

Still Buffering 231: "Practical Magic" (1998)

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[theme music plays]

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Teylor Smirl.

Sydnee: Well, we continue with our spooooky...

Rileigh: Ooh.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] ... pumpkin spiced episodes.

Taylor: Ooh! [laughs] They're all pumpkin spiced.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: And Teylor, could you please share with our listeners what exactly you're imbibing during this... episode?

Taylor: Well—[sighs] I got—I got this creamer. It's, like, vegan coconut cream... creamer. Uh, it's pumpkin spice flavored, but it's not concentrated enough in flavor as such that, if you put it in coffee, it just kind of disappears, but I like the taste of it on its own, so I'm just—just havin' a—just, you know—just a glass of creamer. Just a...

Sydnee: Mm-hmm?

Taylor: That's—I mean, that's—there's a—

Sydnee: Mm-hmm? Mm-hmm?

Taylor: —that tracks. People do that. Like, eggnog?

Sydnee: Drink creamer?

Taylor: Well—! It's just, like—

Sydnee: Do they, Tey?

Taylor: —it's just like—[laughs] It's like thick milk. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Uh-huh?

Rileigh: Thick milk. Pumpkin spiced thick milk.

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Taylor: Yeah! Yeah, that's a—just a good, you know—a fall morning, it's a little crisp in the air. Have yourself a glass of thick milk.

Sydnee: [through laughter] Just drink some creamer. Is this—is this, like, a cool thing from Brooklyn that the rest of the country—

Taylor: Nooo.

Sydnee: —will get on board with in, like, five years?

Taylor: I mean, it could be! Maybe I started it, you know?

Sydnee: Is this to pair with your avocado toast?

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah, it's avocado toast and thick milk. That is, uh—that'll be \$25 at brunch.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Uh...

Taylor: You know what? There are no rules anymore. I—I, uh—I can have my thick milk if I want to. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, that's fine.

Raleigh: Sorry, I just—I just turned my head to rub my eyes, and there is a giant box of candy in this room. [laughs] Why is there such a big box of candy in here, Sydnee?

Sydnee: Um, because sometimes my, uh, daughter goes on her podcast and begs for candy—

Raleigh: [through laughter] Right.

Sydnee: —from her wonderful listeners, and they send us candy, and now we have... endless candy.

Raleigh: Sorry, that just caught me off guard. It's overflowing!

Taylor: I mean, that—that podcast is just a front for a candy racket, right? Like, that is 100% what it is.

Sydnee: I—I—I... I mean, for Charlie, yes. Yes, I do believe that was her intention. She—

Raleigh: Charlie only gets back on when she needs a refill. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Yeah. She is smart enough to have arranged that, and I see that now. Uh, I do want to say, we had nothing to do with that plan. And when she began to beg for candy on the show... [laughs] ... it was spontaneous, and Justin and I did not know how to deal with that.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: That was not planned. We did not set that up. Um, we would prefer to have more moderation in the amount of candy in our home. Um... [laughs]

Raleigh: I mean, there's no safe trick or treat this year, right? So this is, like, her safe trick or treat.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Yeah! [laughs] People just send candy to your—to your house.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: That's a pretty good gig.

Sydnee: It's wonderful. I mean, we have gotten lots of really good candies this way. Uh, and she asked specifically for Ramune?

Raleigh: Does she like Ramune?

Sydnee: Loves Ramune. And so we also frequently get boxes of Ramune. Um, and those are fun, because you get to poke the little marble down in them, and then...

Raleigh: Teylor, you know, I bet Charlie would join you in your love for thick milk. I think Charlie would also be into that, and maybe Cooper.

Taylor: Yeah? Maybe?

Raleigh: Like, sweet, thick milk. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: You should—you should try it out. [laughs] Just pour 'em a glass of creamer. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Probably, because mom—you know when—so, mom likes to have tea parties with the girls.

Raleigh: Uh-huh, uh-huh, mm-hmm.

Sydnee: So, she does not make them tea.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm. [pause] Yes.

Sydnee: It's like—I mean, I think it's creamer and some water and sugar.

Raleigh: I mean, it is tea. She does make the tea. But the amount of tea that goes into the cups is so little compared to the—the thick milk that gets thrown in. [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, that's what—

Rileigh: [through laughter] That's what I'm calling creamer from now on, I'm sorry.

Sydnee: The first time I—

Taylor: [through laughter] Do you have any of that thick milk?

Rileigh: [laughs] I—yes, can I get a black coffee with just a little bit of thick milk and one sugar please?

Taylor: [laughs] I like that.

Sydnee: Uh, we've started using oat milk.

Rileigh: Us too!

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I like oat milk.

Sydnee: Cooper likes it.

Taylor: I think of the, uh—of the non-milk milks, I think it's the tastiest.

Rileigh: It is.

Taylor: Yeah. Sometimes I drink almond and soy, just—I don't know. It's readily available.

Sydnee: I like cashew milk a lot.

Taylor: Ooh!

Rileigh: Can you say that again?

Sydnee: Cashew? Milk?

Rleigh: You put the emphasis on the "shew" part of cashew—

Taylor: [through laughter] Cashew!

Rleigh: —and I find that very interesting. You said, "I drink ca-shew milk a lot."

Sydnee: [laughs] I don't—I didn't mean to say it that way!

Rleigh: [laughs] It's like you did it—it's not cashew milk. This point needs to be very clear. It's fancier. It's *ca-shew* milk.

Taylor: It sounds like a milk that has a little sneeze. Ca-choo milk! [laughs]

Rleigh: Ca-choo milk! [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I don't know. My—

Rleigh: Are we a very good milk podcast now? [snorts]

Sydnee: Oh!

Taylor: We've mentioned, like, at least four varieties of milk.

Rleigh: Thick milk, oat milk, ca-shew milk, cashew milk—

Sydnee: Please review our quality as a milk podcast.

Rleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, let us know how we're doing. We'll strive to talk about more milks.

Taylor: There are many milks to be had.

Rleigh: What other milks are—chocolate milk?

Taylor: I love chocolate milk.

Rleigh: Me too!

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I think there are a lot of grown adults [through laughter] that like chocolate milk!

