you want to check out Native Deodorant, for 20% off your first purchase, you can visit natedeodorant.com and use promo code "buffering" during checkout. That's natedeodorant.com with promo code "buffering" for 20% off.

Raleigh: Okay, now I want to keep talking about *To All The Boys I've Loved Before*.

Sydnee: Yes. Well, that is the plan. That's definitely—I—I do think—

[extended pause]

Raleigh: Sorry everyone, Sydnee just tried to... [laughs quietly] make me deaf.

Sydnee: I moved and it made a buzzing sound in the headphones, excuse me. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: At least it wasn't on the recording. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, I do think it's interesting that that's a newer thing in—in teen movies. 'Cause there were a lot of—a lot of things about this felt very similar. It's funny that they reference something like *Sixteen Candles*.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: 'Cause it felt very, like, teen movie to me. It was very, like, "Aw, I see where this is headed." I mean, I—I can't say I was shocked.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: At—at how the movie ended. Um, but, uh—it—people are nicer.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: It's wei—

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: —I don't know how else to put it.

Taylor: No, it's true!

Sydnee: Like, everybody seems nicer. They're less willing to, like—like you said about, like, the mean girl having other sides. That's so different. I mean, if you look at a movie like *Sixteen Candles*—um, it's nice to see, 'cause, I mean, you can compare it to that, but then if you think—they—they reference one thing in the—in the—in this movie.

Uh, it's got terribly racist parts, for one. Uh, *Sixteen Candles*. Um, also, like, the whole thing with, uh—I don't even remember her name anymore. The—the cool girl girlfriend from *Sixteen Candles*?

Rileigh: Mm-hmm, cool girl girlfriend.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: You know. The—the main—the guy's girlfriend. I don't remember anybody—there's Molly Ringwald, and then other people are in the movie. [laughs]

Rileigh: That's also how I feel about *Sixteen Candles*.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I don't know. I—I haven't watched it for a long time, because in retrospect, there's the racism, there's, um, also a lot of questionable consent... uh, moments, with the drunk girlfriend.

Rileigh: Sure.

Sydnee: That are very upsetting.

Taylor: Oh yeah.

Sydnee: And, like, in retrospect it's a highly problematic film—

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Where people are supposed to be good, but do bad things. And then there are the bad people who, like, whatever happens to 'em we don't care, 'cause they're bad. And—I don't know! I mean, I hate to—I'm—this is not me saying, like, "So all these movies are bad." But, like—and I think even Molly Ringwald has come out to say, like, "Yeah."

Raleigh: "It was a little bad."

Sydnee: "This was bad."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Um, and you don't see that in this movie! None of that kind of stuff, and I'm not used to that.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, teen movies are full of things that make me go "Oh no! Ooh! Ah! Ugh!"

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: But that's because I grew up in an era when... that's—all movies were, probably.

Raleigh: Right.

Taylor: Right. Yeah, like—you're—you're waiting for, like, the—you know, the jock's best friend to, like, do something—to be a terrible meathead that wants to mess up the relationship. Or, like—yeah, the—the hot girl, like, you know, at the

end, like, I don't know, gets punch dumped on her head and they all laugh at her, and that's the end of the movie.

Like, there was no, like, need to be, like... like, I don't know. Nobody was, like, cliché and cartoony, and I kind of like that. 'Cause—yeah. I feel like those stereotypes are just... we don't—I don't know. It's a better movie when you don't have that kind of stuff. And people aren't really like that anyway. Everybody has layers and levels, even—even... even pretty people. [laughs]

Sydnee: I thought the scene when Lara Jean confronts Gen in the bathroom over the—posting the You—the video, wherever it's posted. I don't know what—

Raleigh: That steamy video.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. [laughs quietly] On—on some sort of social media. Uh, I thought that that was actually very realist—as frustrating as it was from, like, a... movie standpoint—'cause, like, she doesn't really get—like, she doesn't land any great, like, zingers or anything, you know? I mean, nobody—she doesn't resolve it. Um, but that's probably how that conversation would really go in real life. Is, like, you go in there really angry but, like, you're probably not gonna say something really awful or mean, and... of course she's gonna deny it. I'm assuming she did put that video up.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: 'Cause they kinda—I feel like they kinda leave it open.

