

MBMBaM 555: Come Get a Sack

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Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme song plays]

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

Travis: Hello. I'm Travis "The Biggest Dog" McElroy, the middlest brother, woof, woof.

Griffin: Mm. It's Griffin. Hi, hello.

Justin: [laughs] It's such a delight to talk to you, Griff. We haven't talked since your— you got a new son.

Travis: What?!

Griffin: I did a preorder on a new son...

Travis: And you got a premium new son?

Griffin: I got great preorder bonuses, like—

Travis: Ah, see, I just decided to wait until they could fix all the bugs.

Griffin: Yeah, this one's got—[laughs] a glitch or two. Yeah. This one's got— this one's got a few— he needs a little bit more QA, if you know what I'm saying, vis-à-vis diaper stuff, but we're having— we're all happy to be—

Travis: A couple leaks?

Griffin: There's been a few leaks to the press on this one and, uh, no I just love him to bits, and I'm just really, uh, I'm stoked. I'm stoked to be here. Stoked for you guys; had a great episode last week that was big. And then um, you know, Yahoo set my fucking house on fire with me and my family inside of it.

Travis: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: [laughs] Yeah.

Griffin: Which was cool, then like, I was like, I just got the kid to sleep and you saw him dreaming and having smiles, and what's he dreaming about? I don't know, 'cause he doesn't fucking know anything. So like, I was thinking about that. And then the—and Yahoo came and burned my house down.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And I thought that that was pretty fucked up, uh, personally speaking.

Justin: They— I mean, you can't— I don't want to make too much of a thing out of it, but you definitely know that they were waiting until you weren't paying attention.

Griffin: They knew, yeah, sure.

Justin: [laughs] No question.

Griffin: They knew it.

Travis: Hard for it not to feel targeted.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It feels very targeted.

Griffin: Like, I don't know how— I guess I talked about it on the podcast that, you know, that I was gonna be out the following week, and then... Marissa? Is that the Yahoo— or did Verizon do it? Was it the "Can you hear me now?" guy? Who the fuck do I need to, like, intimidate to stop this thing? 'Cause I'm not done. Like, I'm not done fighting. If you think I am, then you— this is your first episode of listening to *My Brother, My Brother and Me*.

Justin: Yeah. Griffin is gonna devote every waking moment from this point on.

Travis: Yeah, he's got nothing— he's cleared his schedule...

Griffin: Yeah. And what's great about it is I have a lot more waking moments now...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ...than I did a couple weeks ago. So I'm not fucking kidding, I don't know what it looks like, this campaign. I've never really done one like this before? I mean, there was one time I tried to get the show *Ed* back on the air. And I [crosstalk] campaign for *Ed*.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah. I remember that.

Griffin: 'Cause it— that was the only shit that made me happy. And the only thing—

Travis: You did, for that one, you asked that everyone send a bowling alley to NBC...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: That was the first step and the second step is they had to change their— everybody legally changed their names to Ed. But one word, like Prince.

Anyway, I'm just so fucking happy to be here, guys. You did a great episode last week.

Justin: Aw, thanks, Griff! We recorded that, you know, a couple years back, but it was nice to finally get it out there.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, absolutely.

Travis: I have a— I have a bit of a big announcement too.

Justin: Wow.

Travis: Well, it's come to my attention that, uh, and this is gonna really be hard for you guys to hear. This is gonna be a shock for you guys to hear.

Griffin: This is feeling like a bit.

Travis: No, no, no, no! Apparently, there's some folks out there who don't think... that Sad Libs and Riddle Me Piss...

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: ...and Play Along at Home are funny.

Griffin: Alright. Alright.

Travis: And so I have decided – and this is hard to say – but to temporarily, uh, permanently, temporarily put them on hiatus.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: Okay. Alright.

Travis: And in place, I've got a new— got a new segment here.

Griffin: Alright. This is good. And Travis, can I—

Justin: No, you can't keep the dog down! Did you think you could take the dog down?

Griffin: You can't keep the dog down, and Travis I do want you to know that I'm going to be judging this, thinking of it as the thing that's going to replace Yahoo Answers. So a bit that we do three to four times per episode, so...

Travis: Absolutely. Absolutely. Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Bring the fuck— bring that fucking stinky heat.

Travis: I think you will see, Griffin, this uh, has legs.

Griffin: Alright, let's see 'em.

Travis: So it's called Work of Fart...

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: This is gonna be so... good.

Justin: I'm already fucking excited. Yeah, the dog is back!

Travis: So what we've got here...

Justin: Woof, woof!

Travis: What I've done here is I've taken some, uh, classic literary works, right?

Griffin: Oh, Jesus Christ...

Travis: But I've taken their titles, and I've punned them so that they contain a word referencing feces.

Griffin: Travis, this is te— this is a fucking bad idea, man.

Justin: [laughs] Dog's back. Don't [crosstalk].

Travis: I— I will give you— I'll give you the description of the book.

Griffin: Travis, I love you so much.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Do you know my love for you, the size of it?

Travis: Yeah, I do!

Griffin: Tell me how much you think I love you.

Travis: To the moon and back, Griffin! That's—

Griffin: That's bullshit, you fucking nutbrown hare. I'm not talking about that; I'm talking about how much I love you.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It's so much. I'd do anything for you. And that's not a lie.

Justin: Let the dog out of his cage, please!

Griffin: Dog, come on out and...

Travis: So I will give you a description of the book. You try to guess the punny title.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Wait, wait, wait. Stop, hold on. You're— okay, yes, I understand the bit. Yes.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Yes, yes.

Travis: This is the story of multiple towns made of feces.

Griffin: Yeah, so this is *Two Shitties*.

Justin: *Tale of Two Shitties*.

Travis: Oh, so close! *Tale of Poo Cities*, but yes, very good.

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: My wife—

Justin: It's not very good; we got it wrong!

Griffin: My wife listens to this show.

Travis: When you need to murder a poop that's been making fun of you.

Justin: Hold on. [mumbling quietly] When you need to murder a poop that's making fun of you.

[pause]

Griffin: [sighs] *To Kill a Mockingturd*.

Travis: Yes!

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Griffin: But I fucking hate it, though. But it sucks, though. Like, I fucking hate that I got it. It's comedy poison.

Justin: This is a slam-dunk bit. The show's back. It's all back.

Travis: Now, this is gonna be a tough one. This is gonna be a tough one, because it assumes you know this book—

Griffin: Like, we're better than dookie humor, though, at this point.

Travis: I did this book in summer reading, so I have to assume that it is well known and of it. Just a plain old anus.

Griffin: [quietly] Um... just a...

Justin: [quietly] Sorry, what?

Travis: Just a plain old anus. This is a tough one. This is a tough one.

Griffin: Wait, I think I got it. Is it *Ordinary Butthole*?

Travis: *Ordinary Poophole!*

Griffin: Shit, okay.

Travis: Uh, and this one's just a bonus one: a Stephen King horror novel that takes place—

Griffin: [crosstalk] books.

