

MBMBaM 566: This is My Juice Spot

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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, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" by Montaigne 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 McElroy.

Travis: [dejected] I'm your middlest brother, Travis "Big Dog Woof-woof" McElroy.

Griffin: Aw, I'm sweet baby Griffin—what's wrong, Trav?

Travis: I just feel like we're in them dog days of summer, you know?

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: We did the live show, and that was great. That was definitely a high point. Uh—

Justin: Is it the one people can still get and watch for 10 bucks if they go to bit.ly/mbmbamvirtual?

Travis: Yeah, that's the one.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Now—now I feel like we're in them summer doldrums.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. You know, uh—[laughs] you know, Trav, I don't feel that way at all.

Travis: Oh, really?

Justin: Sorry, I wanna "yes and" you, but the family pulled in 70 million dollars this weekend, and I am just...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: ...so fucking stoked for these vroom lords. Vin, Michelle, Tyrese.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Luda.

Travis: Wait—

Justin: Everybody. The fam!

Travis: There's a new *Fast and the Furious* movie?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Uh, yeah, dude.

Griffin: It's called—

Justin: *F9* pulled it in, uh, with 70 million dollars, biggest film opening ever during a global pandemic that is still ongoing. Biggest one ever.

Griffin: Still definitely happening. Fucking Leonard Maltin said, "*F9*'s got me feeling fine," in his official review of the film. I don't know if the man has passed away or not.

Travis: My doldrums are cured!

Griffin: That's all it took, huh?

Travis: Now—now—now, Justin...

Justin: What's up?

Travis: Previously, I believe—I believe uh, back on maybe it was even as far back as Thursday – I believe it was you who was saying that there was a newspaper in Seattle that did a review of *Fast and the Furious 9*, and called it “The *Muppet Babies* of the *Fast and the Furious* franchise.”

Justin: Yes. That is correct, Travis. But that wasn't—that wasn't a bad thi—it wasn't a pejorative.

Griffin: No.

Travis: What does it mean, then? I have been thinking about it for five days. [laughs] What could it—

Justin: Well—

Griffin: Let's just—hold on, wait. This is so important. This is now a *F9* Watch. And we didn't—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: We didn't s—we usually say that at the start, but this has slowly evolved into a *F9* Watch.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: And we're here now. Okay, good.

Justin: Okay. Can I fact-check something real quick?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Rotten Tomatoes says “This is the latest film in the saga, the 9th that is actually the 10th.”

Travis: What?

Griffin: Okay. Yeah, I mean, are counting *Hobbs and Shaw*?

Justin: Are we counting *Hobbs and Shaw*, okay.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: That's part—that is part of the sag-a.

Griffin: That's part of the sag-a.

Travis: It's—it's canonical.

Justin: It's part of the Steven Sag-a.

Griffin: Honestly, they should just call this one *Fast and the Furious 1*, 'cause it's the first one that John Felix Anthony Cena is a part of.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Welcome to the team, Johnathon, you beautiful, invisible man. With your many arm bands—

Travis: Do you think he has a clause in his contract that he can't lose a fight?

Griffin: Oh, my God, then what happens when he fights the Rock? In the movie?

Travis: This is what I'm saying. We are working towards a point where the Rock and John Cena and Vin Diesel would get in a fight with each other.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: All three of them contractually obligated not to lose.

Griffin: Yep.

Justin: Um—[laughs] Rotten Tomatoes – wow, I’m looking at these box office results. They got a link to a vid here that says, uh, “Vin Diesel on the *Fast and Furious* future. It’s not over, and we’ll be back more formidable than ever.”

Travis: Yeah, no shit.

Justin: Yeah, that’s the name of it. Guys, this video is 55 minutes long. [laughs]

Travis: Woah!

Griffin: Hell yeah.

Justin: [through laughter] How is that possible?

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: [through laughter] How did he talk for 55 minutes about the fact that it’s not over, and “We’ll be back more formidable than ever.” Hey, guys, what’s our *Muppet Babies*?

Travis: What does that mean?!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: No, but here’s my thing. What’s our—what’s the *Muppet Babies* of our franchise? Have we made it yet?

Travis: Okay, but here’s the—

Justin: What’s our *Muppet Babies*?

Travis: Here’s my thing, though. Okay, we need to define what it means to be the *Muppet Babies* of something.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: 'Cause I—the only way it makes sense to me – and I've been thinking about it for 120 hours – is if *Fast and the Furious 9* features scenes of baby Vin Diesel, and baby Rock, and baby Tyrese, and baby Luda, and stuff like that. Otherwise, I have no context for what it means to be the *Muppet Babies* of a franchise.

Justin: We'll use our imaginations? I mean—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: In that sense, like, I guess... I mean, I guess the episode of *TAZ* we did where we were all babies and it was based on the *Muppet Babies* game was probably the *Muppet Babies*.

Griffin: No.

Justin: That's probably a pretty clear one-to-one.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Well there was also—there was also *Jeffy's Place*. The public access...

Justin: Oh.

Griffin: ...show that we did for a while that had—that was mostly puppets.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And they all learn lessons about, um, math, and how not to—and not cussing.

Justin: Uh, yeah, not cu—

Travis: And there was that—

Justin: There were four of the—of the seven uh, episodes in the first season, four were about not cussing.

Travis: Yeah, not cussing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And you know what, to be fair, I think probably one of the reasons this show didn't hit...

Justin: Thank you.

Travis: ...was we spent a lot of time explaining what cuss words were... what they are...

Justin: [laughs] [crosstalk]

Griffin: We had—we had—

Justin: That was a deep dive. Okay, this is now a *Jeffy's Place* Watch.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It used to be a *F9* Watch; now it's a *Jeffy's Place* Watch. Biggest problems with *Jeffy's Place*. Let's start 'em off. Let's do top 75 biggest problems with *Jeffy's Place*.

Travis: I would—

Justin: I mean, you gotta say number one, there was no character named Jeffy.

Travis: Correct.

Justin: And that created so much confusion.

Griffin: Right. And what—there was one named Jeffrey, but he was an adult human.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And was not in it very often, [crosstalk].

Travis: Who was not seen, only referenced.

Justin: Yeah. Yeah, he was mentioned.

Griffin: Yes. He was like God in that series.

Justin: But it was very clearly not his place. People kept saying, like, "Jeffrey should get a place of his own."

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "He comes over to our places." It's not *Jeffrey's Place*. It's *Jeffy's Place*.

Travis: No.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I would say number two is probably when we insisted on anatomically *incorrect* puppets.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I don't know exactly what we had in mind.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I think we never settled on it with the art department. 'Cause the designs of the puppets kept changing every week. That was probably another problem.

Griffin: Wildly different. Yeah. There—I mean, everybody remembers Hue Chewy, and he was just like this weirdly... super muscular puppet. And none of the other puppets looked anything like him.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And nobody even made a big deal out of it, it's just that people thought—people wanted to see a yoked—a yoked puppet.

Travis: And none of the—

Justin: We invited Brian Henson over.

Travis: None of the muscles—none of the muscles were in the right place, either.

Griffin: No, they were all over the—yeah, it was weird.

Justin: We invited Brian Henson over to look at the puppets, and he said "There can't be a shoulder here. Someone, get someone to help. There can't be a shoulder here."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "My dad would never allow this."

Travis: And he'd just start screaming "That's not how knees! That's not how knees!"

Griffin: "That's not how knees! Wrong!"

Justin: "It's not how knees, not how knees."

Griffin: I would say one major issue is, halfway through the first season, when the show was tanking, we realized that we could make inroads as having it be, like, a nice little bit of *McGee and Me!* Christian television magic.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And so we sort of pivoted that direction, but also we didn't—we also said a lot of wrong stuff about the bible and things, saying like...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "God only likes it when you yell. God can't hear you unless you yell your prayers." Like, you remember that episode?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: That was called "God Only Hears You if You Yell Your Prayers."