Raleigh: Yeah. Um, they actually go back to that in the second movie. This is another spoiler. Um, Lara Jean and Peter are kind of having some—some fights, some issues. And she discovers that the reason he—or, Gen knew where he would be that night is because he was out there waiting for *her*. And if Lara Jean had not come when she did... he would've gotten back together with Gen. And that was the reason Gen took the video, and that was the reason Gen knew that he would be in the hot tub.

Sydnee: Ooh.

Rileigh: Which, if you don't know what we're talking about, the first movie they're on, like, this school trip, which I have never heard of a school taking a trip like this at all—a ski trip? Is that what it was?

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yes, it was a ski trip.

Taylor: It was a very fancy school.

Rileigh: It was a very fancy school.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Uh, but they're all on a ski trip, and Peter's ex girlfriend takes a video of Lara Jean and Peter, like, smooching in the hot tub.

Sydnee: This is a teen trope.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, the—the school ski trip.

Rileigh: Yeah, it is.

Sydnee: This is not—this is not, um—usually it's a senior trip.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: In—in most teen books, movies, TV shows.

Rileigh: [simultaneously] This was just, like, a class trip. [laughs]

Sydnee: But this was just, like, a class trip. But, like, it's usually the senior trip, and it's somewhere like a ski lodge or something, and it is entirely concocted so that teens will be given the opportunity to have sex, or not, and there can be, you know, suspense over this issue.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: But, uh, it's funny because as soon as they said "ski trip" I went, "Oh, *Dawson's Creek*."

Raleigh: Of course.

Sydnee: Because... [laughs]

Raleigh: Everything goes back to *Dawson's Creek*.

Sydnee: Everything goes back to *Dawson's Creek*. Because on *Dawson's Creek*, as all of you Dawson fans will remember, all you Creekheads... Is that—does that work? Creekheads! Hey!

Raleigh: I was gonna say Daws... Dawsonians. Dawsonites.

Sydnee: I like Creekheads. Uh, [laughs] all my fellow Creekheads out there—

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: —will know that on *Dawson's Creek*, there is a senior trip. It is a ski trip. And, uh, Pacey and Joey of course are dating by now. And they go on the trip, and the big intrigue is, will they, won't they? Spoilers, they do.

Uh, but it is exactly the same beat.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: You know how there's the guy in the movie who's in charge of handing out the room keys?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And he kind of tosses them all out and says, like, "Sleep wherever you want."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Right? Like, "You wild kids, go do it!" Uh, that happens in the *Dawson's Creek* episode.

Raleigh: Really?

Sydnee: Yes! They put Drew, who's a bad boy, in charge of handing out the keys, and Drew's like, "Where are all my couples at? You two hook up, you two hook up." Of course they're keys, they're not key cards 'cause, you know, 90's. But still. Uh, exact same moment happens. Exact same.

Raleigh: You know what? You just hit that—that limit of how much you can talk about *Dawson's Creek*. [laughs]

Sydnee: There's also this whole weird subplot—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] On an episode that's not about *Dawson's Creek*.

Sydnee: —where Jack and Jen are in the same room—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] No—alright. So—

Sydnee: —and they—they almost hook up 'cause they're drunk. But, like, Jack is gay, and that was—that was a problem.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Ooh.

Sydnee: *Dawson's Creek* is of a time.

Taylor: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: I know, I know.

Taylor: Uh, so—

Raleigh: Um... So anyways, not *Dawson's Creek*. [crosstalk]

Taylor: Woo! That was weird, yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: I'm just saying—

Raleigh: It's weird how that keeps happening—

Sydnee: I don't know!

Raleigh: —in every episode!

Taylor: It's like I just—I don't know. Where—where did we just go? I don't—

Raleigh: [through laughter] I don't know!