Travis and Justin: [burst out laughing]

Griffin: That literally made me uncomfortable to be in that bit.

Justin: Okay, now can I— can I point out something?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Griffin complained the most about that bit...

Griffin: Yeah, I got every single one of them right.

Justin: It's like fucking Deathstroke the Terminator. Travis could barely get him out, and then he was blown out into the air.

Griffin: Yeah, no.

Justin: Unstoppable. I feel like you're afraid of being on that wavelength, but you are deeply, deeply genetically connected to it.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Like, you know it's there within you.

Griffin: I know, but it's just—it's just—our comedy, it means a lot to people.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: [bursts out laughing] And so when we just talk about... just... my wi—

Travis: What—here's the—

Griffin: My wife listens to this show.

Travis: My worry, Griffin, is that we've been too intellectual for the whole time, right?

Justin: Yes, thank you!

Travis: And it—I think it would be nice if we had one segment that was just puerile...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That was just for maybe...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ...a lightly less, I don't know, intellectual—slightly less highbrow audience.

Griffin: [sighs]

Travis: We do a lot of *Frasier* jokes.

Griffin: Yeah, those are done.

Travis: And now Work of Fart.

Griffin: I can't believe you said that word, actually, out loud, because we made certain assurances to our audience.

Travis: Oh, you're right. You're—

Griffin: I just wanna say, let's not—let's uh, put a pin in it, um, and keep workshopping it. Ultimately, though, we're not gonna need to replace the Yahoo Answers segments, 'cause it's not—the website is not going to go away. It's not—

Travis: Is this denial?

Justin: This is denial. This is that stage.

Griffin: And what's great is—and a lot of people won't tell you this, is that if you stay... on denial, and don't do...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ...like, the least—the less fun stages of grief...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Griffin: ...then it's okay. You can just chill on denial, you know what I mean? Like, denial...

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Anger? Ugh. No one wants to be angry. Depression? I don't think so. Bargaining can be kind of fun, but Denial, if you just live there for a bit, then it's like, it didn't happen!

Travis: Way better than acceptance.

Griffin: Way better—well, it's a shorter road to hoe.

Travis: Yeah—you know, Griffin, I heard...

Griffin: What'd you hear?

Travis: ...that if you just—if you just stay... like, with the tab open for Yahoo Answers...

Griffin: Yeah. Oh, yeah?

Travis: Even when they quote, unquote, “shut it down,” you’re still in there.

Griffin: That’s it. That’s it. Last one out, turn off the... turn out the lights. Well, they can’t come to my computer and turn off my screen.

Travis: Right!

Griffin: ‘Cause that’s not how a computer would work.

Justin: They can’t rid of all the floppies that you saved the entire website onto.

Travis: Exactly!

Griffin: Can I start with a Ya—can I read a Ya—when I say “start,” this is the—now the second bit in the show, third if you count the intro and then Travis’ new segment.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Um, is a Yahoo. And I want—can I read it?

Justin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Yep!

Griffin: This one was sent in by the Wizard Ben Kantt, thank you. Thank you, Ben. It’s Yahoo Answers User Slip, who asks, “Could the president get a sick face tattoo? This post isn’t about politics.”

Travis: Oh, thank God.

Griffin: “Could the president get a sick face tattoo? Congress arguably has no power to stop the president from just hopping into a tattoo parlor and getting some rad tats on their face.”

Travis: No.

Griffin: “If they wanted to, could the president of the United States get their face absolutely tatted up?” And I will extend this to... full... you know, cheetah-sleeves, like the whole nine.

Travis: I actually think—okay. Griffin, I think that is actually two different things, right? Because imagine a president...

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: ...and like, I’m not talking about the current president. I’m saying, like, kind of a faceless, amorphous idea of President. Capital-P President.

Griffin: Yeah. Mm-hm.

Travis: And rolls up, there’s been—oh, no, there’s been a tornado.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Right? Devastation everywhere. President rolls up, looks around, rolls up their sleeves, and starts picking shit up, like with their two hands...

Griffin: With their tats? That's fucking awesome. Like, it’s so good.

Travis: ...and it’s just fucking sleeves all the way up.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like...

Griffin: I mean, has anybody ever seen President Joe Biden with his shirt off?

Travis: Uh—

Griffin: Hey, let me ask you—hey, hey, hey. Hey, guys? Hey, let me ask you a question?

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: You ever seen a picture of Joe Biden with his shirt off?

Justin: [laughs softly] Let's head to Google.

Griffin: Can somebody—can somebody—

Travis: No, no, don't google it!

Griffin: Can someone get me a picture of Joe Biden shirtless, please?

Travis: Can I have a Nude Tayne?

Griffin: Can I—can I have a nude Biden, please?

Justin: [laughs] So we've got an *Onion* article as the top result.

Griffin: Oh, then it's not. Then it's—they already did it. They already did the damn joke. Say, Justin? Hey, Juice, as long as you're on *The Onion*, can you check and see if they did a thing where they replaced the words of book titles with uh, poop synonyms? Just check if they did that one already, too.

Travis: Uh...

Justin: [crosstalk]—I'm hitting a paywall, guys.

Griffin: Oh. Damn it.

Justin: There's a paywall. It's so good, they're charging for it.

Griffin: That's if the president already has sleeve tattoos, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: You never hear about, like, "Today, the president went to the tattoo parlor and got a cool tattoo on his face."

Travis: I've gotta say, though, that if you're the president, though, and you've got that pull, I bet you could get Banksy to, like, do your face tattoo.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. I think you could definitely probably get Banksy to do your face tattoo, because I bet Banksy would love that real estate to like, say something—oh, but fucking Banksy, though...

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Griffin: He would say—he would write something like, "President Shithead" on him, but backwards.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah!

Justin: Oh, man!

Griffin: But backwards, so he couldn't see it. Or I guess straightwards, 'cause then he couldn't read it in the mirror, 'cause the mirror makes things backwards.

Travis: Oh, like, "War Pig."

Justin: Woah!

Griffin: Oh, that's awesome. That's great.

Travis: Yeah. That would get him.

Griffin: But like, from his perspective, maybe it's like on his chin, so when he looks down on it, it says like, "Great Biden"... on it.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Or maybe it—yeah. Maybe it's like...

Justin: A lot of people don't know that "Great Biden" backwards is "War Pig."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: No, it's one of the—it's the—you know that font where you look at it one way, and it's like, "life," and you look the other way, and it's like, "death." You know what I mean? Like, that kind of thing?

Justin: Ah, yeah.

Travis: And one way it's "War Pig," and the other way is "Great Biden."

Griffin: Great Biden.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Or maybe it's just like, a rhombus? Is that right? A re— where it's just like, a picture of a jet plus pigs?

Justin: Yeah. It's a Reba.

Travis: Yeah, a Rebo? A Reba McEntire?

Justin: [holding back laughter] It's a Reince Priebus.

Travis: It's a Reince Priebus?

Justin: [laughs] It's a Prius.