And we got, like, some feedback from the Christian council that was like, "Mm, that's..."

Justin: "That's uh, not actually..."

Griffin: "We don't—that's not it." Yeah.

Justin: "...what we do."

Griffin: I still yell my prayers to this day, guys. [laughs] Like [crosstalk]—

Travis: You know what I started doing, Griffin?

Griffin: What's that, Trav?

Travis: Uh, yell them through a trombone. It amplifies it even more.

Griffin: Yep—well, you learned that from *Jeffy's Place*.

Travis: Yes, I did.

Griffin: So, yeah.

Travis: I liked uh—well, maybe not liked, but I think maybe one of the problems was when we did, yet again, another episode about, like, not consuming household chemicals. And we went into details about where to find the chemicals...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: ...and like, which...

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: ...which chemicals might make you imagine weird things, and like...

Griffin: Which one's taste... good, but you still shouldn't. Like, they taste candy-like, but don't—you still really shouldn't.

Travis: Yeah, that was probably a misstep.

Griffin: That was a misfire, for sure.

Justin: Why did we have to start every episode with a huge title card that said "Brought to you by George Soros"?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And why did we decide to leave that up for 49 seconds before episode?

Travis: And he didn't give us any money. I don't know why we did that.

Justin: He didn't give us any money! It wasn't brought to you by him at all.

Travis: Wasn't connected to him in any way. I think we were trying to—we were trying to court him with it. I think—

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [crosstalk].

Griffin: [crosstalk]. There was the one episode that was an employee training video for Dairy Queen.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That they asked us to do, and we were like, an episode short, I guess, and so we were like, "Let's just put up the Dairy Queen video."

Travis: That was the best one, though.

Griffin: It was really good. It made me—it made a lot of kids cry. Uh, but you know, sandwiched between the bad bible lessons and the "don't cuss" series, just having kids like, learn, like, "And this is how you do the dippers, this is how we keep our sauces warm," et cetera.

Travis: Mm-hm. Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

Griffin: Good show, *Jeffy's Place*. When's that reboot coming back?

Travis: I loved it.

Griffin: Get back at us.

Justin: Yeah, let's reboot it!

Travis: And you know what a lot of people don't know, Chris Evans' first job uh, was on *Je—*

Griffin: Chris Evans' first job was on *Jeffy's Place*.

Travis: Working with us. We gave that kid a break, and look at him now!

Justin: I had—I had my hand buried up Chris Evans' ass for so long...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ...I couldn't tell where I ended and he began.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And that's how he got the job. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Best puppet I've ever worked with. Best puppet—

Travis: Oh, I see.

Justin: Best puppet I've ever worked with. Chris Evans, not a human.

Travis: Not a human.

Justin: Sorry, everybody.

Travis: An anatomically incorrect puppet.

Justin: "I'm throwing a surprise birthday slash anniversary party for my husband at the end of the year. Two days after I send an invite to one of his long-time friends, who we'll call C—" Ooh, a little intrigue!

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: I like—we so rarely get that. "My—"

Travis: It's short for Colonel Mustard.

Justin: [laughs] “My husband mentioned in casual conversation that he feels he’s been drifting away from C.” Hoo, man, this question is a weird one to start. This is quite an energy we’ve begun our show with.

Griffin: Cool energy, yeah.

Justin: “Considering how they’ve grown apart, he wants to let that relationship die gracefully, so he can focus on others.” [laughs]

Griffin: Hey.

Justin: Okay, Trav!

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: Um, who put this question list together.

Travis: Let’s get real!

Justin: Okay. Um, “Husband has made it clear he wants a clean break from C. C has just sent me an RSVP—” [laughs] You shouldn’t have done so many letters.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: “—RSVP for the party. Do I respect my husband’s decision, and go about the agonizing process of uninviting somebody from a party for no apparent reason, or do I play dumb and just let C show up? Surprise!”

[pause]

Griffin: Not that one. That last one’s the worst of both worlds.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Um, ‘cause it still happens when that happens, and it’s—and it’s bad with—it’s a bad thing you’ve done.

Man, this is—this is a tough one to do, because there's two, like, causes for the dissolution of this friendship. And one is just like, grownup stuff. You—you know, maybe both of you haven't been putting in the effort required to maintain this relationship.

Travis: Right.

Griffin: Blown off a couple of uh, invitations to things, not responded to a few texts, and then it just kind of slowly decays. And that is salvageable, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Um, if it's a situation where C has done something truly heinous, and your husband's like "I am done with C," then it—it's your husband's birthday party; you should do the uncomfortable thing, and uninvite C.

Travis: Well, I mean, it does say in the question that he's been "drifting away." And I don't think if someone was like, "Yeah, he stole my dog and blew my car up, and I feel like we've been drifting away." [laughs] Like—

Griffin: That's fair, yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I think we can pretty much assume. Now, I will say here—

Justin: "He Ponzi'd my dad."

Travis: Yeah, so I feel like we're growing apart. Um, I would say, for me, there's an added level here, which is that, just on a personal level, I do not care for surprise parties. Um...

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Travis: Because I like to—a part of the exciting thing for a birthday party for me – or any kind of party – is like, looking forward to it.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Travis: And like, planning it. I like planning it.

Justin: This is—hey, I’m—this is feeling irrelevant.

Travis: No, no, no. I’m getting there.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: So here’s what I would do. Here’s what I would want, if I were your husband: tell your husband about this thing that has happened, this misunderstanding, and then give your husband the option to uninvite themselves from the party, right?

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: And now it’s a surprise on the guests! Right?

Griffin: Oh, fun!

Travis: “Aw, surprise! My husband’s not here.”

Griffin: Yeah, don’t do that.

Travis: “You can leave your presents on the table.”

Griffin: This is—this is not—that—don’t do that. We actually had somebody do that once, where uh—there was—in college, we were throwing a surprise party uh, for someone, and she found out about it, and she snuck in through the back door, like climbed in through the window and jumped into the kitchen, like, “Surprise!”

And everyone looked at her, like, “You have taken everything from me.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: “You have taken everything—”

Travis: I like that, though. Reclaiming the power of the event!

Griffin: Yeah, you like that, but nobody else at the party *did*.

Travis: Oh, that’s fair.

Griffin: Also, the thing about a surprise party is also, like, “Surprise! You’re hosting this party. And you need to make sure everybody here is happy...”

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: “...fed... [crosstalk].”

Justin: [crosstalk].

Travis: “And you don’t get to go to bed until we all leave.”

Griffin: Yeah. I think that adult friendships are—are difficult. I think you reach a certain age, and gaining new friendships becomes a million times harder. And so I reach phases in my life where I’m like, “I need to start reconnecting with some buds, ‘cause I’m—I ain’t making any new ones!” And maybe this is an opportunity for that, but I think you—I do think you need to, like, blow the surprise and tell your husband what’s—what—what is —

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Or...

Griffin: There’s no s—or, unless...

Justin: There's two other things that can happen. One, they show up at the surprise party, and then C shows up, and husband's like, "Oh, it's you."

And C's like, "Yeah, I guess."

And your husband's like, "I—I get it. I remember." You know what I mean?

Travis: Like "You Ponzi'd my dad, but I still love you?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Like, "I forgive you." And then "Forgiveness." You know what I mean? It's like, it's back, like, the magic's back.

Griffin: Who says that—who says that—who says "Forgiveness"? Just somebody watching?

Justin: They say it—they both say it at the same time.

Travis: Oh, in unison?

Griffin: That's awesome, dude.

Justin: And then other people watching kind of, just, like slowly start muttering, like, "[softly] Forgiveness, forgiveness, forgiveness..."