Sydnee: [laughs] We're—what do you mean, where did we just go? We went to the Creek!

Taylor: Ohh, let's not go there again.

Raleigh: Taylor and I weren't even here. Sydnee just hijacked the podcast.

Sydnee: [humming]

Taylor: It's—Syd, I just—my—my soul leaves my body when you start talking about *Dawson's Creek*.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I entirely dissociate. My physical form is here. [through laughter] I am somewhere else.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I'm just saying, everything in teen fiction has happened before—

Raleigh: Sure.

Sydnee: —and will happen again.

Raleigh: Sure.

Taylor: Yes.

Sydnee: Just like *Twin Peaks*. It is happening again. And—this was a—but this was a nicer, softer, uh... you know.

Rileigh: They smooched.

Sydnee: It was nice. And they're walking—it's funny, 'cause as they were walking off the lacrosse field at the very end of the movie together, they're, like, holding hands and walking away together off the lacrosse field—like, all you needed was, like, the fist punch up in the air.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And it's the end of *Breakfast Club*. [laughs]

Rileigh: And it's the end of *Breakfast Club*, yes. Um, there are some things that I thought were interesting about the relationship. One of them is from the second movie. But it starts with them giving each other—is it Valentine's Day presents? Is that what it is?

Taylor: In the second movie? Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah. And he gives her a poem.

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: And she assumes he has written it, and it is, in fact, Edgar Allen Poe.

Taylor: [snorts]

Rileigh: That he has just substi—

Taylor: Sorry. [laughs]

Rileigh: —he has just substituted... Lara Jean in, instead of, um... um, uh, uh—oh, shoot. Now I'm forgetting. But yes, it is an Edgar Allen Poe poem.

Taylor: Is it Annabelle Lee?

Rileigh: He has just put—yes, Annabelle Lee.

Taylor: [laughs loudly]

Raleigh: [holding back laughter] That he has just put Lara Jean's name in.

Taylor: I—I thought that was a weird choice, too. 'Cause when he said it I'm like, "Wait, I know that poem. Wait a second."

Raleigh: I was like, "There's no way he's written that! I've heard that before!"

Sydnee: Now, isn't that—wait. Isn't that writ—written to her after she's died?

Taylor: Yes? I think so?

Sydnee: Isn't it?

Raleigh: It's just—yeah.

Sydnee: If I'm thinking of the right—

Taylor: It's an odd choice.

Raleigh: Yeah, I think so. Uh, it's a very odd choice. I mean, all of Edgar Allen Poe's things are about some sort of death.

Sydnee: Yeah, but I—I thought specifically—I feel like that's written to her after she's died!

Raleigh: But yeah, it's only, like, three lines, and he reads it to her, and he's written it down on this card, and he just puts in Lara Jean. And she immediately is like, "Oh my gosh, you wrote this poem for me, you're so sweet!"

Which, I'm just gonna say, for someone who is as into literature and classic literature and English as she is, there is no way she has not heard this poem before. But then she finds out that, uh, he, in fact, did not write the poem.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah, no. It's definitely—it's definitely about a beautiful young woman who has died, and... he still loves her. It's—I knew it was! It's definitely about somebody who's dead!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I—

Sydnee: What a wild choice for him to pick!

Rileigh: Peter Kavinsky.

Taylor: I was less bothered by the fact that he picked a weird poem and put her name in it than I was that she didn't know what it was. I agree. I was like—that just took me right out of the story. She should know! She's a smart girl. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah. She would definitely know. And it takes her—they do this, like, senior community service project where they have to go, like, volunteer somewhere, and I guess all the cool kids volunteer at, like, the food pantry? [holding back laughter] So Peter tries to get her to volunteer at the food pantry with her?

Taylor: [snorts]

Rileigh: But instead she's like, "No, Margo volunteered at the retirement home, so I need to volunteer at the fancy retirement home." And then of course, who's the only person that is there working with her? John Ambrose.