Travis: It's a Prius, and Joe Biden's looking at the Prius, and he's like, "Plane Hog"? And then he's like, "Yeah, yeah, yeah. Plane hog."

Justin: Regular Hog.

Travis: Just a plain old hog.

Justin: He actually—

Griffin: Man, I talk about Reince Priebus a lot. He was chief of staff for our previous stinker of a president, and I guess I didn't know the gentleman's background, but...

Justin: He's bona fides?

Griffin: He's bona fides, but um... he could—he'd look pretty good with some... tattoos. Let me see if there's a shirtless Priebus.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Can I get a shirtless Priebus?

Justin: That'd be great, a shirtless Priebus.

Travis: The biggest risk would be if the president one day got face tattoo, somebody invoking the 25th, right, and be like, "I don't know about this."

But I think that depends on what you got. Like, what the tattoo is.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: 'Cause if it's bitchin'... if it's bitchin'...

Griffin: Yeah. It's cool.

Travis: ...and you come back, ooh, then maybe like, the opposition's like, "I guess we should pass that bill."

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: "Oh, look how cool they look." Right? That could be a power—if he just comes back, and it's—oh, and it's bitchin'?

Griffin: Yeah, and that's—they don't talk about that a lot, of just like, "Oh, man, they passed this really unpopular bill. That sucks, but Ted Cruz looked so cool today. And so we had—like, we did his—"

Travis: Well, that's the realm of fiction, Griffin. That's never going to happen.

Griffin: I don't know, man. You seen that beard? That's a dude who doesn't piss his pants anymore because he likes the warm water on his legs.

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: He's moved on from that. Yeah, he likes big boy stuff now.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Like uh, he likes fucking—he's currently watching *The Wire*, and also...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: And he gets why everyone liked it.

Justin: He's a man now. A real man.

Griffin: He's a real big man. This man eats *ribs*.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: [laughs] He loves `em.

Travis: With extra sauce!

Justin: There's nothing he loves more than eating a rib while uh, he pees in his pants [wheezes, laughs]—

Travis: No, no, Jus—no, he doesn't do that anymore, Justin.

Justin: [laughs] He does, but he doesn't enjoy it as much anymore. He's growing out of it.

Travis: His favorite Disney park is California Adventure.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: He's a real man.

Griffin: I heard he saw *The Joker*, and he was like, "This makes a lot of sense to me," and then he got "damaged" tattooed on his head.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: And that's why they passed his big bill. I didn't want him to do it, but...

Justin: "It's me, Ted! Sorry, I can't talk on the phone right now. Me and my daughters are watching *Reservoir Dogs*, we're not scared at all!"

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [through laughter] "I'm not scared one bit!" [laughs, squeaks] "I can watch all the *Reservoir Dogs*, and I don't get scared even a little bit!"

Travis: "On a school night!"

Justin: "On a school night!"

Griffin: "It's fucking Thursday, baby!"

Justin: "Yeah, it's 11:15. I've got another five to ten in me. Don't let this party stop."

Travis: "And we DoorDashed BW3s! I got the spicy wings!"

Justin: [laughs] Yeah, not number 10s, but like it's a 7 out of 10 on the Scoville.

Travis: "Yeah, absolutely. I couldn't do like, you know, the Blazin's, but I—it's hot, man. These are not milds."

Justin: Some days... my distaste for Ted Cruz is the only thing [through laughter] that keeps me going.

Griffin: Oh, for sure. Yeah, last night, I was like, blacking out, trying to get my son to please drink this bottle, please drink this bottle. And then I started to actually pass out, and then I remembered how much I fucking hate Ted Cruz, and it gave me a real boost of adrenaline that I couldn't quite explain.

Travis: It's funny, 'cause sometimes I feel like my hatred of Ted Cruz and my hatred of Mike Huckabee, they like to fight. Like—imagine if uh, a giant gorilla...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ...and like a giant lizard were fighting for supremacy.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Except the end result was, "Which one of these two absolute dipshits do I hate more?"

Griffin: Right, no, yeah.

Travis: And that's kind of where I'm at, you know what I mean?

Griffin: And I really—I really hope this doesn't come off as performative. Gang, I really fucking hate Ted Cruz a lot. He sucks major shit, big time! Big time!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah!

Griffin: Um, how about a—

Justin: Get's me—yes—or a question? Is that what—

Griffin: Yeah, like one of them.

Justin: I was about to deliver one.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: “For the first time in my life, I have an awesome office job...”
God... It’s how long I’ve been podcasting, I can’t even say office anymore.
“I got an office job. My boss drives for close-knit and fun vibe...”

Travis: Ugh.

Justin: “I, however, don’t aim to be very social at work. The other day, I made a joke in front of my boss, and he said I should channel that energy more often.”

Griffin: Awesome.

Travis: Ugh.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: So fucking great.

Justin: “How can I come across as fun-loving and social when I am not?”
And that’s from Grouch in Grand Rapids.

Travis: “Hey, did you hear this one? Did you hear what Tom said? He said, ‘Where do—where do cows go to look at art?’ ‘The moo-seum!’
Channel that energy more, Todd.”

Griffin: “Hey, hey, hey. I know your whole thing. Quiet guy, right? No. Don’t do that anymore. I want one joke a day on my desk. I want you to come to my office once a day, and tell me a joke right down the barrel, baby, or you’re fucking fired.”

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "You're gonna have fun at work, or you're gonna have fun at home. These are your two choices."

Travis: "We've already got a Toby, we've already got an Oscar, we need a Jim here." And you're that Jim.

Justin: "You can be our Jim."

Griffin: "I just walked by your desk and looked in a trash can, and I saw all the kush balls I gave you yesterday to have fun with in the office. I'm fucking fuming, man. I know you don't see—"

Travis: "Are you sitting—are you sitting on a regular chair? I thought we said exercise balls. Did we not say exercise balls?"

Justin: "[softly] Hey, you haven't even opened the Nerf hoop."

Griffin: [stifled laugh]

Justin: "Hey, that's a Nerf hoop. I got it for you. It was seven dollars. Money doesn't grow on trees, and neither do Nerf hoops, but they might grow on your door. Just put a Nerf hoop up."

Travis: Uh, it kinda seems like you're always working hard, and you're almost never hardly working.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Um...

Griffin: It's important that we do both. I know you're meeting all your quotas just barely, but do you have time for softball?

Justin: Ask for 10 minutes a day...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: For joke construction...

Griffin: [growing laughter]

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Can you say, "This is fine, I will bring this energy. I'm gonna need 10 minutes paid, on the clock, to come up with a fucking *banger*."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: And then a five-minute cooldown after.

Griffin: Right. And it's just—they walk by your desk, and it's like, "What are you listening to there?"

And it's—it's funny standup comedy from uh, everybody's favorite comedians, like Andrew Dice Clay.

Justin: [laughs] Listening to an assortment of greatest hits.

Griffin: He's—it's—"Oh, man, Andrew Dice Clay again, huh?"

"Yeah, I guess so."

Justin: Yeah, exactly.