Rileigh: I mean, our dad, whenever we go on road trips, when he goes in gas stations, that's what he gets, all throughout the day at a gas station, is a thing of chocolate milk.

Sydnee: Yes, yes he does. I will say, though, that strawberry milk is an abomination.

Taylor: No! Wh—wh—okay.

Rileigh: I agree.

Taylor: Oh, no no—I can't be on this podcast anymore!

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: I can't be on an anti-strawberry milk podcast!

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Strawberry milk is delicious!

Sydnee: No...

Rileigh: When I think of strawberry milk I think of those weird light pink bottles they used to have in elementary school of strawberry milk, and it—I ended up stuck with it a few times, 'cause they ran out of the other kinds—

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: —and it was just, like... vaguely pink milk, and it didn't really taste like strawberry.

Sydnee: Only—only—I would love to know if this is true outside of this country, or if only in this country do sometimes schoolchildren... are they forced to drink [holding back laughter] strawberry flavored milk?

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: By their schools, because no other milks are available, or beverages, and so the only beverage afforded to them... is artificially flavored strawberry milk? Is that—that's gotta just be us, right?

Rileigh: Isn't it crazy to think that, when I was in elementary school, at least here, your only options for beverages at lunch were white milk, skim milk, chocolate milk, or strawberry milk. It was just milk! You couldn't even get water!

Taylor: There wasn't a juice?

Sydnee: Hey, listen.

Rileigh: No!

Taylor: Wow.

Rileigh: There was sometimes juices for breakfast.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: But I never was there early enough to actually get school breakfast, so I just got school lunch, and you only could get milk, so it was like, here I am with my square pizza, my corn, [laughs quietly] and my milk. [laughs]

Sydnee: You know, I'm—I am—

Taylor: Your ketchup packet. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: —this is how old I am. How 'bout this? We had another beverage option. It was the soda machine, which sold... soda.

Rileigh: You got soda?!

Sydnee: Soda. The—the line for the soda machine every day at lunch would, like, go around the entire gym. Everybody would immediately get into it, because they would, like, turn on the soda machine at lunch, it wasn't on the rest of the day, and everybody would stand in line to get a soda.

Taylor: Now, was this high school? Or was this... that was in—

Sydnee: This was middle school.

Taylor: Oh, middle school. Oh, okay, yeah.

Rileigh: You know, they even took all the soda machines out of my high school because they didn't—they didn't want to be giving us soda, so they only had, like, water and Gatorade in them.

Sydnee: Yeah, they—they also had a lot of those fruit—weird fruit drinks that, I mean, you may as well.

Taylor: Fruitopia? Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. They're just sugar. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I mean, that's what—I mean, even with the flavored milks, like, that's just some milk plus a bunch of sugar. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: The only—the only parenting thing I can ever really claim... I think I've done some things okay. Maybe there are other things I've done well. The only thing I'm sure of is my kids drink water. And I remember as a kid thinking, like, "Who drinks water? [laughs] I don't ever drink water."

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: "There are so many flavors of beverage! Why would I drink water?"

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: My kids—my kids choose to drink water. I can't stand by anything else. They get boxes of candy all over the house, so obviously, I'm not a stellar parent. *But*, they drink water.

Raleigh: Um, thanks for listening. This has been *Still Milking*.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Oh, I don't—I don't like that. No...

Raleigh: How about *Milk Buffering*? [laughs]

Taylor: Ahh! I don't like any of this.

Raleigh: It's one of the two. [laughs]

Sydnee: I am always milking. I've been milking for so many years.

Raleigh: Ew, Sydnee!

Taylor: Oh, okay! See, now this is—

Raleigh: Ugh, I'm done, I quit!

Taylor: —I knew that's where it was gonna go. I knew. Uh, also, anybody—

Raleigh: I regret it!

Taylor: —anybody listening that also likes strawberry milk, will you please back me up here? It's good stuff. But that's the last thing I'm gonna say about milk. I'm done! You all can keep talking about milk, but I refuse.

Raleigh: Also—

Sydnee: I wanna talk a—what?

Raleigh: No, before we get comments about it, I am not actually grossed out by breastfeeding.

Sydnee: Oh, okay.

Rleigh: We are all very open about this. Sydnee knows this. It just was an unexpected comment. Please no one tweet at me and tell me that I'm not positive about a natural process of the body. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: All of my family has been very supportive—

Rleigh: Thank you.

Sydnee: —about my breastfeeding, yes.

Taylor: And I'm just awkward about literally every natural process of the body, so...

Rleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rleigh: That too.

Taylor: Just across the board, everything.

Sydnee: No. I—I take, um, full responsibility for that, because the idea of me being milked is also kind of...

Rleigh: Yeah, that's a gross statement.

Sydnee: Yeah, that's not...

[pause]

Rleigh: Anyways—

Taylor: [simultaneously] Go ahead, say it a couple different ways—

Sydnee: [simultaneously] I mean, it feels that way sometimes.

Taylor: —so we can just get it—you know.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: So what are—what's on the—what's on the schedule? [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I don't wanna talk about that drink any more.

Taylor: [through laughter] Okay.

Rileigh: [through laughter] That drink.

Sydnee: I wanna talk about... when you put the lime in the coconut... and mix it all up.

Taylor: Oh.

Rileigh: Ohh.

Sydnee: Like in that scene from *Practical Magic*. See?

Rileigh: Right.

Taylor: There you go.

Sydnee: There's what I did there, yeah.

Rileigh: Full circle, mm-hmm, great job.

Taylor: That's a better drink, the lime in the coconut drink.

Sydnee: I tried to, uh, get Justin to talk about *Practical Magic* with me, or to watch it with me so that we could talk about it before, in preparation for the show, and he wouldn't. But he—

Rileigh: [snorts]

Taylor: What?!

Sydnee: —he said—

Rileigh: The end of the story. [laughs]

Sydnee: —he said, "You enjoy that. I know you gotta get that Vitamin D."

And I said, "Vitamin D? It's Practical Magi—what are you talking about?"

And he was like, "You know, that dancing in the kitchen scene."

[pause]

I was like, "That's the best you got?"

Rileigh: That's it?

Sydnee: Also, it is the only thing he knows about *Practical Magic*. [laughs]

Rileigh: Sure.