Sydnee: Ahh. Jordan—Jordan Fisher.

Rileigh: Jordan Fisher.

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: So it takes this old lady who she's working with to be like, "That poem was not written by your man. That was written by Edgar Allen Poe." [laughs]

Taylor: This retirement home blew my mind. It is so nice. Like, I don't know—

Rileigh: It is a mansion.

Taylor: It's—yeah, it's just a mansion. And, like, they're all—like, I don't—I don't know what—in fact, really, like, the whole set dressing of this movie—like,

everything from, like, her bedroom to, like, every place that they go—I get that there's, like, conflict because "Oh no, I don't—I don't know which incredibly attractive, accomplished person I'm gonna end up with."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: But really it's like, "You have no problems. Everything is beautiful in your world!" [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Everything.

Sydnee: Her bedroom is beautiful.

Rileigh: It is beautiful!

Taylor: It's, like, giant and, like, looks like it just was, like, designed. Like, I don't know. Whoever did the set, great, but, like—

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Ugh.

Sydnee: It's a nice car she's driving, too.

Taylor: Yeah! Every—

Sydnee: Even though she doesn't like to drive. They make that clear.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: She's driving a nice car.

[pauses]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: But, uh—

Sydnee: Just on a side note. [laughs]

Raleigh: Alright. Um, but yeah. The—the—these kinds of things continue throughout the whole film, of Peter being not a great boyfriend. And Lara Jean trying to figure out how to be a girlfriend, 'cause she's never been a girlfriend before, which I thought was a very cute and relatable conversation where she's like, "[high pitched voice] I've never been a girlfriend before! I don't know what to do! Do I—do I go to his games? Like, do I do what his ex-girlfriend did? Do I—do I—what do I do?"

Which was, like, a cute moment we've all had.

Sydnee: I guess that's true. I guess—

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: —It's just hard—I mean, it's hard for me to—I am certain I would relate to that, were I young.

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: Yes. I am certain I would. I—I—it—right now I'm thinking, "Well, I can't relate to—" well, of course I can't.

Raleigh: You're married.

Sydnee: I'm married. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] Okay.

Sydnee: I'm an—I'm an old woman. But, uh—but no, I probably could've related to that back then. Um, and I—why didn't—why doesn't he—I'm really hung up on this Poe thing. Why doesn't he just tell her—

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: —it's—"This poem makes me think of you." I—one time Justin gave me a copy of an E.E. Cummings poem. He did not try to claim he wrote it.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: He just said, "This poem makes me think of you." He put it in a card, and I found it very touching, because it was a beautiful sentiment and it made him think of me, so that was fine. Like, I didn't need him to pretend to have written it to feel moved. [laughs]

Rileigh: Well, his, uh—his... justification was that he was going to tell her he didn't write it, but as soon as he read it to her, she read it, she was like, "Oh, I've never had anyone write a poem for me before."

Taylor: Right.

Rileigh: And he was like, "Well, you thought I wrote it, so I just, you know, didn't wanna... ruin it."

Sydnee: That's such a weird moment. If you put that in real life and you're like, "I didn't—that's Edgar Allen Poe. I didn't write that, dude!"

Like, that's a weird—okay. [laughs]

Taylor: You know, what's funny is that I think I actually experienced this moment, though, in real life. Uh—

Sydnee: Really?

Taylor: —yes, because in high school I had a young man play, uh, a Jawbreaker song on his guitar for me, and I did not know the song at the time, so I thought he wrote it and I was like, "Wow, that song was just amazing." And he just kind of went, "Yep. That's—just a good song I wrote."

And we never ta—

Sydnee: Ahh!

Taylor: —yeah! And it wasn't until I got to college and, like, had one of—you know, of my friends introducing me to music, like, made a mix CD for me and that song was on there. I was like, "Wait a second! I'm—"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: [crosstalk]

Raleigh: "I know who wrote that!" [laughs]

Taylor: "This is not—Jawbre—[crosstalk]—"

Sydnee: "I know the guy who wrote this song!" [laughs]

Taylor: "I did not date Jawbreaker! When'd that happen?!"