Griffin: Damn, I had to google the best—the famous comedians to do that, and I found a list, and fucking Michael Richards is number 12 on the list? Are you sure, guys?

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: [through laughter] The best—

Travis: Well, wait, what was the search term, Griffin?

Griffin: Oh, wait, it's—

Justin: No—

Travis: Well, no—

Justin: "Spiteful bigot—"

Griffin: This is the most controversial comedians of all time, and all of a sudden, this makes a lot more sense.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Okay, yay!

Justin: Yeah, it's up there.

Travis: Yeah, the fact that Andrew Dice Clay and Michael Richards was on the list, Griffin, made me wonder what your search terms were.

Griffin: [laughs] I searched "cool guys."

Travis: [laughs] "Cool guys to hang out with." Griffin's personal heroes.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "Folks with a real hardy funny bone."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Comedy like it used to be."

Griffin: Like it—

Justin: “Classic, like your grandpa laughed at.”

Griffin: Right. Right.

This sucks so bad.

Justin: Maybe there’s something—you know, you did crack one joke, and it does make you wonder, maybe there’s...

Griffin: Ooh!

Justin: ...a joker deep down inside you. You know, kind of a funny boy?

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Travis: Okay.

Justin: And you gotta awaken— why don’t you just try to nurture your funny boy? I’m just saying, do it on company time.

Griffin: Yeah, for sure.

Justin: To channel that energy.

Travis: Oh, this is good, because like, at best, you find a funny within, right, and now you’re another funster, right? But at worst, you’re not good at it, and maybe your boss will be like, “Hey, don’t channel that energy anymore. Hey—”

Griffin: “Hey—”

Travis: “I see you working really hard to channel that energy...”

Griffin: “Pedal it back.”

Travis: "...I do need you to stop channeling that energy."

Justin: Yeah. "You're too funny."

Travis: Well—

Justin: "Wouldn't get anything done."

I am kind of fixated on this sentence: "I, however, don't aim to be very social at work." That's a very interesting boundary you've set for yourself.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Like, you got to work, and you're like, "I get this. I get it. I'm just not gonna... I don't know, I'm not—I'm really not gonna connect with anybody here [laughs] really, on a personal level. This is the decision I've made."

Travis: I will say, I kind of get—so I am a very social person, right, but when I had office jobs, I would often times be, like, the first person there, and there was a certain magic right up until the first time I had to interact with somebody, right? 'Cause even though I was there, that time was mine, you know?

Griffin: Oh, sure.

Travis: Now it's my, like, hangout, I'm there doing the thing, and as soon as someone else came in and was like, "Oh, hey, Travis," it was like, oh! Oh! Now it's work.

Griffin: Yeah. Just working for you.

Travis: So I get that. So I think if I got an office job now, I would see if I could go the whole day without that. I think that that would be a very fun game, to see how long I could go without encountering another person.

Griffin: They don't have that option, it doesn't seem like.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Well...

Justin: It doesn't sound like that's open to them. You know what's—

Griffin: Well—well, hold on, it sounds like Travis has, like, a scheme.

Justin: Oh!

Travis: I'm just saying that, like, maybe that's the thing. The energy you *could* start to channel is...

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: ...a lot more uh, maybe doing your work from hidden places, from the vents. The work is getting done, but they never see who does it.

Griffin: That's cool. That's cool. And then they're chatting in the breakroom like, "Hey, did you see *WandaVision* last night?"

And they're like, "That show went off the air like a month ago, Griffin. You should learn some new television shows."

Justin: [giggles]

Griffin: And then you reach over to take a bite of your sandwich, but it's gone.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: And then you look over at the nearby vent, and it's sliding closed, and you know. That's Terry.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: He does great stuff.

Travis: That's Terry, the vent person.

Justin: Office bad boy and local person that lives in the vents.

Travis: [laughs] And wall person!

Justin: Um, how about another—do you have more Yahoo—I feel it's now—it's not a non-renewable resource at this point.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. Let me burn some of my—some of my fuel here. Um...

Justin: How about I ask another question? We'll same 'em.

Griffin: No, 'cause this one's—this one's really fucking good, and I want to read it. It's also from Ben Kannt, the Wizard, really cast a spell on me this week with these great Yahoos.

There's just a thing—there's an alert at the top of the page now...

Travis: Oh, no.

Griffin: ...that says that they're gonna shut down on May 4th.

It's shutting down on May 4th, but it's starting on April 20th, the sacred holiday for weed—funny stuff, it is when they are not going to allow you to write any more questions. So really, that's pretty much when it dies.

Travis: Does that make you think that that's their highest-traffic day, then? And they're like...

Griffin: Yes...

Travis: "Yeah, we don't wanna go through another 4/20."

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Do you guys think it's kind of weird that like—I don't wanna distract, but um, May 4th will now be the day that Yahoo Answers shut down, and the day that we did the worst live show we've ever done in our entire lives.

Griffin: Or that anyone's ever done in their entire lives.

Justin: And I feel like maybe we need to be a little bit—I'm starting to get, like—I *love Star Wars*.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Don't get me wrong. I'm started to get a little skittish about that date, 'cause this is the second really bad thing that's happened on a May 4th.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah. But that—it's hard for me to hold that against *Star Wars*, Justin, 'cause you know, *Phantom Menace* just means so much to me, and...

Griffin: Travis loves that flick.

Justin: We agreed them stopping new questions on 4/20 and then shutting it down on *Star Wars* day is fucking...

Griffin: It's pretty funny.

Justin: ...extremely targeted material.

Travis: Yeah. But I do like that they thought “We’ll leave two weeks for people to finish answering the questions that are already there.”

Griffin: No, dude. It’s read-only. You’re not even answering shit. It’s just like, “We’re gonna give you two weeks to fucking *brush up* on all the great stuff!”

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I hope the thing that you wanted to know is something that somebody else has also wanted to know, and asked on Yahoo Answers, and that helpful people, beating the odds, came to their assistance. You have two weeks. Good luck. The fucking hunt is own. Good luck, Rat Race.

Justin: [laughs] Uh, so Griffin, you have...

Griffin: Sure, yeah. Uh, thank you, Ben Kantt. It’s an anonymous Yahoo Answers user who I’m gonna call, um, Jeffie, asks, “Do all cowboys kill, or do some have a no-kill rule like superheroes?”

Travis: Mm.

Justin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Yeah. There’s a lot of bad—there’s a lot of bad cowboys out there who like, *Quick and the Dead*, they’re like, shooting each other, and they’re not getting back up.

Travis: Yeah. No, no, no.

Griffin: They are dead. Um...

Travis: And they're shooting each other in that movie without any kind of hesitation.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: As fast as they can, is kind of the thing.

Griffin: In *Magnificent Seven*, I think one of 'em, like, shoots a dynamite and blows up a bunch of guys, so that's...

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Those guys are dead. You can't tell me they're not dead. That's TNT.

Travis: Is this a, like, zero-or-all thing of like, what if a cowboy just kills once? Is that—then are they a killer, or are they just, like...