Sydnee: Is that there is a scene where they dance in the kitchen.

Taylor: It's a—it's a pretty iconic scene, you know? Well, maybe not like the realm of film, but—[laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: I mean, in our family, it has been referenced, I think every time we were all in the same kitchen, I think at some point.

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Rileigh: One of—one of you all, or mostly Bob brings that up at some point, right?

Sydnee: It's just mom trying to find an excuse to drink margaritas. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah. I mean, the concept of midnight margaritas I can get behind. But it is one of those odd moments in cinema where you watch and it looks so fun,

but it's like, nobody... dances like—just gonna dance around the kitchen holding my drink. Like, that—it looks fun, but it's a... nobody does that!

Sydnee: Well, you know, the other problem with it, before we really talk about this film, um...

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] The other problem with midnight margaritas is, uh, as a grownup, I can tell you that's a recipe for reflux. You gotta drink the margaritas early in the evening so that you can make sure [laughs] like, that's all good and settled. Um, you don't want those at midnight, right before you go to bed!

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I mean, also it seems like they wake... they wake Sandra Bullock's character up to drink the margaritas, and, uh—

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: —as big of a fan as I am—would that ever work, when I'm home visiting, [through laughter] if I just went around the house waking everybody up at midnight like, "Hey! Margaritas!"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: I mean, probably.

Sydnee: I mean, well...

Taylor: Well, maybe.

Rileigh: There's a chance.

Sydnee: Not dad.

Rileigh: Not dad.

Sydnee: Once he's strapped into his CPAP machine, he's done for the night.

Taylor: That's fair.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: Sounds like... [laughs] Bane, or Kylo Ren underneath it.

[all laugh breathlessly]

Sydnee: But man, mom would definitely be down. Let me say that.

Raleigh: Mom would definitely be down, yes.

Taylor: Alright. I'll have to try that. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Um, so *Practical Magic*—and I'm realizing that this may have... I think every family probably has movies like this, where like, you watch it so many times, and it becomes so much a part of, like, family lore and, like, cultural reference, that you just assume it's like that for everybody else.

Raleigh: Like *Christmas Vacation*, like, you assume every other family watches it every Christmas. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Which—and I mean, I think *Christmas Vacation*—

Taylor: [simultaneously] Just us nerds.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: —definitely has more so, right?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, most people—either they've seen it, or they know what you're talking about. I have realized that *Practical Magic* is not necessarily... [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: ... like that. Uh, I think there are certainly people like us who love it, um... but then, I think there are a lot of people who are like, "What are you talking about?"

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, when did this—you know, I usually look up when these movies come out.

Raleigh: Yeah, I remember—

Sydnee: It was, like, '98?

Raleigh: —mom showing me this movie—

Sydnee: Yeah, 1998.

Raleigh: —for the first time. I was only, like, maybe 12 or 13, and then I went to school the next day, and I was trying to talk about it with my friends, and they were like, "What... what are you talking about?"

I was like, "Well, you all don't—my mom said everyone loves this movie. She said everyone watches this movie."

And they were like, "No... [laughs quietly] We did not." [laughs]

Sydnee: So, *Practical Ma*—

Taylor: [simultaneously] So, the cool teen movie.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: *Practical Magic* is—it is, it's from 1998, and it is a movie based—it's based on a book.

Raleigh: Okay. I didn't know that.

Sydnee: Mm-mm. I—I don't know that any of us ever read the book.

Taylor: Nope.

Sydnee: Um, by the same name, *Practical Magic* by Alice Hoffman. And it is not—I would not say, it is not reviewed well. Um, I *would* say it is not reviewed well. That is what I was trying to communicate to you.

Raleigh: The movie.

Sydnee: Yes, the movie. No, I don't know about the book. The movie has not... done well critically. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I have a—I understand that people might not love this movie. I have a hard time believing people could hate this movie. 'Cause this is the movie equivalent of, like, a—a—a moderately priced scented candle. Like... [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That's true.

Taylor: It is like, a—just, it's nice. It's nice to have there, you know? You don't really have to think about it, and then it's gone. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: It's—it's weird. I was just looking to see, like, how did it do? So... it opened at number one, but it went on to gross less than its budget—

Taylor: Ooh.

Sydnee: —so I would say that's... not well.

Raleigh: It has a 22% fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Sydnee: Yeah...

Raleigh: So that's not great, either. [laughs] Um—

Sydnee: It did not—yeah, the critics did not seem to like it, but then, apparently, the... [pause] Thank you, Wikipedia. "The movie is considered as cult classic."

Taylor: Well, alright.

Rileigh: Well...

Sydnee: By—that's the—look! That's the whole sentence!

Rileigh: Yeah, that's a whole section, too.

Taylor: It's a small, small cult. It is just—

Sydnee: Yeah, it's us.

Taylor: —just Smirls. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah. [laughs] Mom actually added that in there.

Sydnee: Yeah. [laughs] Reference: Mary Smirl.

Rileigh: Mom updated that page.

Taylor: Her one Wikipedia credit. [laughs] Defending *Practical Magic*.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: So—[laughs] the—the movie, in case you're not familiar—I mean, obviously everybody's seen this movie, but in case you haven't, the movie is basically following two sisters, played by Nicole Kidman and Sandra Bullock, who are part of this family, the Owens family, who have been cursed, uh, that whatever man one of them will love will die. And so they shouldn't fall in love unless they want, you know, the dude to kick it.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: So, uh, they—we, like—there's also, like—it's very important, it seems, for there to be two sisters in each generation of this family, and that the one sister have, um... red hair, and the other be a brunette. That is also a theme. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yes.

Rileigh: That is a recurring theme. Three generations!

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: That's true.

Sydnee: I think it may also have allowed the same actors to play the main characters when they were children, and then also the children of Sandra Bullock. I'm not sure. I meant to look that up. You see them briefly, but I think they might be the same people.

Um, but anyway, Sandra Bullock... [laughs quietly] Uh, grew up, got married, had two little girls, and then tragically lost her husband, because of the curse.

Raleigh: Because they fell in love.

Sydnee: Yes. And, uh, Nicole Kidman, in order to avoid this fate, is kind of wandering the country, having fun and partying with lots of different people so that she never falls for one person and risks them, you know, succumbing to the curse.