Raleigh: [laughs] Oh my God.

Taylor: Yeah, you know...

Sydnee: Oh. [laughs]

Taylor: So I can kind of get it. Like, if someone's just like, "Wow, how amazing. I can't believe you did this for me." And you're just like, "Yeah. I—I did that."

Raleigh: "I did."

Taylor: "I did that for you. I hope you never figure this out." What if you just never figure it out? I... you know. [laughs]

Sydnee: I mean, at this point, I just don't know how you don't... Well, anyway.

Raleigh: This one of, like, the—this is within—

Sydnee: I'm not gonna go—I'm gonna try to leave this.

Raleigh: —this is within the first, like, 15 minutes of the film, as well.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: This is, like, how we jump in.

Sydnee: That would've pulled me out of it a little bit, I think.

Rileigh: Yeah. Um, but he's—

Sydnee: There was this—there was this *Doctor Who* episode recently where they met Nikola Tesla and nobody knew who Tesla was.

Rileigh: That's sad.

Sydnee: And I—well, I felt like that—

Rileigh: For Tesla.

Sydnee: —it pulled me out of it. Like, I get that he's not as famous as Edison and that's not fair, right? But, like, don't we all kind of know?

Rileigh: Yeah. Now he has all those cars named after him.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I wanted to say, I love you *Doctor Who*, but c'mon. Like, we—we know who Tesla is. Like, we know. Anyway.

Rileigh: But... love prevails. She ends back up with Peter, and I will stand by the fact that she should've been with John Ambrose. He tells this adorable story. She walks in on him in their time at home after he finds out that she's been dating Peter this whole time, and he had no idea, and he thought they were, like, flirting. And they were, but she didn't tell him she was dating Peter. And he's sitting there playing piano, looking amazing, just playing piano to himself. As, you know, Jordan Fisher does.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

Rileigh: And he tells her this story that while growing up, no one else called him John Ambrose. Everyone just called him by his first name. But Lara Jean called

him John Ambrose the first time that she met him, and said "I think it's really cool that we both go by our first and middle names."

So after that, he asked everyone to call him John Ambrose, because Lara Jean liked to call him John Ambrose. [pauses] Then he went by John Ambrose because he thought it was cute that she liked to call him that.

Sydnee: That... how old were they?

Raleigh: When they were grow—I don't know. Is it clear? Elementary school?

Taylor: They're very young.

Sydnee: That's a huge impact.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: I was gonna say, like, elementary school, and I was like 10 or 11. But... yeah. He—he's, like, a—she doesn't like to party a lot. Peter likes to party, and he's, like, this little, like, old man guy, but he's also, like, in high school and he's very cute and he's very smart and he works with all the old people.

Sydnee: Yeah... yeah, but—

Taylor: But I do think—I mean, 'cause that's the thing. Like, the resolution is just, she... she kisses him and it's like, "Nope. I—I wanna be back with my boyfriend."

Like, it's—you know. It's... it's not necessary—it's not always easy to know why we like the people we like. It's just sometimes it can't be quantified, so.

Raleigh: Yeah. I don't know why in my head I had this image. I was like, "I know how this is gonna end," because they have this weird scene where they all go up in this old treehouse and dig up a time capsule they had buried when they were young.

Taylor: [laughs] Like you do.

Rileigh: And it's, like—yeah.

Sydnee: Right, sure. We've all done—we've all done that.

Rileigh: It's, like, John Ambrose and Peter. Which I think is weird that they all are so close with John Ambrose and all knew him so well, but he is just absent until he starts working at this retirement home with Lara Jean.

Um, but Lara Jean and Peter and Gen and John Ambrose and—and Peter's friend whose name I cannot remember and Lara Jean's friend start dating. The jock and the—the—you know, the artsy girl start dating, and—

Sydnee: Oh, yeah. I liked her.