Griffin: Yeah, Trav, I would say murdering one person makes you a murderer.

Travis: Okay, okay, okay. I'm just saying that, like, on the scale, right...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ...there are probably some cow—like, maybe that there is a margin for cowboy murder...

Griffin: No.

Travis: ...that is just an acceptable level of like, "Well, that cowboy only killed five people."

Justin: Wouldn't it be cool if, like, more cowboy movies ended with like, the police showing up and they're like, "What have you all *done*?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "There are still laws! You can't do this!"

Griffin: Well, I think most of—I think the Old West police are in—are embroiled in this—in the—

Justin: All you needed back then was a star, a medal star.

Griffin: That's true.

Travis: That's true.

Justin: You can do whatever you want.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: What if the real cops showed up, and were like, "Excuse me, we're the real police, and this is a person with a metal star on their chest, and they're going to real jail."

Travis: I... think that there should be more cowboy movies...

Justin: Yes. Yes.

Travis: ...in which the cow—yes, period, but also that the cowboys do kill, but with kindness. And you don't see that in that many cowboy movies.

Griffin: Oh, I see.

Travis: Where the bad guy is like, "I'm taking over this whole town..."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "...railroads coming through here, this is mine..."

And the cowboys are like, "Okay! We'll help you move and clean up and uh, maybe we'll show you a thing—"

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: "—or two about what it means to really love."

Griffin: Oh, I thought you were talking about, like, cowboy hospice.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Which, I don't know what that looks like—

Travis: I'm sorry, how would that go?

Griffin: I am ready to transition to the next plane, and...

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: ...I want a tender transition, and I want to be surrounded by loved ones [laughs] and one cowboy.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Pard'ner.

Griffin: "I want—and uh, these are all the special medicines we're going to use, and it's gonna be a gentle, tender time." [makes twanging noise]

Travis: "You're gonna be pushing up daisies, but it'll be pleasant passing. Don't worry."

Griffin: "Don't worry."

Travis: "Don't worry. We'll lay you to rest in Boot Hill, with all your loved ones around you."

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: You see the Undertaker measuring them, and the person's just like, "Oh, thank God."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It seems kind of perplexing that more cowboy movies don't have a scene where they come and—and the cowboy, they're like, "Listen, there's a lot of bad dudes, and they're taking over the town, and they're running it."

And the cowboy never says, like, "Actually, I have a lot of cow-related business today."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Like—

Travis: "You're looking for like, probably a murderer is what you're looking for?"

Justin: "Yeah, you're looking for a murderer. I actually have, like, cow shit."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "To do."

Travis: "Literally."

Justin: "I know I've helped you out before with like, some gun-related activities and that was so cool, but if you look around at all these fucking cows, they're not gonna boy themselves. That's all I'm saying."

Griffin: Damn.

Justin: "I've got cow things to do today."

Griffin: Was there just one *really cool* rancher in history who inspired this whole mythos that was just like, "Oh, man, bad dudes are coming to town." Well, you need to get up to fucking Jefferson's Steers and Stuff, and go ask for Jefferson, because that dude is off his fucking nut, and he will absolutely kill...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ...everybody.

Travis: He loves two things: cow, and murdering people.

Griffin: He does—he has—he makes the good milk, and he fucking kills lots and lots and lots of people. He is fucking wild, that dude. Go get Jefferson.

Travis: Yeah. There's a reason that he works in a slaughter-related industry...

Griffin: Right.

Justin: It would be like, if in 200 years there's a movie where like, "And there was only one man people could turn to: the forklift operator."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Much like all forklift operators, he was a fucking crazy murderer.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Right.

Justin: [crosstalk]

Griffin: They would call 'em, like... forkboys.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Rowdy Lifto's.

Justin: [through laughter] Rowdy Liftboys, lifting [laughs]—lifting forkboys.

Travis: [singing] With a big fork on his hip! A big fork on his hip!

Griffin: Oh, shit, here he comes. He's carrying a bunch of barrels. What is he gonna do with those barrels? They're rolling all over us!

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Damn you liftin' forkboys!

Travis: He palleted us again!

Griffin: Damn—damn, dropped a pallet on my son.

Travis: [laughs] To be fair, my son was killing other folk too, so...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Motorcycle's kind of like a steel horse, if you think about it.

Travis: Oh, my God, Justin, you're right.

Griffin: That's awesome.

Travis: Fuck, dude!

Justin: God, that's cool.

Travis: Fucking rules.

Griffin: Juice, you say the coolest shit sometimes on the show.

Justin: [laughs] Yeah—

Griffin: Say another one.

Justin: Okay, um...

Like Frankie said, I did it my way.

Travis: Yeah! Fuck yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Right? That's kind of a cool thing to say too.

Griffin: That's cool in like an old Vegas... like, an old Vegas martini guy way. I like that.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Travis: Do you know any Michael Bublé lyrics, or...?

Justin: What?

Travis: Michael Bublé. He's cool, right?

Justin: I know some of the melodies. [hums, scats] [laughs] You know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Nailed it.

Griffin: Awesome. That also has big Vegas martini guy energy and I'm here for it, I love him.

Justin: I think I— let's kind of create a Michael Bublé character for the show *My Brother, My Brother and Me*.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Justin: Okay, so he does the like, "I feel like he's here!" And he's like, doing a little crooning. "Hey, guys, how's it going?"

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's a good start. What's his thing that kind of makes him a freak that like, one of our—

Travis: Not Michael Bublé, who seems like a perfectly normal person.

Griffin: You have really no idea.

Justin: Please don't say these things about any human being, unless you've thoroughly searched their... [crosstalk]

Travis: Right, fair, fair, fair.

Justin: [crosstalk] anymore.

Griffin: Um...

Justin: Uh...

Travis: Maybe he's a lounge singer who just loves to murder. I don't know.
[crosstalk]

Justin: [crosstalk]

Griffin: Hey, can we go to the Money Zone?

Justin: Yeah, we'll workshop—we'll workshop, workshop. Next week, I'm gonna come back with my [laughs] hit Michael Bublé character.

[theme song plays]

Griffin: Being a parent is hard, and...

Travis: Eh. I find it pretty smooth and simple, really.

Griffin: I love it. Don't get me wrong, these two stinkers, they're great. But it's tough, and it's even harder that—it's even harder when you're an entrepreneur, and...

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: ...so this is gonna be an advertisement for ZipRecruiter.

Travis: Oh, okay. We don't do that enough, do we? We don't like, right up top, say like, "We're about to talk about stamps.com."

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: And then launch into the intro. Okay.

Griffin: So ZipRecruiter's here to help you out, help out all those moms and dads who are trying to hire their businesses while juggling their families. Lemme tell you about CEO and founder...

Travis: Hey, don't juggle your—wait, don't juggle your family.

Griffin: No, 'cause they're probably different sizes. CEO and founder Talia Goldstein is once such [mumbling indistinctly] momberpener... mompfster... They put "mompreneur," but they have damn cut out a whole syllable.