And then, uh, the thing that happens that kind of sets off the whole movie is... [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: The plot of the movie.

Sydnee: The plot of the movie, um, is Luka from *ER*.

Raleigh: [through laughter] Okay.

Sydnee: [laughs] You remember Luka from *ER*?

[extended pause]

Taylor: Okay, n—that's a lot—that's a lot of empty—emp—just empty space.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Uh, no. No we don't! [laughs]

Sydnee: Okay.

Rileigh: I think that was an appropriate response. I'm just gonna leave all that in there. [laughs]

Taylor: Silence!

Sydnee: That's how I always think of them! I remember when I saw this movie and I was like, "Oh, Luka!"

[pause]

Rileigh: "From *ER*."

Sydnee: I loved him in *ER*. Um—

Taylor: But he's not very lovable in this movie.

Sydnee: No.

Rileigh: No.

Sydnee: Uh, Jimmy Angelov, who Nicole Kidman has been dating, and then he turns out to be an abusive jerk, and—

Rileigh: And also a serial killer?

Taylor: Yeah!

Sydnee: Yeah—yeah, we find out later, also a serial killer. And so, Sandra Bullock has to go rescue her from this bad situation. He briefly kidnaps them in the midst of all this, and then they murder him. [pause] In self-defense.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I mean... they—you know.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: He's threatening their lives, so. And so, they murder him, and then they realize, like, this is bad, so they bring him back to life, because they're witches—oh, I didn't mention that. They're witches.

Rileigh: [through laughter] We forgot the whole part of the movie!

Taylor: Oh, right. That's central to the plot.

Sydnee: They're all witches. They bring him back to life, and then he attacks them, so they have to murder him again.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And then a cop shows up to investigate the whole thing... [sighs] And him and Sandra Bullock fall in love.

Taylor: Well, because she was so afraid of falling in love that, when she was little, she made a... spell?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Describing an impossible guy, so... it's a weird workaround, I think. [laughs]

Sydnee: It's very weird, too, um, when you consider, like, she says, "I've created a man that could not—" That was basically so perfect, he couldn't exist. And her qualities—

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: [holding back laughter] Yeah.

Sydnee: —in this man who is so perfect that he can't exist, are... flip pancakes in the air. Ride a pony backwards. His favorite shape is a star. He has one blue eye and one green eye. And he can hear her call from a mile away.

Rileigh: That's it.

[pause]

Sydnee: That's it.

Raleigh: Now, to be fair, she was, like, what? Ten, when she did this?

Taylor: That—that—

Sydnee: Well, younger, I think. Like, seven.

Taylor: I mean, that does read as when you're young and you're describing, like, an ideal man. You come up with some weird stuff. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: "Really cool blue tennis shoes! Why? I like 'em!" [laughs]

Raleigh: "I like blue." [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, but anyway—so, they fall in love, so anyway, they get away with the murder, and—but because they brought him back to life and then killed him again, he's a ghost now. And they have to—he has possessed Nicole Kidman, and they have to exorcise him. Like, ex-or-cise him, not exercise him. [laughs] Not, like, aerobics. [laughs]

Taylor: And their—their aunties, who were two much more powerful witches, it seems like—they realized what's going on and they're like, "Peace! We're gonna leave!"

Raleigh: Yeah, bye-ee! [laughs]

Taylor: "Yeah, we could help you, but you probably need to learn a lesson about how to deal with a dead body! Everybody's got to!" [laughs]

Sydnee: "And good luck—good luck, grandkids."

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: "It's okay, we tied some rope around your neck. That'll keep you safe."

Sydnee: "We're out," yeah. Stockard Channing—man, I love Stockard Channing.

Taylor: I was gonna say, she's—Rizzo's in this movie, and she's great.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Yeah. That's always fantastic. So anyway, um, they all live happily ever after, of course, because... that's—that is this film. [laughs] This film is not meant to challenge you.

Raleigh: It's basically a Hallmark movie.

Taylor: Well, except for with—

Raleigh: If Hallmark movies were allowed to have a little more death.

Taylor: I was gonna say, there's, like, murder—

Sydnee: And better acting.

Taylor: —and attempted ha—like, hangings, and really, the happily ever after comes because a—a—he's a PI, right, not a cop? Or is he a cop?

Sydnee: Oh, no, he's a—he's a... like...

Raleigh: I think he's a detective.

Sydnee: He's a detective.

Taylor: That's right, okay. So because he—because he destroys evidence, or misrepresents a case, that's why there's a happy ever after.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: He—he covers up the murder for these women. Uh...

Sydnee: Yeah. He plants—he plants the guy's ring in some ashes of a burned building so it looks like the guy died [through laughter] in this building.

Raleigh: Yep.

Sydnee: That's—you know, that's very sinister, if you really think about it!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: That's a—like, it seems like a really soft and sweet movie, and it is, and yet there is just a—there's a lot of death. [laughs]

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: There is. You know... [laughs] I will say, I said Justin didn't watch it with me. He watched just the very beginning of it before he had to leave, and he knows that, like, I don't usually like a lot of—especially these days, a lot of death. Anything like that makes me very sad, and I don't like that kind of stuff in movies. Um, and he—when the—[laughs quietly] When Sandra Bullock's first husband bites it he was like, "Why doesn't this bother you?"

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I was like, "No, it does! It's very sad. It's just, I've seen it so many times, it can't possibly—"

Rileigh: And also their parents die.

[pause]

Sydnee: Yeah, but you don't really see that.

Rileigh: But, like... still. [laughs quietly] Many death.

Taylor: A lot of death!

Sydnee: I'm just saying. [laughs quietly] It's off screen.

Rileigh: Yeah, that's true, that's true.

Sydnee: You don't even really know how it happened.

Rileigh: Uh... yeah. I mean, well, the dad died because of the curse.

Sydnee: Yeah, but I mean—[laughs quietly]

Rileigh: And the mom died from heartbreak, right?

Taylor: Yes.

Rileigh: That's what they say? Yeah.

Taylor: That's—

Sydnee: Well, that's not—[laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I don't think you put that on a death certificate.

Taylor: [laughs] "A curse."

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: "The curse." [laughs]

Rileigh: "The curse."

Taylor: "Really sad."