Griffin: "Forgiveness, forgiveness." Yeah.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: It's just like—yeah. This is just like that one episode of *One Tree Hill*.

Justin: Yeah. [quietly] It's just like that one episode of *One Tree Hill*.

Griffin: Where it's that—exact—literally this exact thing.

Justin: The other thing that can happen is C shows up, and your husband looks at you, like “Huh?”

And you look at your husband, and you mouth the words “Clean kill.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: It’s like, “I’m not gonna let you let it die gracefully through neglect. I brought him here because I want you end this fuck—like, just fucking put the bolt right in its brain in this relationship in front of—”

Griffin: Done.

Justin: “Done! End it, clean kill!”

Griffin: “Hey, everyone! I fucking hate this guy! Happy birthday!”

Travis: [laughs] “Surprise!”

Justin: You don’t have to do that. No, you don’t have to do that. It could just be “Hey, everybody, I don’t feel as close to this guy as I used to, and I don’t think that they’re necessarily worth keeping tabs on, and I don’t wanna feel anything when they die, so I’m just gonna go ahead and do a clean break.”

Griffin: [crosstalk].

Travis: “And I think if C and I are both being honest, neither one of us has been putting the energy into this, so this has just become a wake for our friendship.”

Justin: “Ooh, PS, pizza rolls are coming out in three. Make sure you save some room.”

Travis: “I put them in, not knowing you all were here, just ‘cause I wanted pizza rolls. I hope there’s enough for everybody!”

Griffin: “And if you feel like you do need to choose between me and C, just remember which one of them’s got pizza rolls. Psst, it’s me. It’s me, [close to microphone] the real one.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [close to microphone] “Your real friend.”

Griffin: “Your real friend.”

Justin: “It’s my birthday so you have to stay with me.”

Travis: Pizza Roll Pete.

Justin: “You promised you’d never leave.”

Griffin: Can we stroll down that—that yellow brick road to go and visit the Wizard of the Cloud?

Justin: Sorry, you said Wizard of the Cloud again.

Griffin: Yeah, no, that’s what—this time it was intentional.

Justin: This show’s gonna become inaccessible, please.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Can’t make it less accessible than it is currently to new listeners.

Griffin: There’s a—

Travis: [high pitched, whimsical] I am the Wizard of the Cloud!

Griffin: No, Travis. Hey, Trav? Okay, actually, you fucking don’t—I don’t know why you thought you got to do—maybe because you love doing wizard voice—

Travis: I do the best wizard voice.

Griffin: Yeah, you—okay.

Justin: It's not a bad wizard voice.

Griffin: It's offensive, actually, because not every wizard sounds like that. Some wizards are just like, "What's up? Abracazap. Zookity-Zoo."

Justin: "Abracazap, no problem."

Griffin: No problem, not a big deal.

Travis: No, that's fair. You know what? That's fair.

Griffin: Um—

Justin: Oh, I'm spelling here!

Griffin: Hey!

Travis: Hey!

Griffin: Get out of my way! Zip, zap, zop.

Travis: [laughs loudly]

Justin: Galoosh, it's me, the wizard of the cloud! I'm spelling over here!

Travis: Hey, guys, [gravely, low tone] it's me, the wizard of the cloud...

Justin: Galoosh—[laughs] Alright, we're all doing auditions. This is fun.

Griffin: We're all—this is fun.

Um, so this is a—this one was sent in by Gab. Thanks, Gab. And it's uh—it's a WikiHow article that is titled "How to Make Your Cousin Jealous."

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Which is—which is awesome. I got a lot of cousins, and they've been riding a little too high on their horses, and so I wanna just sort of know—I wanna let them know, sort of, what the pecking order is, just a quick reminder.

Um, a lot of these steps are just about sort of empowering yourself. Uh, like "Always look your best." That's good in general.

Travis: Yeah, that's a good way to make the world jealous.

Griffin: Yeah. Oh—but when your—but especially your fucking cousin, who thinks they're so cool. There's another step here that says "Improve yourself and your life." Which I feel like I would need several other WikiHow articles... to get to just—

Travis: That's also a lot of work.

Griffin: Yeah. Um—

Travis: Why isn't one of the options in there "Lie"?

Griffin: Uh, that would be a much shorter list, huh? I think it would be easier to lie than "Number three: succeed in life. Number four: focus on school to do a good job in it."

Travis: Ugh.

Griffin: What cousin is like, "Yeah, let me check those grades, though, dum-dum! What?! A's and B's?! Shit!"

Travis: "Damn it!"

Griffin: "Become better than them at something."

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: Yeah!

Griffin: This says t—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: “If you realize your cousin likes to paint, why not take up painting too? Practice hard and long, until you become better than your cousin.”

“Ah, so Mr. McElroy, your gallery opening is a smash hit. Do you remember what it was that first drew you to—to your aesthetic eye?”

“Yeah, my fucking cousin was talking, like, *crazy shit*, and so I decided to become better at them at painting. And that’s why I made him open up a gallery next door that’s little and full of his shitty art, and I make everybody go from my awesome art building into his shitty art building.”

“Make more friends from school – maybe even date someone.”

Justin: Woah!

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: “How did you meet—how did you meet Mom?”

“My cousin was thinking they were really hot shit, and so...”

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, “Be more mature, such as being more alert, smarter, and acting older than they do.”

Travis: That came a little late in the list for me, I think, uh...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Because like, a lot of this has been full journeys of self-improvement...

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: ...based off of competition and jealousy, and then the list is like "Hey, grow up."

Griffin: "Grow the fuck up." If you do that, the rest of the list doesn't matter, because you will stop worrying about making your cousin jealous.

Eight, "Be positive." Nine, "Don't let him or her boss you around." Ten, "If an adult asks you and your cousin to do something, do it."

Awesome! Damn, you're fucking cool, cuz! Shit!

Travis: You really did the dishes! Damn it!

Griffin: Shit, I wish I was—damn it, I thought I was awesome, but you're over there mopping 'cause my mom told you to. Shit!

Travis: This is—so far, this list boils down to "How to make your cousin jealous: be better than them."

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Right? That's the obvious, right? "Put the work in." Got it. I want the shortcuts! It's my cousin, I see them three to four times a year!

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I don't need to *really* do this, I just gotta show up at Christmas, looking better with a fine partner on my arm, and say "I have *two* Nintendo Switches."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Right? That's all.

Griffin: Well, step 11 is a real shortcut, it's just "Act strong."

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: Act str—God. Y'all...

Griffin: That's a good—that's a good—

Justin: Y'all, if you were to boil down all the advice that we have ever given on this program...

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yep.

Justin: ...in the end, if you had to keep parsing and parsing and dividing, eventually you would get to "Act strong." [laughs]

Travis: "Act strong."

Justin: "Act... strong."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Don't *be* strong!

Griffin: Act strong!

Justin: Act strong.

Travis: Now, what I like about that, is that—that could be a personality thing, right, where you're showing strength of character. But it could also be that you've like, bought some inflated dumbbells that look like real dumbbells...

Griffin: Lots of them.

Travis: And you're pretending to like, curl them and it's nothing.

Griffin: And you wear, like, one of those onesies with the big belt.

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: And you're like, "Oh, getting gains!"

Justin: I did that—I directed a Superman musical once, and we had an inflatable chair onstage for this one part where Superman was really upset, to demonstrate his strength. And then he picked up the chair, and every night, that kid would just throw the chair off the stage, and it left me thinking, "Superman would never throw his armchair through his house."

Travis: That's true.

Justin: "I don't know why he's decided to add this in. I don't approve of this improv." And every night, I'd ask him not to, but every night, the spirit of Superman would tell him it's time to throw his chair off the stage.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] "Act strong," it goes on to say, "if your cousin teases you, makes fun of you, mocks you, or embarrasses you, or even makes a low comment about you, just ignore it and act as if you didn't hear what they said. Also, act like you do not care what the negative thing they said about you."