Travis: Momtrepreneur.

Griffin: Yeah, maybe I know why they did that now. She needs to hire several matchmakers a month for her personalized matchmaking company, so she uses ZipRecruiter, and their technology helps her find the right people for her job quickly. In fact, four out of five employers who post on ZipRecruiter get a quality candidate within the first day.

Right now, you can try ZipRecruiter for free at ziprecruiter.com/mybrother. That's ziprecruiter.com/mybrother.

Travis: Do you think the people who make, like, the actual physical, like, swipe it on the end of the box and light a fire of matches, are mad that matchmakers claimed the term "matchmakers" first?

Griffin: Yeah, sure. Yeah. 'Cause what are they—what are they now? Well, a burn stick doers—fuck. Um...

Travis: I'm gonna tell you about glasses. I wear 'em. Griffin wears 'em. Sometimes Justin wears them for effect. Warby Parker is creating boutique-quality eyewear at a revolutionary price point, and that's so wonderful. I remember before Warby Parker, going to buy glasses...

Griffin: Oh, fuck.

Travis: ...and it being like, "How much is this? I'll just take the clunky pair, please."

Griffin: Going to LensCrafters... and they'll be like, "So how do you want to be bullied? You can decide what you'll look like when you're bullied."

Travis: And I don't know if we're allowed to talk about competitors in a negative way, but more like LensCrapters.

Griffin: Yep.

Travis: So Warby Parker is committed to providing exceptional vision care online and in stores, offering eyeglasses, sunglasses, eye exams, and contact lenses. Glasses start at just 95 dollars, and that includes prescription lenses. And they have sunglasses, progressives, and blue-light tint lenses, and they're all available at Warby Parker.

So you take the quiz. You order a try-on-at-home kit. Which I love, because they come, you see if it works, and if it doesn't, you send 'em back.

Griffin: Away with thee!

Travis: Exactly like that!

Griffin: Back into the darkness!

Travis: I'm wearing Warby Parkers right now. They are so stylish, so comfortable. And that try-on program, I can't stress enough, I have a giant head, and finding glasses that actually fit is a challenge, so being able to try them on at home is incredible.

And you can try it now. Their free home-try-on program, you order five pairs of glasses and you try them on at home for free for five days. There's no obligation to buy. It ships free, and includes a pre-paid return shipping label. So try on five pairs of glasses at home for free at warbyparker.com/mybrother.

[relaxed music plays in background]

Mallory: Brea, what's your reader wheelhouse?

Brea: Uh, women on a journey, space, post-apocalyptic roads, and magical food. Mallory, what's your reader wheelhouse?

Mallory: Werewolves, haunted houses, weird fiction, and uh, books set in Florida, for some reason.

Brea: We're *Reading Glasses*, and we wanna know what your reader wheelhouse is.

Mallory: We can use it to help you find more books that you love.

Brea: And avoid books that you don't. So whatever you like to read about, and however you like to read it.

Mallory: We want to help you read better.

Brea: *Reading Glasses*, every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[music and advertisement end]

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: [imitates rock guitar, slurring]

Travis: Oh, boy. Justin's drunk.

Justin: [slurring notes] I wanna munch!

Travis and Griffin: Squad!

Justin: [singing] I want to munch!

Griffin: [singing] Squad!

Justin: [sings notes] [normally] Welcome to Munch Squad, it's a podcath within a podcast...

Griffin: Woah.

Justin: ...profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. I don't know why I mispronounced that word.

Griffin: It's cool, yeah.

Justin: I've only said "podcasting" seven or eight times in my life.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: I've only ever read it. I've never seen it.

Justin: I wanted to share two great things with you guys today.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: The first is very brief, but I did want to mention – this is a headline on *QSR*, which is my number-one source for brand-eating related news. Here's the headline: "It's Gonna Take More Than a Pandemic to stop A&W."

Travis: Woah.

Griffin: Try it. Come on, they got good hot dogs, fucking try it.

Justin: Hey, A&W, can we actually pause for a second and talk about hubris?

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: I'm not sure you wanna invite, like, "Is that the best you got, universe?"

We're gonna talk a little bit—we're gonna check in on Kevin Bazner, who's one of my favorite CEOs in the game. Spitting fire every day. Just—here's a quote to give you a little bit of the Kevin Bazner flavor. Uh, sales started going up around 10 weeks into the pandemic, and he said, "I think we—every week, we are pinching ourselves. Is this a bump? Is this a head fake? Are we going to go back into the dumpster tomorrow?"

All: [burst out laughing]

Travis: "Listen, I'm a straight shooter, folks."

Justin: [laughs] It's just a great—'cause the implication's there that there was a week a few weeks before that when CEO Kevin Bazner was like, "Hey, guys, we're in the fucking dumpster."

Griffin: "We need to get the fuck *together*."

Travis: "Our only hope is that a pandemic hits."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "Hey, Todd, you've been working on that pandemic virus that we're gonna spread around, right? Alright."

Griffin: "To boost our root beer sales!"

Justin: 'Cause we're—okay. They went back to uh—one of the things they point out is that they stop making—like, when the Yum Brands owned them, uh, they were getting root beer in a bag. And it was coming in the bag, and they put it in the fountain machine, and um, now they're— 100% of stores are just making the root beer there.

Travis: Woah.

Griffin: Yeah. Yes!

Justin: They're making it in the store. A&W sells root beer three-to-one against other soft drinks.

Griffin: Fuck yes! Farm-to-market sarsaparilla.

Justin: Yeah, absolutely, man. Um, and then the—

Travis: `Cause a lot of that, though, could be accredited to when you go to and A&W and they ask you what you wanna drink, and you say, like, Coke, they go, "Really? Really? R—really? Really? *Really?*" Until you finally—

Griffin: Well, what they do is they say, "If you like Coke, this is gonna drive you wild."

Travis: [laughs] "This is like weird Coke."

Justin: [laughs] Um... this is just a quote from the article; this is not Kevin Bazner. "One thing that doesn't get talked about enough, especially in lockdown stretches, is how drive-thru blares as a 'We're open' signal to guests. It's the herd counter to quarantine life. Is it safe to eat at a restaurant? Well, 10 cars are lined up outside A&W."

That's a fucking wild—

Griffin: That doesn't mean—

Justin: That's humanity in a nutshell, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I guess it is.

One other thing that I—

Travis: They really referred to human beings as a herd they're lining up to the trough to eat, right?

Justin: Yeah, it's a fast-food website; what do you want? "Certain restaurants added a second menu board to handle elevated traffic." That's one way, an interesting way of helping deal with Covid. Here's another: "a Kansas location even created," quote, "bubbles..."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: "For employees to wear and guard themselves from the virus and the elements. They had a tablet underneath the plastic, and could talk to guests." And the article continues from there and does not stop. And like, "Hold on, I know you're wondering what the fuck we're even talking about, so let us pause for a second and explain the A&W bubbles that we trapped employees in for the COVID time."