[all laugh]

Sydnee: "I heard the death watch beetle, and he died."

Taylor: [laughs] That is—

Sydnee: Yeah, there's a beetle in this movie.

Taylor: That just comes outta nowhere, yeah.

Rileigh: It signals death, yeah.

Taylor: Just, like, literally one line. It's like, "If you hear the death watch beetle, then your husband's about to kick it." And it's like, "Ah, yes, of course. Wait, what?!" [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] "Sorry, huh? Beetle?"

Taylor: Explain the beetle more? No? Okay.

Sydney: Uh, we need to talk about why this movie matters to us. [laughs quietly]
But before we do that...

Raleigh: Let's check the group message.

--

Raleigh: I have a sponsor I wanna tell you all about this week.

Sydney: Please do.

Raleigh: And that's Function of Beauty. So, we all know that one size fits all might work for your accessories, like a headband, perhaps a pair of earrings. But when it comes to your hair, we all need something a little different to help us look our best. So what if your hair care was as unique as you are?

Sydney: [gasps]

Raleigh: [gasps]

Sydney: How do I do that?

Raleigh: Well, Function of Beauty hair care is formulated specifically for you. It doesn't matter your hair type or your hair needs, they create shampoo and conditioner treatments to fit those needs, with over 54 *trillion* possible ingredient combination.

Taylor: Wow!

Raleigh: That's so many!

Sydney: Oh my gosh!

Raleigh: 54 trillion! Um, so I—I, uh, have been using Function of Beauty products now on my hair, and it's very simple. You go on their website, you take a quiz—I love taking quizzes, so it was a lot of fun—and you tell 'em a little bit about your hair. Like, what's your hair type? What are your hair issues? Like, for me, sometimes my hair gets very frizzy, or my scalp gets very dry. Things like that, you put in.

And then what do you want from shampoo? Do you need purple shampoo to protect blond hair? Do you need volumizing shampoo? Stuff like that. And then you pick a color, you pick a scent, and you have your shampoo and conditioner.

Sydnee: And then it tells you... what two characters in *Parks and Rec*—

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: —and *Riverdale* you're a perfect mix of!

Raleigh: Exactly. [laughs]

Sydnee: No it doesn't. [laughs]

Raleigh: Um, and then they send that personalized formula right to your door in a customized bottle. So, mine has my name on it. It says Function of Raleigh. It came with some cute little stickers.

Taylor: Oh, cute!

Raleigh: Um, it smells like lavender. It's very good. I got purple shampoo to protect the blond in my hair, but also matching purple conditioner. It doesn't tone, it's just purple 'cause it—it matches the... shampoo. Um—

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: —but—

Sydnee: It's aesthetically pleasing.

Raleigh: Yeah. And their formulas are also vegan and cruelty free, which is very important. Um, so I encourage you all to try to Function of Beauty. Teylor, if they want to try it out, where should they go?

Taylor: You should go to functionofbeauty.com/buffering. Take your four part hair profile quiz and save 20% off your first order. That's, again, functionofbeauty.com/buffering for 20% off. Go let them know that you heard about it from our show. That's functionofbeauty.com/buffering.

Sydnee: So, I want to talk about—you know, these days with social distancing and everything, we're traveling a lot less, hopefully, and it can be tough to stay in touch with your loved ones. With, uh, friends and family that you don't get to talk to often. It can feel—that distance can seem even further right now. And there are lots of ways that we're all choosing to connect, you know? Whether it be through, like, phone calls or emails or Facetime or Zoom or—

Raleigh: Having a podcast together.

Sydnee: —having a podcast together. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: That works.

Sydnee: Writing physical letters, as my daughter Charlie has figured out how to do. Um, one fun way that you might not have heard of or thought of is StoryWorth. Uh, StoryWorth is a great way to continue, like, keeping in touch and connecting with, um, your loved ones, but also, like, a fun way to learn things about them that maybe you didn't know, to hear stories that you haven't heard before.

Uh, the way they do that is, each week, StoryWorth emails your family member a different story prompt. Things like, "What have been some of your life's greatest surprises?" Or, "What's one of the riskiest things you've ever done?"

Um, so, they send that to whoever you have chosen to send StoryWorth to, and your loved one will answer it. And then after a year, StoryWorth will compile all these answered questions, and any photos that you chose to include, into a beautiful keepsake book that's shipped for free. Um, so really something you can treasure forever.

It's a—you know, there are so many things we talk about on a regular basis, and we don't think to ask, like, all these kinds of fun, neat questions that really stimulate these other memories that, you know, you just wouldn't hear about any other way. So, it's a really cool service. We've tried it out, it's really fun. Um, Teylor, if our listeners want to try it, what should they do?

Teylor: You can connect with family and discover untold stories with StoryWorth. Get started right away without the need for shipping by going to StoryWorth.com/stillbuffering. You'll get \$10 off your first purchase! That's StoryWorth.com/stillbuffering for \$10 off.

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Sydnee: So, when it—okay. *Practical Magic*. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Yes.

Teylor: Alright.

Sydnee: Uh, I think that partly, it's just kind of, like, a fun little... fluffy movie. Overall, it—like I said, it's not very challenging. It's very comforting. I always used to watch it over again when Justin was out of town. [pause] In part 'cause I knew he didn't wanna watch it. But also because—

Rileigh: [laughs]

Teylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: —um, I found it very—it was like comfort food in a movie, you know? It made me feel safe and warm. I think a lot of it, of course, was my—our, like, personal connections, because our family loved it so much. Um, and mom definitely latched onto, like, the midnight margarita, that whole kind of idea.

Rileigh: Yeah. Very much so.

Sydnee: Uh, but I also—I felt like a lot of the, um—the sibling themes I connected with very strongly, especially when we first saw it... this was pre-Rileigh.

Raleigh: [sighs heavily]

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: [resigned] Go ahead...

Sydnee: Well, no! I just mean—so it, like—it made a lot of sense to me, like, in terms of... there's the scene where—okay. So, Sally, Sandra Bullock's character, is trying really hard to be normal, and fit in this little—this little New England town.

And, uh, so she wants to—so she's at, like, a PTA meeting, basically. And they're putting together the phone tree. I love this scene.