I'm hoping that step 12 is "Now, quick, get out of that room, and just fucking break down crying."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "Just absolutely lose it."

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: "And let it all—get it all out, and go back in the living room, and it's time to act strong again."

Justin: "Act strong, once more."

Griffin: "Act strong."

Travis: I would argue, WikiHow, I'm sorry, that that's "act resilient," right? Which, don't get me wrong, is a good thing as well. But I would posit this: if you wanna act strong, and you have a cousin that belittles you, you're gonna wanna get maybe whoever the cool uncle is, or like the bad boy older cousin, or somebody like that, right? And you're gonna get them in cahoots, right? And when they see you, uh, getting bullied by this cousin, they come over, and they say like, "Yeah, wimp!" or whatever.

And then you turn around and you deck cooler cousin.

Griffin: Well—

Travis: Or, you know, whoever the big one is. And then they start crying, and they're like "Oh, you're so strong! I didn't know you were so strong!" And then they run off crying, and then you turn to a cousin you're trying to make jealous, and you're like "Do you want some now?"

Now, you will have to pay your plant about 150 dollars American.

Griffin: That's the going rate for one of these.

Travis: Yeah. Right? But if you can establish dominance that way...

Griffin: Right.

Travis: ...you don't have to do any of that other shit.

Griffin: Um, it goes on to like, another series of tips, and the tips are "How to develop common interests. If you realize they like to paint, why not take up painting too?"

Travis: No.

Griffin: What?

Travis: This is ingratiating yourself.

Griffin: “If they notice that you’ve taken up—if they notice that you’ve taken up your hobby, and they say ‘You’re a copycat, I can do it better’ or something of the sorts; don’t react, just say, ‘Well, you’ve been doing for years, and I just started.’” This is literally one of the steps. This is like they’ve like “Damn, did we explain the ‘Take up painting, but become better at painting’ thing enough? No? Fuck.”

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Let’s get back into—

Justin: Sorry, it’s already out there. It’s getting clicks. You can’t change it now.

Griffin: But this is the next thing, and it’s the last tip, and it’s so fucking important, and I hope—we should’ve put this first, because there’s probably people out there making their cousins mad jealous, and they didn’t hear this very important thing, it’s the final thing, and that’s “Remember, don’t walk up to them and rub things in their faces. You just want to make them jealous, not make them hate you.” That’s so important.

Travis: That’s so important.

Griffin: That’s so important.

Travis: Also, I’ve never been jealous of someone who was trying to make me jealous, but I’ve definitely been jealous of people who are just flat-out better than me.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: So just keep that in mind. You don’t wanna show your hand, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You wanna make it seem like you care about your own self-development, and it has nothing to do with them. And that's the trickiest part. 'Cause when you get fucking kickass at painting, and they're still doing squiggles or whatever, you're gonna wanna make a big deal out of it. I totally get that.

Griffin: Yeah, but then you'll hate you.

Travis: But then they'll hate you. But jealousy and love go hand-in-hand, right?

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: Oh, here it goes.

Griffin: Hatred and jealousy and love and cousins.

Travis: I'm just saying, the competition is only fueled by, like, your desire to prove to *them* that you're better than them. So you care about what they think, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And this is gonna spur you both on. Jealousy can be a powerful force. Look at Picasso and da Vinci. Those two were always competing.

Justin: Yeah, always at each other's fucking throats.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: But you know what they did—but you know what they did, though? They didn't take it over the top. They were jealous of each other; they never hated each other. Because they were also cousins.

Travis: No, and they only kissed twice.

Griffin: Yeah. Um, here's what's fucked up, gang. The Q and A segment, full of laughs. The questions are, and they're plentiful. If you wanna see these answers, these "staff researched answers," is what they're calling them, you have to pay US dollars American money.

Travis: Woah.

Justin: Well, that's a bit—okay, for us—no one should do that, but for us, that is a business investment. [crosstalk]

Travis: That's true. We can claim that on taxes.

Griffin: It is "name your own price." It is "name your own price."

Travis: Well, that's a mistake!

Griffin: That price starts at one dollar, which I don't know that—looking at what internet people say how to make cousins jealous is worth that much money. I don't know if we can talk to our financial experts and say "Oh, gang, it looks like you wrote off one dollar on WikiHow. So we are going to be audited terribly for this."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "Hey, guys, my cousin is rude and disrespectful. I told my mom, but she won't address the problem. What do I do?" I don't fucking know. 'Cause I [crosstalk]—

Travis: Your mom likes your cousin better.

Griffin: I guess so!

Justin: Uh, here's another question. "My wife and I used to participate in a trivia night at a nearby dive bar."

Travis: Oh, miss that. Miss that.

Griffin: Oh...

Justin: Yeah, miss that. Miss that.

Griffin: Miss the shitty beer.

Justin: What were your trivia names, guys?

Griffin: Bathroom—bathrooms with no doors on the stalls. Ugh!

Travis: Trivia names?

Justin: What were your trivia team names?

Griffin: I don't—I don't remember. It's been so—

Justin: One that Dwight and Syd and everybody used to do was the Robert C. Byrd is [[two for trivia?]].

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs] That's pretty good.

Travis: That's a good one.

Justin: Uh, anyway, trivia night. "Prizes for winning rounds varied from gift cards to food and drink. We won a round, and the host of the game came back with our prize, which was a small scrap of paper that said 'Six shots of Fireball.' He said we could redeem it at the bar. Neither of us were interested in shots that night, but figured we'd come back later with friends. However, due to a global pandemic, we have not been able to return to the bar in almost a year. It is now reopened, and I would like to claim our prize!"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "How do I convince the bartender that I did not write 'Six shots of Fireball' on a scrap of paper? I still plan on going, and paying for food

drinks, but I would also like my free spicy drink.” And that’s from Does This Count as Money in Des Moines, and this is a good question!

Travis: I think, right off—

Justin: Now we’re talking!

Travis: Right off the bat, there’s gonna be some credibility, because if you were going to write—if *you* were going to scribble on a piece of paper “Six free shots of blank,” right?

Griffin: Fireball is not—

Justin: Never.

Travis: It wouldn’t be Fireball, right?

Griffin: Unless—unless you are our father, who has, from what I understand, taken on quite a penchant for Fireball.

Justin: He knows. You’re kidding me.

Griffin: He makes a—he makes a cocktail out of it, and like, Diet—like, Coke Zero or something like that.

Justin: [dry heaves loudly]

Travis: Now, hold on...

Justin: Sorry, I’m dry retching. The podcast will resume soon.

Travis: Fireball does have a cinnamon-ey thing. I could see that going with like a—like a—a coke with some grenadine, perhaps? I don’t know.

Griffin: I’m texting him right now to find out.

Travis: I’m trying to give our father the benefit of the doubt, but...

Griffin: Yeah, I'm gonna find out what this master mixologist uh... was working with in the kitchen.

Justin: [laughs loudly] It's worth noting, Mack McElroy has not like, *drank* drank...

Griffin: No, no, yeah.

Justin: ...ever.

Griffin: Yeah, ever, ever, ever.

Travis: Yeah. I don't believe he started consuming alcohol on a even semiregular basis until he was 63.

Justin: Not even then, really.

Griffin: Yeah, not even then.

Justin: Not even then. He told me—I visited that fool—[laughs] I visited that fool for Father's Day – you're welcome Dad, not that he listens – but we visited that fool for Father's Day, and he showed me a place outside his house, and he said—[laughs loudly] he s—every m—he told me, and my children. Right in front of my children, he says "Girls, every morning this is where uh, Peeps comes out, and does a crossword puzzle, and drinks a juice."

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Awesome!