Travis: I have never more in my where they should have interviewed the person that they were talking about than I do right then.

Justin: I need this one wild— 'Cause they didn't say—what that don't say, it's not like the one cat that invented the, like, you know, filet o' fish, and then McDonald's was like, "Mm, good idea! We'll do that, the other ones!"

This is just one wild cat that did this, and A&W was like, "Huh, good effort!"

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "Hey, cool!"

Justin: "Hey, maybe you shouldn't talk to *everybody* about this, but like, super good effort. We really appreciate it."

Griffin: Maybe that employee knew that Fauci was gonna roll in that day, and he really wanted to knock his socks off. Really make a good impression.

Justin: Um, here's the real story. White Castle launches birthday cake-on-a-stick.

Travis: Huh!

Justin: And then the last word in the headline is "desert," which, yeah, okay, I gathered.

Travis: Oh, not a savory app.

Justin: Oh, no. Uh, White Castle, a family owned-business since 1921 – happy 100th birthday, White Castle – they formally kicked off the hundredth birthday on March 10th, with special events and offers to continue throughout the year.

"This month, the fast food innovator unveils a few crave-worthy items." I [crosstalk]—

Travis: Do you—I feel—Justin, do you—you spend a lot of time in the *QSR*, you spend a lot of time in that realm, right?

Griffin: Not a—not a compliment.

Travis: No. Do you think that quick-service restaurants have used the word "crave" so much that it's lost all meaning?

Justin: Yeah, 100 percent. "Crave" is meaningless now.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: "Um, in 1927, Billy Ingram, the founder of White Castle and great grandfather of the current generation at the helm, invented restaurant

carryout by offering a bag of sliders that could be purchased specifically to take home."

Travis: And before that, nothing?

Justin: And what were bags for? No one knew.

Travis: "Hey, can I have this food, but I wanna eat it at home?"

"No! Fuck off!"

Griffin: "Can I have three hamburgers?"

"You're being fucking ridiculous. What, are you gonna carry one on your head?"

Justin: "Alongside that innovation came one of the industry's most recognized taglines: buy 'em by the sack."

Travis: [sputters]

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Justin: That replaced their old, uh, tagline: bring a hand-darned sack from home.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Fill it with our burgers.

Griffin: [sings McDonald's tune] Come get a sack!

Justin: "Today, the traditions continue to White Castle restaurants where a 10-sack of sliders is available any time – morning, noon, or night." Because I guess denying people the right to do that at a White Castle would actually be insane. Why would you even be open?

“There’s a special 10-sack offer that covers cravers for the meal, but of—they—”

Griffin: That’s a badass sentence.

Justin: This is really—like, it’s getting into AI territory, okay?

Griffin: Yeah, [laughs].

Travis: [sighs]

Justin: “There’s a special 10-sack offers cover cravers for the meal.”

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [bursts out laughing] [through laughter] I’m gonna try that again.

Travis: Yeah, say it again. Are you missing—

Justin: [holding back laughter] This is not one of my, like, little goof-em-ups. “The special 10-sack offers cover cravers for the meal—” [bursts out laughing]

Travis: Are you missing any words? Are you dropping words, Justin?

Justin: [through laughter] I’m gonna Slack it to you guys, so you can see. I sent you a fucking link—

Travis: There’s the—you know, the offers cover cravers.

Justin: No, okay, listen. Here. Okay. Travis, I’m going to send this to you. I just put in Slack. Read this—read the sentence.

Travis: Oh, God.

Justin: Just read it.

Travis: "The special 10-sack offers cover cravers for the meal..."

Justin: [laughs loudly]

Travis: "...but often dessert is essential, particularly when celebrating something special." Wow.

Justin: "So we've offered cover cravers for the meal." [laughs]

Travis: That's standard.

Justin: Mark your calendar for April 18th. Just write it up there. Nothing weird about it, 'cause White Castle is going to be again offering its new sweet edition, birthday cake on a stick. That seems like a wild promotion, but it's actually just joining the lineup of dessert favorites, which includes fudge dip, cheesecake on a stick, fudge dig brownie on a stick, and gooey butter cake on a stick.

The birthday cake variation features a vanilla cake base with white frosting.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Topped with blue, white, and orange sprinkles. This limited-time dessert offering is perfect for celebrating 100 years of cravings.

Travis: Now, listen. When it's late in the night, and I've lost all sense of self-control when it comes to eating, because, you know, life is hard sometimes, that sounds great. I would totally destroy three of those.

Justin: Yeah, it sounds pretty good. Jamie Richardson is the VIP over White Castle, and he says, um, "Throughout this year—throughout the year, we are inviting cravers to be part of the festivity."

Griffin: [stifled laughter]

Travis: Oh, thank God.

Justin: "So pass around the birthday cake on a stick, and let's celebrate the next 100 years." And now that I mention it, probably don't pass around a birthday cake on a stick...

Griffin: Don't do that.

Justin: ...there is a global pandemic.

Griffin: Don't do that. Unless you've had all—did you have all three vaccines? Then you can pass around birthday cake on a stick. Go nuts.

Travis: I like what that implies, because that implies that it's like a birthday party, and there's cake for everybody. But that's like if I had a birthday party, and everybody came to my party, and I said, "Okay, cool, do you want some cake? It's \$3.99 apiece!"

Justin: Guys, doesn't that cake look good...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It does look kinda good, though. It kinda looks like one of those uh, Little Debbies. Like a Little Debbie, but somebody—but someone fucking stabbed it. Like a Little Debbie that someone desecrated. Do you think—

Justin: Hey, folks, when you bri—when you're done with your birthday cake on a stick – and they mention this specifically – it says here, Richardson then added, "Please don't bring the stick back to White Castle. We've had so

many people, and their hearts are in the right place, asking if we wanted the sticks back..."

Griffin: [giggling]

Justin: "...for other birthday cakes, and we had to tell them no, the stick is theirs to keep. Which they have a hard time believing, because it's a pretty good stick, I'll just say."

Travis: It does not say that.

Justin: Yeah, it's all in there.

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Oh, man. Do you think if you're in the White Castle, and you like, take a fork and just kind of push the cake off the stick onto a plate, that one of the employees comes in, and is like, "We don't do table cake," and they just take it away from you?

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "No table cake at the White Castle. Don't dirty a dish. Keep a stick!"

Justin: [laughs] "Don't dirty a dish. Make some trash!"

Travis: I think we've only done one regular question.

Justin: "When I was 10, my 5th grade teacher gave us all keys as part of a class project, and tasked us to find what the keys opened. I was extremely stubborn, so I spent hours making my friends try the locks around my school. And when we finally gave up, my teacher told us if we came back in 10 years, she would give us the answer. I vowed I would return."

"However, she is a terribly mean teacher, and I do not want any contact with her."

Griffin: Hm.

Justin: "How do I find the answer to this mystery that has been in the back of my mind for 13 years while also holding a petty grudge?" That's from Ollie.

I'd love to get your guys thoughts on—

Griffin: Yeah, I got the—I have it.