Taylor: It's a good scene.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Because she never gets picked to be at the top of the phone tree, because they all know she's a witch, and... they think she's irresponsible, and... like—

Taylor: [laughs] Yeah, I think—we should state that this town super believes they're witches. Like, definitely—that's definitely a fact, and it just treats them like it's the 1500s, but go—go ahead. [laughs]

Sydnee: Yes, they do, they do. Like, the kids all yell and taunt at their children all the time.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It's really weird!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: They're just accepted as witches, but also not accepted as witches.

Taylor: And feared [through laughter] as witches.

Sydnee: But they are witches! 'Cause, like, we see one of the children hex a kid and say, "I hope you get chicken pox," and then later in the film he is... he has chicken pox.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh—[laughs] These were pre-vaccine days.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: Now that wouldn't happen, but... unless they can overcome the vaccine with their hexes.

Taylor: Ooh!

Rileigh: Whoa.

Sydnee: Ooh! That's terrifying!

Rileigh: That's a lot to think about.

Sydnee: Anyway, phone tree scene. So, uh, Sally—it's very important to her to be at the top of the phone tree, and she never gets picked, and Nicole Kidman is in town and finds out about this, and so—Jillian is her name. So Jillian shows up and kind of makes a scene in the PTA meeting and gets Sally, through her magic, at the top of the phone tree. And it just—I—Taylor, it always kind of reminded me of me and you.

Taylor: [laughs] I think that's a—there is—that comparison, when we were young, yes, pre-Rileigh, was drawn a lot. The Sandra Bullock character was very much Sydnee, and the Nicole Kidman one was—was me. And I—you know. [laughs] I relate to that in—I—I could—I mean, obviously that makes sense to you. And while the young Nicole Kidman character is very, like, "Oh, I can't wait to fall in love!" That was never me. But that she ends up kind of, like, old, and like, "Well, I survived that. Not doin' that again. I'm gonna go, like, work in the garden and be an old biddy."

Like, I agree with that. [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Uh, and Sandra Bullock's character is somewhat of a nerd. She is frequently in large sweaters and glasses that she's pushing up on her nose. I feel like that's—

Rileigh: 'Cause that's how you identify a nerd in film, is they wear big sweaters and they push up their glasses in the middle, on the bridge of their nose.

Sydnee: Uh-huh. [laughs] Uh, I—that's the other thing. I pulled heavily—the fashion cues from this movie are, like, my favorite way to dress. Like, please—other than, like, I'm not a big skirt fan these days. I like pants better. But, like, a tank top under a giant sweater? Yes please! [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs] Yes please!

Sydnee: That is my whole aesthetic!

Rileigh: A tank top under a giant sweater.

Sydnee: They are constantly wearing little teeny tank tops, little teeny spaghetti strap tank tops with, like, big ol' cardigans hangin' down over 'em. Big, long, heavy cardigans.

Rileigh: That's your whole aesthetic?

Sydnee: Oh, I love that! That's my fa—I wear that around the house all the time!

Rileigh: Yeah? Yeah?

Taylor: This is the origin of Sydnee's style. *Practical Magic*. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Tiny tank tops and giant sweaters.

Sydnee: And when you've gotta go adventuring, you trade in... the sweater for, like, some sort of khaki button-down.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: And you're Laura Dern, and all your dreams have come true.

Raleigh: Oh, man, you're right.

Sydnee: See? [laughs]

Raleigh: [holding back laughter] They coincide so well.

Sydnee: [laughs] You trade in the—the jeans you're wearing for the cargo shorts, and you're good. [laughs]

Taylor: Uh... this—this, uh, leads me to a completely unrelated thought, but do you think that if either of the girls had fallen for another woman, they would've gotten around the curse?

Raleigh: I was thinking this. I was thinking, I want a reboot of this where you've got, like, two sisters, but one of 'em is not straight, [laughs] and she's just like, "Well."

Taylor: "Good—good on me. I'm fine!" [laughs]

Raleigh: "I'm good."

Sydnee: "Yeah, no problems here!"

Raleigh: "No problems here!" [laughs]

Taylor: I feel like that—you know, the curse was like, "Nah, forget men." And I was like, "Well, okay. But what if I was—" Not to do anything with your fashion choice. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Hey!

[all laugh loudly]

Taylor: [unintelligible] As you describe it it's like, "Yeah, these—these are all great fashion choices! They're also very gay. That's fine, too."

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: It's just—it's the wardrobe! [laughs]

Sydney: This is totally fair. This is—this is accurate. I, uh—[laughs] I saw this TikTok where the—

Raleigh: Oh, no! I can't with you starting sentences that way. [laughs]

Sydney: I know. Well, I'm on TikTok now. I don't do anything on it, I just look. But, uh, I saw this TikTok [laughs] where this girl was pointing out all these Barbies that are obviously gay? And I was looking at these Barbies going, "I love all these. Like, the—these are the fashion choices I would make if I was Barbie." So... [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydney: But she was right. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydney: Um—[laughs] that—see, and that is—I mean, the movie was made in 1998 and it is, like... very heteronormative, very gendered in those sense—I mean, I don't think it's, like, problematic in that way, but it just—it's very much in that place. Like, it's... you know. Definitely they don't allow for that possibility.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydney: Um, or at least they don't discuss it. I will say that, like, the aunts are very, um... I guess they are fine with being single, and they don't give a crap, they don't—they're very independent. They're strong characters.

Taylor: They've got a great life! They have a giant house, they eat cake for breakfast, they have cool clothes, they get to do spells, and then they've got, like, other family around 'em! I think that's a pretty good—good outcome.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: They have an amazing greenhouse. They have a fantastic garden. Um, and they're right on the ocean. Like, their house is, like, on the ocean.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] It is! It is really—it is really amazing.

Taylor: Yeah, like, I don't—like, curse or not, like, [through laughter] I'd happily inherit that location!

Sydnee: Um, and I will say, like, there is that bit of... [sighs] I don't know. It's that sort of old school idea of, like, female empowerment, where at the end, when they need help, all these women come together to help them, to form their coven. Um... that—and that is nice. Like... I would like to see some of them apologize for being, like—

Raleigh: Mean.