Travis: So retirement's going well, huh, Dad?

Justin: [holding back laughter] It's not just a juice; it's an energy juice. [laughs]

Travis: Oh, boy!

Griffin: Energy juice, fuck yeah!

Justin: [through laughter] It's a caffeinated energy juice!

Travis: And he said that with a straight face?

Justin: I just laid down on the ground and said "That's so fucking depressing," because we share so much genetic material that that's gonna be me in 25 years, just like "Anyway, this is my juice spot. I sit and do my crossies—"

Travis: Every morning, I walk out the backdoor of my house, take six steps...

Justin: [laughs] Six steps, and I sit here and do a—well, for me it'll be, you know, kind of a hover crossword.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: A holographic, you know, Sudoku or something.

Griffin: A three-dimensional letter cube.

Justin: [laughs] Hollow—my hollow drink.

Travis: This is where I solve my Tesseract.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: [laughs] Oh, man. Uh, okay, so—

Griffin: Uh, what is the difference, though, between that and me having coffee and playing a little bit of video games every morning?

Travis: Oh, it's cool when you do it.

Griffin: There's not much.

Justin: You don't proudly announce it to my children.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] I love that guy. Uh, so the—listen, this is money, right? I mean...

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: This is the thing! This is money! But it's not money anymore. It was money the night that you got it, but now it's not money. If you go back there—if it's Huntington, like, there's—this is not the same bar anymore, first off. You're gonna walk in, and it'll be like Stumblers four or five. You're down several Stumblers at this point.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Uh, and it's not at the same bar. They do not have to honor that.

That said, I feel like if you... tell them this story, the vibes currently might be conducive to it working.

Griffin: In your favor, for sure.

Justin: Like, we all want that for ourselves. We want this to be a thing that happens. We want it for you.

Travis: Nature is healing.

Justin: Nature is healing.

Griffin: Nature's fixing itself! Yeah!

Travis: You know what? Let me give you a two-word answer here: act strong. [laughs quietly]

Justin: Act strong!

Griffin: Act strong, though.

Travis: If you just walk right up there, and you're like "So here's what happened," right? And you just deliver it like it is both a reasonable and totally justifiable thing, because it is! Listen.

Justin: It is!

Travis: You're not lying!

Griffin: It is, it's the truth!

Justin: You won! You're a winner!

Travis: You have the truth on your side. Deliver it like it's the truth. Don't shrug, "[mumbles unintelligibly]," I want you to walk up and say "So here's what happened." Tell the story, and say "I would like to, along with the rest of whatever I will consume this evening, claim my prize. Shots around!" right? And make it seem like the most reasonable straightforward thing you've ever done. Act strong.

Justin: Act strong.

Griffin: Act strong, everybody.

Travis: Hey, Big Dog, let that Big Dog act strong, you know what I mean? Big Dogs get their six shots of Fireball. Get that!

Justin: Big Dog act strong.

Travis: Big Dog act strong!

Justin: Hey, guys, Big Dog act strong here. That's not—

Travis: Big Dog act strong.

Justin: Just try it. And please, for the love of God, please follow up and let us know how it goes. Please? Please?

Travis: If you get the six shots, I want you to take a picture on your phone and tweet it @mbmbam. And just with the caption "Big Dog act strong."

Griffin: Yeah. And then—

Justin: Well, and then email, and tell us how it went.

Travis: That too, yeah.

Justin: We can't audio what you just said, Trav. We can audio the other thing.

Griffin: And then text our dad, and let him know how you felt about the nice, smooth flavor of this sweet cinnamon whiskey.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Let him know if it went down so smooth!

Travis: And it didn't. It's Fireball.

Griffin: It hurt—it burn!

Justin: Let's go to the Money Zone.

[theme song, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" by Montaigne plays]

Travis: Justin?

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: Are you feeling calm?

Justin: [blows raspberry] That's a fricking—I mean, I'm acting strong.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I can act calm. [laughs]

Travis: It's hard to act calm.

Justin: I did—you know what, I came straight from uh, a little—a great night's sleeping of last night into this recording. You know how I got it?

Travis: How?

Justin: Fucking listening to somebody telling me a story about a train trip.

Travis: Woah!

Justin: Yeah, that's one of the things you can get on calm.com. Calm's the app.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Calm.com is where you go to get it. Calm.com/mybrother, specifically. But it's an app that just helps you relax or get some extra sleep. So if you need, like, 10 minutes...

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: ...to just, like, please...

Travis: Be yourself.

Justin: ...you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You could do that. If you want to go to sleep with Matthew McConaughey telling you about the mysteries of the universe...

Travis: And you do.

Justin: That option is available...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Need that.

Justin: ...to you. They've got um, these sleep stories that I love. You know, I think—I think they got—imagine this: that you want to go to sleep, and what do you hear?

Cillian Murphy: [over recording] And welcome to my sleep story.

Justin: Yes, that's right.

Griffin: Oh, fuck yeah.

Justin: Cillian Murphy is gonna tell you about crossing Ireland by train.

Travis: Oh, shit!

Griffin: Fucking shit, yes.

Justin: Imagine Cillian Murphy just, like, walking you through a train trip through Ireland, and that's how you go to sleep. Of course you go to sleep! It's the best.

I love Calm, it's a fantastic app, and for our listeners of our show, Calm is offering a special limited-time promotion of 40 percent off a Calm premium subscription at calm.com/mybrother. Go to calm.com/mybrother for 40 percent off unlimited access to Calm's entire library.

It's not just the sleep stories. They got meditations, they got some nice sounds to help you unwind. It's just all a bunch of stuff to help you chill out.

Griffin: Just real nice.

Justin: That's calm.com/mybrother.

Travis: And you know, Calm, if you wanna get at us, we could do some sleep stories for you.

Justin: I would *love* to do a sleep story!

Griffin: Oh, my goodness. Yes.

Travis: I would love to do a sleep story about, like, putting together a big sandwich. You know? It's just like...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "[softly] And then I toast the bread just a little, just a kiss..."

Justin: Maybe you just could listen to—I mean, they got Idris Elba talking about the kingdom of the sky.

Griffin: You know, now that you're all blissed out, there's that letter that you need to be sending.

Travis: Oh, no.

Griffin: You know the one. The one telling... Dartmouth college, "No, thanks."

Travis: Nope.

Griffin: "I appreciate it—I appreciate it, full ride to be your biggest brain." That's what it said here on the letter. But I'm—I'm s—I said "No, thanks. I'm going to Marshall University, go herd."

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: So that letter's not gonna send itself, it's gonna need a stamp in it and on it, and Stamps.com is gonna help you do that. It's summertime, things are getting back to normal a little bit. Still in the throes of a pandemic, but guess what? Stamps.com lets you skip trips to the post office and save on postage! Which is really gonna set your summer on the right path.

It uses the same US postal UPS shipping services, but you do it on your freaking computer. And they let you print out official US postage and shipping labels 24/7. You don't need to leave your desk or buy any fancy equipment. All you need is your computer and a standard printer. And they offer you deals that are so sweet, like 40 percent off USPS and up to 66 percent off UPS shipping rates.

Travis: I would like to posit a new, uh, slogan for Stamps. "Never go to the post office again" is very good. Stamps.com, how about this?

Griffin: Yeah?

Travis: Stamps.com: skip the trip, from home you ship.

Griffin: "Skip the trip, from home you ship." That's—we'll work on that.

Travis: Uh-huh? That's pretty good, though, huh?

Griffin: I don't—it's a little—it's coming at me a little Yoda-ey? Yo—Yodo? Like Yodo, from uh...

Travis: "[Yoda impression] The trip you skip, from home you ship!"

Griffin: Okay, so—

Justin: You only die once. Yodo.

Travis: [laughs] That's my favorite *Deep Space Nine* character.