Rileigh: Lara Jean's friend and Peter's friend are dating. But they're all up in the treehouse, and I had this thought. I was like, "I know who this is gonna end. Peter and Lara Jean are gonna be like, 'You know what? We actually weren't meant for each other.' And Lara Jean and Gen are gonna make up, and then Gen and Peter are gonna get back together and Lara Jean's gonna start dating John Ambrose, and they're all gonna be together. It's gonna be like that perfect ending to a romcom series where, like, everyone is all dating and they're all best friends again."

Sydnee: Like the end of *Grease 2*.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Hmm.

Rileigh: Sure. Sure.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: I was gonna say *Grease 1*.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Or *Grease 2*.

Rileigh: But, like, that's what I thought was gonna happen. I thought it was gonna be very—

Sydnee: [singing something from *Grease*]

Rileigh: —stereotypical. I'm just gonna keep going. But, like, stereotypical, like, everyone gets back with who they should be with. But I like—I mean, I guess looking back I like that they did not do that, because they, you know, didn't follow stereotypes.

Sydnee: Well, you know how it is. Sometimes in life you have two very attractive people who both love you and support you and wanna be with you and are fine with either one you choose—

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: —and will—will still be your friend if you don't choose them. You know how—

Rileigh: And that's what John Ambrose said. He was very understanding.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: [holding back laughter] You know how often that happens? It happens to me—

Rileigh: It happens to me all the time.

Sydnee: —basically every other week, so. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah. My life is a series of love triangles.

Sydnee: You know, all that being said, if—if the way that teen movies are going now are that they're softer, people tend to be, uh, more complex in that they aren't all good or all bad, they have sides, they're capable of both good and bad things, and in general it's—they're a lot, like... people aren't, I don't know, doing really horrible stuff to each other.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: Like I'm kind of used to in teen movies of old. I'm fine with that. Like, that's a better... that's a good direction that we're going.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I mean...

Taylor: I think it's more honest, too. 'Cause that's one thing I... I definitely was bullied in high school, but it wasn't [laughs] by the jocks or the—the "popular" people, quote, unquote. It was—I mean, like, other—other artsy people that, like, I was in closer contact with. Like, I don't know. It's just, like—you know, not everybody fits into those little molds, and I think it kind of creates that, like, toxic expectation that you have to act that way, like, in those roles. And you know, you don't have to. [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, and it reinforces that image that it's, like, stratified. That, like, there are these levels of popularity, and if you are a smart person or if you're shy or whatever, then you're gonna be at this bottom level, or you can only ever do this. And, like, none of that is really true. Um, and the more we model that back, we just reinforce those false ideas. Uh, same thing with just, like, really bad bullying behavior. Like, I never saw anybody got thrown—like, getting thrown in a trash can or something.

Taylor: No.

Sydnee: But, like, that kind of thing happens in teen movies of old all the time. And, like, if that had happened I feel like it would've been a big deal and, like, the principal would've been involved... [laughs quietly] there would—[through laughter] there would've been a problem!

Raleigh: Principal definitely would've been there.

Sydnee: And, like—I mean, I like the idea that we're not normalizing, like, "You know how in high school everybody's horrible to each and, like, makes terrible fun of each other all the time and tries to ruin their lives and..." it's not—I mean, it's not like *Heathers*, thank goodness. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Thank goodness.

Taylor: Yeah. There are—there are cruel people out there, but they don't live in one social class. [laughs]

Raleigh: Right.

Sydnee: Right, and we shouldn't normalize it. We should, like—we should say "Well, no. That's the exception. The rule is that everybody's... most people are trying their best to be a decent human."

Taylor: Right.

Raleigh: Yeah. So, this one was—the sequel was *P.S. I Still Love You*. The next one is *To All The Boys I've Loved Before: Always and Forever, Lara Jean*.

Sydnee: That's a long title.

Taylor: That is—

Raleigh: Yes, they're all very long. Um, but the IMDB says it is being released on Netflix just in 2020. So... looks like instead of waiting a year and a half like we did this time, we'll just be getting that third one sooner rather than later.