Justin: Oh, you have it!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Perfect.

Griffin: 'Cause it was gonna be something like, you show up, and you're—but you're old, and—and she's much older now, and you're like, "Uh, Mrs. Hawthorne?" And she's so fucking—I mean, it's a real Trunchbull situation. And you're like, "Remember this?"

And you hold up the key, and she's like, "Yeah."

And you're like, "So what's it open?"

And she's like—it'll be some bullshit like "The doors of opportunity and the key is reading and behind the door is the—is your future, and you wanna be an astronaut? Use your reading key to the opportunity's future."

Travis: Now, Griffin, I think that that is uh, optimistic.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: That there is a lesson behind it. Because I am looking at this, right? 5th grade. Gave a bunch of keys.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Said, "The class project is, find what in the world this random key goes to"?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I don't think your teacher fucking knew!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: No, here's the—here's the story. The teacher comes over.

Travis: Yep.

Justin: Shows up at school, they're like, teacher's aide, um, Mr. Peterson... Lee, says, "So, uh, what's uh, the lesson plans today?"

And the teacher's like, "Fuck!"

Griffin: "Oh, no!"

Justin: "Oh, damn it!"

"Okay, hold on. Let me look and see what I got in my wallet. [clicks tongue] Oh, a key! Okay, yeah, I'll come up with something out of this."

This whole thing is made up. This is someone who was just stalling for time...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ...and who wanted to go back to—

Travis: Because why would they say “10 years”? End of the year...

Justin: It’s so specific. Yeah.

Travis: End of the year, “At the end of the year, I’ll tell you.” Right?

Justin: Even the day you graduate, that’d be another possibility.

Griffin: Yeah, even that would be better.

Travis: But 10 years is, “Uh, come back in uh, 10 years and I’ll tell you.”

Justin: They pick the amount of years that you definitely would not follow through on.

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: That’s actually my answer, is now, I think been proven categorically wrong, because you can’t—actually, it would be 13 years for this person, come back and said, “So what’s the key do?”

And they’re like, “It’s the key to opportunity!”

And then you’re like, “I’m fucking, like, 36, and it hasn’t really happened for me yet. So it’s not really that. It’s not really that. I mean, reading’s great and all, but it hasn’t necessarily helped me be an astronaut.”

Travis: And no one in the class—were they all the same keys? Were they random—what the fuck happened?

Griffin: I think it was just a drunk— junk— drunk drawer of keys. I want one sweaty kid to come running in like, “Mine opened the break room at the Kroger on 5th Street. What the fuck?”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "What's going on?"

Griffin: "Why did you have this?"

Travis: "Mine unlocked a safety deposit box, and inside there was some bloody clothes."

Griffin: "Yeah, this one— I actually got inside of Mr. Jefferson's Camaro, and I drove it. And I'm fucking 10, so like, this is on you, I think."

Justin: "You tell me."

Griffin: "You tell me. I drove Mr. Jefferson's Camaro, and I hit a building on it, and I'm 10. So what's the lesson here? Reading? Oh, sure! I get it now. The Camaro's like opportunities, and the building I hit – which was a hospital – is the future."

Justin: [wheezes, laughs]

Griffin: "Does this mean—does this mean—"

"Yes, you're gonna be a doctor."

"Holy shit. That's a good lesson."

"Yeah, for sure."

Travis: "Even with a criminal record?"

"Well, well, shit."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. "Come back in 10 years, when it doesn't matter."

Travis: [laughs] "Come back in 10 years. You'll be old enough to drink, and we can drink together."

Griffin: 10 years, teacher's on airplane, heart attack, uh-oh. "[shakily] Uh, anybody here a doctor?"

"I am." You hold up the key, and like...

Justin: [laughs] "I will be."

Travis: [laughs] "I have my doctorate in lock-smithing."

Justin: "I haven't, up to this moment, but I have a sneaking suspicion this is my moment. To be a doctor."

Travis: "Wait, it's only been 10 years since we've—great, so you're what, like, 21?"

"Yep, thereabouts! Stand back!"

Griffin: "Let's go!"

Justin: "Hey! Teach you how to do."

Travis: [laughing] That's dumb!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, thanks for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself. Griffin, it's a pleasure to—

Griffin: Oh, so fucking tired.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I apologize for the—I feel like the—it’s been a fun energy. I’ve got that fucking sleepover energy right now, and it is 2:31 PM uh, on a Thursday, so um...

Justin: I can’t stop looking at this stick cake!

Griffin: Yeah, the stick cake’s pretty choice.

Justin: Oh, I wish there was a White Castle around here. I’ve never thought that before.

Hey, thanks for listening. We really appreciate you. We got some new stuff, I think, over at mcelroymerch.com, if you want to uh, support us there, that would be so cool of you. Uh, we got a “farm wisdom” pin of the month that is fantastic, and uh... that pin, by the way, is uh—the proceeds for that pin are gonna go to the AAPI Civic Engagement Fund, which supports efforts by local community-based organizations to combat violence and hate. So that is a great pin for a good cause. Or a good pin for a great cause.

Travis: It could be a great pin for a great cause.

Justin: There we go, Trav, you got it in one, baby! Listen, I crawled so you could walk.

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: There’s an *Empty Bowl* pin, we got some *Taste of Luxury* gear. Hey, did you watch *Taste of Luxury*? It’s uh, on YouTube. My friend Dwight and I made it. it’s about uh, enjoying the finer things in life.

Travis: We’ve also got *The Adventure Zone*—a new *Adventure Zone* shirt over in mcelroymerch.com. There’s—they’re both really cool, but I am very partial to that tie-dye one.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: I think it's really, really cool.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: Um, and I have been doing some streaming over at my Twitch. Twitch.tv/thetravismcelroy. Playing a lot of fun games. Just played uh—just played *Animal Crossing* for the first time in, like, 10 months.

Griffin: All those animals died.

Travis: I hadn't gone swimming yet!

Griffin: It was like an elephant graveyard. It was so terrible.

Travis: But their bodies uh, had fertilized my peaches. It was a fine crop.

Griffin: They turn into, like, playground slides and stuff.

Hey, also, you can preorder the *Crystal Kingdom*, uh, graphic novel. *The Adventure Zone* graphic novel fourth in the series?

Travis: Yup.

Griffin: Uh, 'cause that comes out on July 13th, and you can preorder it theadventurezonecomic.com.

And uh, hey, thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" Uh, great track, great tune. Um, and go dig into Montaigne's whole catalogue, and enjoy yourself. Have a fun Saturday.

You want a final?

Justin: Absolutely, Griffin. Thank you so much for thinking of it.

Griffin: This final one was sent in by Merit Palmer. Thank you, Merit. It's from an anonymous Yahoo Answers user who I'm just gonna call Pip, asks, "Is Yahoo Answers going to heaven?"

Justin: [laughs loudly] Oh, gosh, my name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: [lowly] I don't... think it is. I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

[theme song plays]

[chord plays]

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