Griffin: Sure. So stop wasting time going to the post office. Go to Stamps.com instead. It's so much faster than going to the post office,

`cause it's computers. There's no risk, and with our promo code "mybrother," all one word, you get a special offer that includes a four-week trial, plus free postage and a digital scale. There's no long-term commitments or contracts.

Just go to Stamps.com, click on the Microso—the Microsoft... Clippy at the top. He's gonna show you where the microphone is, which is what you really should click. And that's at the top of the homepage, and you type in "mybrother." That's Stamps.com promo code "mybrother." Click on Clippy, he'll show you where the microphone is. Stamps.com: the trip you skip. Never go to the post office again. Flip it and script it—

Travis: Stamps.com—

Justin: The trip you skip. When I dip, you dip, we dip.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: You don't need to roam; you ship from home!

Justin: That's actually fucking way better.

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Except no one's ever described going to the post office as "roaming."

Travis: Oh, fuck!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Oh, Phillip? He's out there roaming. Roaming the countryside, looking for stamps."

Griffin: Ship your mail with a kickass scale!

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Ooh, that's pretty good!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: No need for a stamp store. *Lady and the Tramp* store.

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Yeah! We've lost it completely.

[upbeat music plays]

Justin: Hi, everybody, my name is Justin McElroy.

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Justin: We're both doctors, and—

Sydnee: Nope, just me.

Justin: Okay, well, Sydnee's a doctor, and I'm a *medical enthusiast*, and we create...

Sydnee: Okay.

Justin: ...*Sawbones*, a marital tour of misguided medicine.

Sydnee: Every week, I dig through the annals of medical history to bring you the wildest, grossest, sometimes dumbest tales of ways we tried to treat people throughout history.

Justin: And lately we do a lot of modern fake medicine, because everything's a disaster. But it's slightly less of a disaster every Friday, right here on Maximumfun.org as we bring you *Sawbones*, a marital tour of misguided medicine. And remember...

Sydnee: Don't drill a hole in your head.

[music and advertisement end]

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Griffin: Oh!

Justin: [imitates rock guitar]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [gruff voice] I wanna munch!

Travis: Woah!

Justin: [low, growling voice] [unintelligible] Munch!

Travis: [hesitantly] Squad.

Justin: [low, gravelly voice] From the depths of hell, you have unleashed me.

Griffin: Can we—I'm so excited to hear this Munch Squad. Can I just get really quick, really quick, as I did text Dad "Hey, what was that cocktail you ate with Fireball in it?"

And he responded... [holding back laughter] "Cherry Coke Zero and freeball." And then he texted, "Fireball." So...

Justin: [wheezing laughter]

Griffin: He's already—

Justin: But he calls it—he calls it the freeball.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: He's a couple freeballs deep at this point.

Justin: Yeah. Um, I actually have like, kind of a survey of stuff.

Griffin: Oh, good!

Justin: Which is like—a lot of people have been sending 'em in. I haven't done one in a long time...

Griffin: [muffled laugh]

Justin: So I just wanted to mention—'cause Munch Squad is renewed for another season, so I've been really excited.

Travis: Aw, nice!

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Congrats!

Justin: Yeah, we got brought back. Uh, so thanks to Ryan and Matt for submitting some of these, and uh, so just real quick—just some quick—quick ones, alright?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Number one – and I saw this on one of my main sites for news, and I was furious—like, how dare—okay, so this is the story. Papa Johns San Antonio provides Teacher Appreciation pizza party.

Hey, you released a news story about how you did a pizza party?! You're Papa Johns!

Griffin: That's pretty cool!

Justin: "They donated pizzas, ending the school year on a high note for two deserving schools in Edgewood ISD, Winston Elementary School and ET Wrenn Middle school. Donations were made in the form of pizza parties and

—” and this is the reason I’m bringing this to you. Because you’re right, Griffin – the more I thought about it, I was like, you know, I think it’s kind of wild to toot your own pizza horn, but this is why corporations do charity, right? They want the attention, and I’m giving it to them, and the cycle is complete.

Travis: I don’t know, it’s kind of a cynical way of looking at it.

Justin: So kids get a free pizza, and the—well, the wheel keeps on spinning.

But here’s the part where I had to stop for a second. “Donations were made in the form of pizza parties and a visit from Mr. Slice...”

Travis: Huh?

Justin: “...the franchise mascot.”

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Hey...

Griffin: Hey.

Justin: Wait a minute? [laughs quietly]

Travis: Wow.

Justin: Can we all—

Griffin: Did we just—

Justin: Sorry, did you say “The Papa Johns mascot”?

Travis: No, Justin—

Griffin: *Mr. Slice?*

Justin: Mr. Slice?

Travis: I would actually say it's even wilder than that. This is a specific franchise in San Antonio that said "Hey, do you know how Papa Johns doesn't have a mascot? Fuck that!"

Griffin: No, Trav—

Travis: "We do!"

Justin: No, Travis, no, actually. It says "the franchise mascot." It's the mascot of Papa Johns, Mr. Slice.

Travis: Okay, but I would argue saying "the franchise" means that location.

Justin: No, sir. No, sir. I'm here to tell you that there is a mascot of Papa Johns pizza...

Travis: Get the fuck out.

Justin: And his name is Mr. Slice!

Travis: I gotta look this up. What's he look like?

Justin: His name is M—no, you don't need to look it up! I'm here, just shut the fuck up!

Griffin: He's showing you, he's telling you.

Justin: I'm telling you, I'm painting you a picture. His name is Mr. Slice. He is—

Travis: [chanting] His name is Mr. Slice! His name is Mr. Slice!

Justin: His name is Mr. Sli—he has—he's shaped like a giant piece of pizza.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: And it looks a little—like, 'cause it's impossible to make a good triangle costume, he looks a little deflated. His name is Mr. Slice. And it—I will say it is kind of hilarious that they said “Part of our *donation*—part of our donation is a visit from Mr. Slice, the franchise mascot.”

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: So if I search “Mr. Slice Papa Johns...” the first result is a tweet from 2017, where Papa Johns is talking about a Spotify playlist that Mr. Slice put together.

Griffin: Okay...

Justin: That's the top result. The one right after that is a Papa Johns Mr. Slice costume for sale on eBay.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Mm...

Justin: This is your storied character? This is your franchise mascot? Mr. Slice?

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Here's what's sus to me: Papa John resigned in summer 2018. So it feels like maybe a year before, Papa Johns was like, “Papa John Shatner for this world. We gotta get someone new in here, fresh blood, fresh meat, fresh sauce.”

Justin: [laughs softly] Travis, you've just sent us a link to a video of someone dressed as Mr. Slice making dough.

Travis: Uh-huh!

Justin: Slapping dough, actually, as the video describes it.

Griffin: Well, wait, this video's—this video was posted on my birthday, 2010.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Okay, so here's what I need you to do. We have to move on to other stories, but—

Travis: Do we?

Justin: Please tweet at Papa Johns and Shaq, and ask `em where the fuck Mr. Slice is. I wanna see these brands—don't say fuck, `cause the brands won't engage with you if you use profanity.

Travis: Oh, right, right, right.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But let's—

Travis: We talked about that on *Jeffy's Place*.

Justin: [crosstalk] talking about Mr. Slice, because where's Mr. Slice?

Griffin: Where are they hiding him?

Travis: Now, I just—one last thing that I will say too, looking at all the pictures I can find of this costume, you would think a very large brand would figure out how to structure a mascot costume so that it doesn't look like a melting Rocket Pop.

Justin: No, this is what I'm saying. It's im—it's a—it's a bad costume and I see why they killed him. But please bring him back. We all deserve it. It's been a tough quarantine for everybody.