Sydnee: Yeah, total B's. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh... but, um—but they all do come together, with their brooms and... you know. Help exorcise—

Raleigh: Save the day.

Sydnee: —Jillian.

Raleigh: Ex-or-cise.

Sydnee: Ex-or-cise Jillian. Um, that's all very nice. Now, I will—the scene in the movie where they jump off the roof and fly at the end is a little... well, float, I guess. Drift.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Drift gently to the ground. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: No matter how much you believe in your—your witchcraft abilities, are you gonna let your two small children jump off a roof and just like, "[through laughter] You better be magic too, kiddo!"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: 'Cause the little girls do it too!

Sydney: Yes.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Just hurling themselves off the roof, while the whole neighborhood stands around and is like, "Wow, that's so cool!" Like, a small child just threw themselves off a roof! [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Happy Halloween!

Raleigh: It very much reminds me of the end of *Grease* when, like, everything in this movie has been normal pretty much, and then, like, they drive off in the car—

Sydney: [simultaneously] And then the car flies?

Raleigh: —that flies?

Taylor: Ahh, the Stockard Channing effect. [laughs]

Raleigh: It is!

Sydney: It is! The—you know, there is a very dark version of this movie where, like, we have seen—so, they live on an island somewhere up in New England. They live on an island. So, like, there are these townsfolk who know that these witches live on their island, and that they will hex them, and they're all terrified, and they treat them badly, and they don't want anything to do with them. But then at the end, they grow to love and worship them. [laughs]

Raleigh: Mm-hmm?

Sydnee: And [laughs]—but they know that it's a delicate balance, because at any time, they could anger them, and then they'll give them chicken pox again.

Rileigh: They'll be hexed, yeah.

Sydnee: It's a weird story if you start to look at that way.

Taylor: And they do seem to be very powerful witches. Like, there's a lot of just casual witchcraft [through laughter] that goes on in this movie.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I mean, they bring someone back from the dead!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Not well, but, you know. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: But still.

Rileigh: But he's back!

Sydnee: [laughs] Yeah. And they—they definitely can, um... yeah. They can do a lot of dangerous—but, I mean, you know, largely they do things for good. They make—they—you know, she owns that little shop where she makes shampoos and bath oils.

Um, there are weird beats. Watching it again, I was trying to take a more critical eye. There are weird things in it with, like... this cop shows up to try to figure out where Jimmy Angelov is, in part 'cause, like, he's missing, but mainly 'cause he's a murderer.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I mean, he's not—he's not, like, trying to find him to save him. He's trying to find him to put him in jail.

Taylor: Right.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Um... but he does not believe in vigilante justice, so he also is not trying to just be like, "Oh, good, you—you guys murdered him?"

Rileigh: "You took care of it? Okay, cool."

Sydnee: "Excellent. I'm—[laughs quietly] Back to Arizona," or wherever he's from. [laughs quietly] Um, but he shows up and, like, for whatever reason, part of this spell is that Sandra Bullock can't lie to him?

Rileigh: Yeah. I don't know—I—if I missed where that came from, that's possible, but I don't remember that ever being a part of her love spell.

Sydnee: No. It's just magic thing. She can't—

Taylor: That's how true love works, right? You...

Rileigh: Ahh, right.

Taylor: You can't—you can't—[laughs]

Sydnee: [laugh]

Rileigh: You can't lie.

Taylor: Syd? Syd? No?

Sydnee: Yes. I—uh-huh. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah? Okay.

Sydnee: No. Um... no comment. Anyway—[laughs] No, that sounds really bad. [laughs quietly] Justin and I have a wonderful, open, honest relationship but, like—

Taylor: That sometimes is built on lies.

Rileigh: Sometimes.

Sydnee: [loudly] Every—every once in a while in a marriage you just don't want the fight at that moment.

Taylor: That's fair. That's fair.

Rileigh: [laughs quietly] Anyways!

Sydnee: Anyways. [laughs quietly] Yes, I will—I will definitely clean out that—whatever you're asking me to do tomorrow. I will definitely do it. Absolutely. Promise. Definitely do it.

Rileigh: Then you don't do it.

Sydnee: Then I don't do it. That kind of thing, that's what I'm talking about. Anyway... uh, so she can't lie to him and he's like, "Did you guys kill that dude?"

And she's like, "Oh yeah."

Rileigh: "We did."

Sydnee: "A couple of times."

And the next scene he's asking her daughter, like, "Scooch aside there, young lady. I'm gonna show you how to flip some pancakes."

Rileigh: [holding back laughter] Yeah.

Sydnee: Moving on!

Taylor: Well, 'cause then they show that, like, he—part of the reason he can't—sure, sure, sure, he wants to catch this serial killer. But also while on the trail of this serial killer, he encountered Sandra Bullock's character's letter to her sister, and fell in love with her through her letter? Because she wrote about being lonely and he was like, "Wow, this—this woman that I—my literal understanding of her is from this one letter... I must find her." [laughs]

Sydnee: "I must find—" which again, we're supposed to believe is because of the spell that he heard her quote, unquote, "call" in this sense and came to find her. And she, like, tells him this. Like, you know, "I don't—I don't know that we

can be together because you might just think you love me because of the spell, but it's not real."

And then later she's like, "It's fine." [laughs]

Taylor: Well, because.

Raleigh: It—it works. Whatever reason. It's fine.

Sydnee: I'm fine with it.

Taylor: He said "I wished for you, too," so there's the workaround. [laughs] If two people make each other fall in love magically, then it was meant to be. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] That—

Raleigh: So if you trick someone with magic into loving you, then it's not—they won't die from the curse.

Taylor: That's...

Raleigh: Right?

[pause]

Sydnee: I don't—I have no idea. I—I don't kn—I couldn't tell why at the end they were like, "I don't know what it was, but the curse was broken." How?! [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah!

Sydnee: How do we know?! Like, there's only one way to test it! Fall in love with this guy, and let's all see what happens!

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Maybe just the—you know, the—the ancestor who began the curse just saw what the other sister went through with that, with the Angelov guy and was like, "You know what? This has been—I've had a good run with this. I'm kind of

okay now. I've worked through my anger. I'm gonna stop cursing generations of my own family."

Rileigh: Or... it's like *Frozen*. And the true love was between the sisters all along.