Sydnee: Well, in the meantime, I have something for you all next.

Taylor: Okay.

Raleigh: What are we talking about next?

Sydnee: In the meantime, while we're waiting for the third installment of this film series to be released, uh, why don't you just... binge watch some Friends.

Taylor: [groans] Oh, no...

Sydnee: [sings Friends theme song]

Raleigh: [singing] But you're not on Netflix... [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: [singing] You gotta look real hard... [laughs]

Sydnee: Where is it now?

Raleigh: [singing] I don't know anymore. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] It's out there somewhere.

Raleigh: It's somewhere, I guess.

Sydnee: You've seen Friends!

Raleigh: I mean, I've seen it all. Multiple times.

Sydnee: Tey, you've seen Friends.

Taylor: Yes, I've seen Friends.

Sydnee: We can talk about Friends, because as we have said on this show we don't just talk about the things we love.

Raleigh: No.

Sydnee: We talk about the things that we have... conflicted relationships with.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: And I think we are not alone, especially if you're closer to Tey or I's age—you are not alone in having a deeply conflicted relationship with Friends.
[laughs]

Taylor: Right.

Raleigh: Yeah, that's fair.

Sydnee: Yes.

Rileigh: So.

Sydnee: But I'd be interested to see why, uh, you still watched it anyway, Rileigh.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: 'Cause your generation seems to like Friends.

Rileigh: It's true.

Sydnee: Alright. So that's next time.

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Anything else? Did I miss—is that all? That's—I'm—I'll thank all the—I'll do the thanks now.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I'll do the thanks. Thank you both.

Rileigh: That was it, yeah, yes. Thanks, guys.

Sydnee: [laughs] I'll—I'll do all the thanks.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, thank you all. Thank you, listeners. Uh, you should watch this movie. It was enjoyable! I would say, like, again, even though I'm older, I didn't necessarily relate to everything—

Rileigh: It's very pleasant.

Sydnee: —it was very—it was nice.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It was funny, it was cle—it was clever, it was well written. I enjoyed it. The acting was great.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: We didn't say that. Really well acted.

Raleigh: They're all very good.

Sydnee: Really well acted. Uh, but, um... check out Maximumfun.org for a lot of wonderful podcasts you would enjoy.

You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. You can tweet at us @stillbuff if you have any thing you think we should talk about on here.

And, uh, thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, "Baby You Change Your Mind."

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

[theme music begins in the background]

Raleigh: I am still buffering...

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

Sydnee: I want *Grease 2*!

[pauses]

Sydnee: [singing "We'll Be Together" from *Grease 2*]

Raleigh: No.

Taylor: Uuugh.

Raleigh: By the way, *Grease 2* and *Dawson's Creek*, [unintelligible 49:43.

Taylor: I'm gone. I'm out of my body. I'm leaving.

Sydnee: [continues singing]

Raleigh: Yep. I'm—bye—bye!

Sydnee: [continues singing]

Raleigh: I'm gone!

Sydnee: [continues singing]

[theme music plays]

Ben: Alright, Adam. Uh, Maximum Fun wants us to record, like, a promo to tell people that they should listen to *The Greatest Generation*. You wanna do that?

Adam: No! I am tired of all the extra work. I just wanna talk about *Star Trek* with my friend!

Ben: I—I think it—it would be good to, like, try and get some new listeners by appealing to the audiences of other shows? Like, this—this will only take a minute or two. It could be good for us.

Adam: We sit down for an hour every week and talk about a *Star Trek* episode, and make a bunch of idiotic fart jokes about it. It's embarrassing! If it got out that we made this show, I think it would make us unemployable.

Ben: Adam... I have bad news for you. We have tens of thousands of listeners at Maximumfun.org.

Adam: Oh my God... I think I'm gonna throw up.

Ben: *The Greatest Generation!* A *Star Trek* podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed to have a *Star Trek* podcast. Every Monday, on Maximumfun.org.

Adam: I'm really gonna be sick.

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