Travis: It doesn't seem like he's dead, it just seems like he's on the run, hiding in San Antonio. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. Real quick, just wanted to—this isn't a joke, I have nothing to read about it. I just feel like it's really important that we're all united in trying to keep tabs on Kraft Heinz Canada.

Travis: Mm-hm?

Griffin: Oh, no.

Justin: Because everybody knows that they have been getting buck wild. Um, constantly, just constant buck wild attitudes. Um, and I do wanna say that this week, they decided to churn out six different flavor boosts for KD, which is, of course, Kraft dinner.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: They got six different flavor boosts for you to just sort of enjoy. Um, and let's—let's talk about 'em. First off, when they tweet about these, they have to do the tweet in English and in French, which...

Griffin: Cool!

Justin: ...is nice. I wish everybody had the multiple languages for everybody to enjoy this great news that they're doing some KD flavor boosts. First up i—so the thing is, you make the KD – it's mac and cheese, by the way, Kraft dinner...

Travis: Ohh!

Justin: Yeah. Yeah. You make the KD, and then you put in a flavor boost like buffalo wings. Eh, [crosstalk] see that coming, don't we?

Travis: Okay. Well, it's a good one, though.

Justin: Jalapeno.

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Alright!

Justin: Spicy KD.

Griffin: Fun!

Justin: Love that.

Travis: I want a KD that hurts.

Justin: Get this one, get this one: poutine.

Travis: Ooh!

Griffin: Okay, it makes sense for me.

Justin: Yeah. And then we got ghost pepper.

Travis: Ooh, boy.

Griffin: Oh, that's a real—feels a little...

Justin: That's our third spicy one.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I think they're saying it should be spicy.

Travis: But why did—okay. I said I want a KD that hurts, but not KD that kills.

Justin: Yeah. It's a painful, brutal KD. Next one – and this one, y'all, I can't stop thinking about buttered chicken.

Travis: Oh!

Justin: Buttered chicken KD?

Griffin: Fuck yeah!

Travis: Hell yes!

Griffin: Are you kidding me? These are good boosts, Justin! This is—

Justin: That's a good boost, right?

Griffin: If the sixth one isn't wild, this is one of those rare Munch Squads where I'm like, yeah, you get it, Kraft.

Justin: Yeah, well, it's cotton candy.

Travis: Huh!

Griffin: [bursts out laughing]

Travis: From downtown!

Justin: Guys, you all—Kraft Heinz Canada can't fucking help themselves.

Griffin: No.

Justin: They get so close to greatness, to immortality, and then it's just snatched away from them by something like KD cotton candy.

Travis: Doesn't that feel like someone announced six, and then they were like, "We said five! No, we said fi—oh, fuck."

Griffin: "We said—oh, shit."

Justin: And there's no shame. Listen to this: "[French accent] Notre nouveau Flavour Boost Barbe a papa transformera votre KD en sucrerie."

[normally] Alright, never mind, let me try the English. "Our new cotton candy flavor boost will turn your KD pink and sweet. Just make KD, stir in the flavor boost, and you got yourself dessert KD for your supper KD."

Travis: Okay! Well.

Griffin: Okay...

Travis: Can I just say right now? If I handed Bebe and Dot some fucking cotton candy KD, they'd lose it.

Griffin: They'd—yeah.

Justin: Okay, this is—okay, wait a minute. I think I can... everybody, this is really important, everybody needs to calm down, please. I think I can get them... I think I can get them to send this KD to my house!

Travis: [gasps loudly]

Justin: Hold on! Alright, everybody, I don't want anybody to panic, but I'm very clo—I've added it to my checkout thing.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: It's letting me input my address.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: You are setting such a dangerous precedent.

Justin: Why—sorry, say again?

Griffin: You're setting such a dangerous precedent.

Travis: You're ordering it right now, aren't you?

Justin: I'm trying to, Travis, if somebody would stop distracting me!

Griffin: Get some of that poutine.

Travis: While Justin is ordering that, I just want everyone to know, because I saw some people tweeting about it and emailing about it. Snopes disproved Mayoreo. Heinz Mayoreo is not real.

Griffin: No, of course not.

Travis: It got disproven by Snopes.

Justin: Wait, what? What are you talking about?

Travis: There was a viral thing about Heinz releasing a combination sauce that was a combination of mayo-nnaise and Oreo, and it was not real.

Justin: Damn.

Griffin: Of course that was fake.

Justin: Damn. Guys, I have terrible news.

Griffin: No, Juice!

Justin: Shipping not available for the selected address.

Griffin: Garbage!

Travis: Do you know anyone in Canada that you could order—

Justin: No!

Griffin: Shit.

Justin: Wait, maybe *Stop Podcasting Yourself*? I don't have their phone num—I don't have their phone numbers.

Griffin: Call the *Stop Podcasting Yourself*. Call—call *Stop Podcasting Yourself* HQ, say “We need you to do—we need you guys to become old-timey rumrunners...”

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: “...but for sweet cheese.”

Travis: “We’ll meet you in Chicago.”

Justin: Last one, real quick. You guys ever go to Baskin-Robbins?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Sure!

Travis: They got a lot of flavors.

Justin: Get ready to slime your summer...

Travis: What?

Justin: At B—at BR. “With the warm weather rolling in and summer on the horizon, Baskin-Robbins—” don’t you love—fucking every one of these we’ve ever done for ice cream, they always have to be like “Getting pretty warm outside! Wouldn’t a scoop be good?”

Griffin: [bursts out laughing] “I want to remind you...”

Justin: Fucking mid-February, these guys are like, “[hoarsely] You know, it’ll be warm before you know it. Wouldn’t a scoop be good?”

Griffin: [laughs] “Our cold stuff feels good on hot... days.”

Justin: [hoarse, labored] Hey, it’s June! You know what that means? A scoop would be pretty good!

Travis: Now, what—now, if they wanted to get wild... hot ice cream for cold days.

Justin: Hot ice cream for cold days, thank you! “With the warm weather rolling in and summer on the horizon, Baskin-Robbins is upping the ante on fun this June with a new sour berry slime topping.”

Travis: Ooh.

Justin: “And a new flavor of the month: summertime lime.”

Griffin: Mm!

Justin: “Sour berry slime is a bright green topping that adds a refreshingly sweet and slightly sour flavor to any scoop...”

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: “...or shake. Guests can slime their Baskin-Robbins scoop or shake for 99 cents, or take home their own bottle of sour berry slime home for \$6.99.” \$6.99 sour berry slime.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: \$6.99 sour berry slime on my summertime lime? Sounds pretty fine!

Griffin: This is, um—

Justin: A playf—wait, hold on.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Hey, shut up.

Justin: "A playful pair with sour berry slime, the June flavor of the month is a lively citrus scoop [holding back laughter] that's just begging to be slimed!"

Travis: [laughs] Oh, God!

Griffin: God Almighty.

Travis: Oh, no, when you say it like that!

Justin: [laughs loudly] Take another pass, Baskin-Robbins! You didn't get it!

Travis: That sounds like something you would say to get kicked off of Twitter.

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah.

Justin: "Baskin-Robbins is bringing out the kid in all of us. [laughs] This summer..."

Travis: Jesus!

Justin: "...with the introduction of delicious and edible sour berry slime."

Travis: I hope its edible!

Justin: Delicious and—[laughs] delicious and inedible!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Candles.

Travis: "Yeah, put it all over! Don't—don't eat it!"

Justin: "Don't eat it! How does it taste?"

"Delicious."

"We're excited to offer this unexpected and refreshing treat to help everyone get their slime on [through laughter] this summer." [laughs]

Griffin: Terrible.

Justin: Man, you go down to fucking Key West, those kids are getting their slime on this summer, no question.

Griffin: For sure.