Taylor: Well, that is definitely—

Rileigh: And there is no lover truer than sister love. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: That is definitely accurate to the plot, I think. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I think—yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I mean, 'cause that's—the final step to exorcise—

Rileigh: Ex-or-cise.

Sydnee: —ex-or-cise Jimmy Angelov is they have to, like—Sandra Bullock has to get in the circle with Nicole Kidman. And also they have to cut their hands and mix their blood together.

Taylor: Which always makes me pause because I'm like, "But you're—you're related. You have... the same blood." [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah...

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: That's not like—you know when you do that with a friend because now you're like, "Oh, we're blood brothers now!"

It's like, no, you were already blood relatives. [laughs] You had that! [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh... either way, I still find the movie very comforting. I think, as I have realized through both watching it again and doing this show, like... this might be more of an us thing than a universal thing.

Taylor: Well...

Rileigh: You keep saying "us," and you keep saying "we" love this movie.
[laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Hey!

Taylor: Rileigh would like to be left out of this.

Rileigh: I just—I just will say, I hadn't seen this movie in probably a decade, so I rewatched it. And it is... I wouldn't say I love it, watching it now as an adult and actually knowing—like, remembering the story. It's fine. I know what you mean. Like, on a day where it's like, I don't really have anything to do—

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: —it's raining outside, it's cold. Like, I might as well just turn it on, 'cause it's gonna, like... I don't know. It's fine. Put on in the background.

Sydnee: Put on your tank top and your giant sweater.

Rileigh: Sure, yeah. Um, but I don't know... how many times I would watch it over and over again. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I mean... like, I get its appeal. Like, you know, when you look at—even the aesthetics of the movie, it's—like, it's set in this beautiful ocean side town. Everybody's lovely. Everybody's kind of quirky and cute. Like, you know, it's witchcraft, and [through laughter] that's just... like, you know.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Everybody loves witchcraft! And, uh, you know, just... it's very—it's very pleasant to watch. It is low stakes, despite all the murder. Uh, still seems [through laughter] incredibly low stakes.

Rileigh: That's true.

Sydnee: Yeah, there's no—it's one of those movies where you know everybody's gonna be fine in the end. You know—there is no question, like, "Well, maybe... [holding back laughter] Jillian dies from possession." No.

Taylor: [laughs] "They all learn a harsh lesson. The aunts come back and go 'Well, that was the only way you were gonna learn.'"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Yeah, you know that's not the movie you signed up for pretty early. The soundtrack undercuts so much of it.

Raleigh: That's true.

Sydnee: You know?

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Which, by the way, it's a great—we didn't talk about that. It's a great soundtrack. I would highly recommend it.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Um—[laughs] anyway, thank you both. I enjoyed watching it again.

Raleigh: I did too.

Taylor: Yeah. It's a great—it's a great—I've been documenting all the spooky movies that I've watching in October, like, keeping track of them, and I was like, "Do I—does this go on the list?" 'Cause even though it involves murder and exorcism and witchcraft and, like, all of these dark themes, I don't know if it's a scary movie. It's not. But, uh—

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: —but I still—I put it on the list. I guess it still fits with the themes.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Well, Tey, what's up next?

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Uh, so I wanna talk about the movie *Jennifer's Body*.

Rileigh: Ooh.

Sydnee: Yeah!

Taylor: I very—I would say it was very mis-advertised as just sort of a... a sort of gay baiting exploitation film. But I think it's actually—it's incredibly mistreated in the—in the perception of it, so I would love if we could do a rewatch and, I think, give it the props it deserves.

Sydnee: Alright.

Rileigh: Well, I have never seen it, so this is a first watch.

Sydnee: I've never seen it—yeah, me neither.

Taylor: Oh, really? Oh, wow. Alright.

Rileigh: First watch for two thirds of us.

Taylor: You're in for a treat. I hope.

Rileigh: I'm very excited.

Sydnee: I—yes, no, I am excited to watch 'cause it's got a—last night we watched *Hubie Halloween*, so it's gotta be better than that.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Well, I will—it is a little gory for—I mean, obviously I'm warning you two, but for anybody that's gonna check it out at home, it's gory. There's a lot of gore and violence in it, but it's also, I think, a very good movie.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Alright.

Rileigh: I'm excited.

Sydnee: Well, thank you all. I look forward to that next week. And thank you listeners. [holding back laughter] I hope you enjoyed *Practical Magic*. And if you watched it and went, "Why do they like this movie so much?" At least maybe this provided an explanation.

Taylor: Try it with a few midnight margaritas, and...

Rileigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: Ahh, there you go. Um, thank you to the Maximum Fun network for hosting our show. You should go to MaximumFun.org for a lot of wonderful podcasts that you would enjoy. Um, 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."

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Teylor Smirl.

[theme music begins in the background]

Rileigh: I am still buffering...

Sydnee and Taylor: And I...

Taylor: Am...

[pause]

Sydnee: Am... [laughs]

Sydnee and Taylor: Too.

Sydnee: [laughs loudly]

Rileigh: [laughs] Yeahhh!

Taylor: There's a little—lost you right at the end there.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [holding back laughter] I promise there were no midnight margaritas involved in the making of this.

Taylor: [laughs] It's 11:00 AM.

Sydnee: Only thick milk.

Rileigh: [through laughter] Thick milk.

Taylor: I have had too much thick milk this morning. This is a false wake up. I'm goin' back to bed!

[all laugh]

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Speaker One: Macho Man to the top rope! A flying elbow! The cover!

[wrestling sound effects in the background]

[bell rings]

Speaker One: We've got a new champion!

[music plays]

Speaker Two: We're here with Macho Man Randy Savage after his big win to become the new world champion! What are you gonna do now, Mach?

Speaker Three: [Macho Man impression] I'm gonna go listen to the newest episode of the *Tights and Fights* podcast, oh yeah!

Speaker Two: Tell us more about this podcast!

Speaker Three: It's the podcast of power, too sweet to be sour, funky like a monkey, woke discussions, man! *And* jokes about wrestlers fashion choices, myself *excluded*, yeah!

Speaker Two: I can't wait to listen!

Speaker Three: Neither can I! You can find it Saturdays on Maximum Fun! Oh yeah, dig it!

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