Justin: Absolutely. Spring break? "Take a break with your ev—" God, this is bad. [inhales deeply] Okay. "Take a break from your everyday routine with an exciting and satisfyingly gooey new way to—" [wheezes]

Griffin: Wow!

Justin: "To experience slime like never before!"

Griffin: I should *hope so!*

Travis: "Hey, Derek, can we talk? I'm just reading the press release you're releasing. Are you okay?"

"[gravelly voice] Uh, yes, I'm fine!"

Griffin: Glorp, glorp glorp.

Justin: He's not, 'cause the next thing he writes is "Sour berry slime brings Baskin-Robbins' summertime lime and other go-to's like rainbow sherbet and wild and reckless sherbet to the next level. Whether swirled into a shake, or cascaded over a scoop, [laughs] there's no way to go wrong when you slime your summer."

Travis: Jesus.

Griffin: We've all—

Justin: It's just *begging* to be slimed!

Griffin: We've all had our dad yell at us so loud about eating our gak that he blacked out. Now you don't need that anymore; Baskin-Robbins got you with our extremely edible slime you won't die from eating it.

Justin: This is edible and delicious? Finally.

Griffin: "What's it taste like?"

Doesn't matter! You can eat it, and you won't die. We finally unlocked it, the code! For slime.

Justin: They say "New summertime lime swirls a tangy lemon-lime—" [high pitched laughter] "New summertime lime swirls a tangy lemon-lime slime ribbon into a bright green and white citrus ice cream to combine the best tart and candied flavors of summer."

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Shit! This is a good press release!

Justin: [laughs] It's very good, summertime lime!

Travis: "Why do we keep—why do we keep letting old pervy Derek write the press releases?"

"His rhymes are outstanding! I don't know what to tell you! He's amazing wordplay."

Griffin: [crosstalk] Slam poet.

Justin: [crosstalk] Summertime rhymes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Hey, d—should I call—should I call the media contact [laughs] here and ask him why it's so horny? "Hey, why so horny on this one?"

Travis: Listen, Justin, nature is healing. [laughs]

Griffin: Nature is healing.

Justin: Nature is healing. It's extremely horny.

Griffin: Equilibrium! Edible slime!

Justin: Fantastic stuff. Fantastic.

Hey, folks, thank you so much for listening to our podcast, *My Brother, My Brother and Me*. We hope you have enjoyed yourself. As we mentioned at the beginning of the episode, if you wanna watch that live show that we did – it's still just as much fun if you're watching it on a delay – it's bit.ly/mbmbamvirtual. It was one of the wildest things that's ever happened to me in my entire life that you will not believe the dramatic finale...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] Of this—

Griffin: The twist ending.

Justin: It's not a—it's not a joke. [laughs] Uh, you should check it out. It's well worth your 10 bucks.

Travis: Uh, I also wanna say, so I do some streaming on Twitch, mostly Tuesday mornings, Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings. Currently, I am trying to beat uh, *Resident Evil Village* for the fourth time on "Book of Shadows" version.

Griffin: Ooh.

Travis: So I can get all those `chievos.

Justin: I love the fact that we can mention a game to Travis, and he's like, "I don't know, I haven't checked it out—I haven't checked that franchise out for quite a few of 'em." And then, like, flash forward to a week later, and Travis is, like, *in* the game.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: He's like, trapped in the game like *Nick Arcade*.

Travis: Yeah. It's like that one episode of *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* where he gets trapped in the pinball machine. It's [twitch.tv/thetravismcelroy](https://www.twitch.tv/thetravismcelroy).

And speaking of video games, you guys gotta check out *Besties*. It's one of my favorite podcasts. I listen to it every week. I do not miss an episode. They just did, uh—those four wild guys over there just did the best *Resident Evil* game in like a standup competition. Also check out *The Empty Bowl*. It's a meditative cereal podcast that Justin does. And check out *Shmanners*, that my wife and I do. It's very cute, I think. And way more over at [mcelroyshows.com](https://www.mcelroyshows.com)!

Griffin: We also, uh, are starting a new season of *The Adventure Zone* in proper. We did, like, a five-episode prologue series, and we're about to start it. It's an undersea... fantasy submarine adventure.

Justin: If you've heard about *The Adventure Zone*, but didn't know where to start, this is—this is the time.

Travis: So come get wet! Um, we got some merch over at [mcelroymerch.com](https://www.mcelroymerch.com). Uh, make sure you hurry over there if you wanna get your "I also want a sword" pin of the month. That will be gone at the end of June. The proceeds for that benefit the Trevor Project. And we also have the "Hear that, babe? We're legends" shirt, a portion of the proceeds of that also go the Trevor Project.

And we got a *TAZ: Crystal Kingdom* special event coming up live and virtual on July 13th, to celebrate the release of the new graphic novel. Just go to bit.ly/tazgnlive2021 for more info. We're gonna have some special guests, doing some readings, some special things there. It's gonna be very exciting. And we have an event-exclusive signed bookplate available from our partner bookstores. More info can be found at the [bit.ly](https://bit.ly/tazgnlive2021) link.

One more time, that's bit.ly/tazgnlive2021, and if you want to preorder that comic book, which comes out July 13th, running out of time. [Theadventurezonecomic.com](https://theadventurezonecomic.com).

Justin: Also, we're all on TikTok. Mine's mainly about crypto.

Travis: Yep.

Justin: You'll never find all of us.

Griffin: Nope. Not in a million years.

Travis: Good luck.

Griffin: Thanks to uh—thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" Uh, that track, uh, there's plans. There's gears...

Justin: The gears are turning.

Griffin: [makes clicking noises] That's the gears. And they're turning, and they're inside the clock, and the clock's counting down.

Justin: Um, Griffin, do you have a final Yahoo for us to enjoy?

Griffin: Yeah, um, this final Yahoo...

Justin: Good.

Griffin: Yeah! This final Yahoo—hold on, I...

Justin: A real one this time, right?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Hold on, I accidentally closed the tab, so I have to reopen it real quick. [makes beeping noises] That was my browser. So this one was sent in by Crampf.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: Sorry, was that Cramp?

Travis: I think there's an F in there.

Griffin: This one was sent in by Cramf.

Justin: Cramf?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Thank you. That makes much more sense. Much more believable.

Travis: I think it's Scandanavian.

Griffin: And it's asked—and it's asked by—oh, man, an anonymous Yahoo Answers user. That's weird. Haven't seen one of those in a while. I'll call him Rayotti.

Travis: Ray Liotti—

Griffin: Roy Liotti asks "Hey..." [laughs quietly] Ray Liotti asks, "Uh, hey—oh, hey, everyone. *Goodfellas* is a pretty badass flick, huh?"

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "You can trust me, Ray Liotti. [holding back laughter] The real one."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "Take it from me, the real Ray Liotti."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "*Goodfellas* is a pretty badass flick, huh?"

Justin: [holding back laughter] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: [holding back laughter] I'm Travis McElroy.

Justin: [coughing laughter]

Griffin: [laughs] [high pitched] I think his name's Ray Liotta.

Travis: No, it's—this is Ray Liotti.

Justin: [holding back laughter] It's Ray Liotti. It's in *Aliens*.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: So you don't guess that it's him.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: [through laughter] There's no fucking way! I thought for sure you were doing [unintelligible] you didn't think his name was Ray Liotti. That's impossible!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It's impossible!

Travis: No!

Justin: You can't have thought his name was Ray Liotti!

Griffin: And kiss your dad square on the lips!

Justin: [laughs loudly]

[theme song, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" by Montaigne plays and ends]

[chord plays]

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Justin: Hey, you kept listening past the credits. That's fantastic. Listen, PO box 54 Huntington, West Virginia, 25706. If you're in Canada, I need you to get as much as that fucking cheese as you can, just ruin my box. Ruin my box with KD, okay? Hey, ruin my box with KD. Get all that weird KD in my box.