

Still Buffering 250: Green Day

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[theme music plays]

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Rileigh: Is that the— that's the phrase, right?

Sydnee: What?

Taylor: What?

Rileigh: Uh, I— it was coming— like, our tagline, it was coming out of my mouth before I realized what I was saying, and then halfway through I wondered if I was saying the right thing. It didn't feel right in my mouth, but that was right, right?

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Now I don't know! What did you say?

Rileigh: It's a cro— it's a cross-generational guide to the— yes. Yes.

Sydnee: Yes.

Rileigh: Okay. Never mind. Sorry! [laughs]

Sydnee: Oh no!

Rileigh: It's just one of those things that, like, now it's in, like, my muscle memory, so it just kind of comes out.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: It didn't feel right... but I suppose it's been a—

Sydnee: I wasn't really listening to you. I was waiting for my turn to talk.
[laughs]

Rileigh: Okay, alright.

Taylor: I was also preparing myself to say my own name, which is sometimes a task. So, you know. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, we've hit the wall.

Taylor: Who knows! [laughs]

Sydnee: It appears we've hit the wall.

Rileigh: Listen, it's been a long week. [laughs]

Sydnee: It's been a long—

Taylor: Yes.

Sydnee: —it's just been a long.

Taylor: It's been a long. It's— it's March again?!

Rileigh: [simultaneously] It's March again?!

Taylor: [laughs] Was it ever not March? I think it's always been March.

Sydnee: Uh-huh, uh-huh. We've always been at war with March. [laughs]

Taylor: March is before, March was after, March is now, March is later, March is always. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: I like the people— the *WandaVision* people that have been taking one of the quotes from one of the more recent episodes and saying, "What is life if not March persevering?"

Sydnee: [laughs loudly]

Taylor: No!

Sydney: Aww... that's a good quote, too, the original.

Taylor: Yeah.

Riley: Yeah, it is.

Sydney: *WandaVision's* so good. I love *WandaVision*.

Taylor: The internet was arguing whether or not the line was good or not, which was funny to me, 'cause it's just like, is this where we're at? We're arguing over whether or not this line is valid? [laughs quietly]

Riley: Yeah.

Sydney: I don't know. All I ever think of anymore is, like— after you brought it up Taylor, in my head, is "[singing] Maybe it's tomorrow, and maybe it's not."

Taylor: [laughs]

Riley: [laughs]

Sydney and Taylor: "[singing] Maybe it's yesterday."

Taylor: "[singing] I just forgot!"

Sydney: [laughs] That's— that's all I'm ever thinking of. I don't know. [laughs]

Taylor: No, I mean, we were kind of late getting started today, and I hadn't heard from you all about a half an hour into when we usually record. I was like, "I think it's— it might be Wednesday."

It's 100% not sure if it's Wednesday or not, and I— I don't know. [laughs]

Sydney: Well, and, like, right now— so, okay. In West Virginia, we had an ice storm, and it knocked out all the power for a very long time. And then what happens to ice when it gets hot is it melts. [laughs quietly] And—

Rileigh: And then when you have a big rainstorm on top of the melting ice, then it floods.

Sydnee: So, West Virginia's flooded. Now, we are not, because West Virginia's also very, uh... I don't wanna say mountainous. I know we're the Mountain State, but we don't really—

Rileigh: We're not flat.

Sydnee: No, we're very hilly.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Most of— most of our mountains aren't mountains. They're just big hills. I think there's—

Taylor: Hill-acious.

Sydnee: [laughs] Hill-acious.

Rileigh: [through laughter] Hill-acious.

Taylor: Ooh, hill-acious.

Sydnee: Uh, and we are on a hill part, so we have not personally been affected by the flooding, but our area has. A lot of people around us have. So schools have been...

Rileigh: Flooded.

Sydnee: Flooded. Like, literally—

Rileigh: Literally flooded.

Sydnee: A lot of schools have been flooded. My— my child is virtual anyway, but because this is so weird—

Taylor: [through laughter] My child is virtual.

Sydnee: My child is virtual.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, I have a virtual child. [laughs]

Taylor: Wow. Is that like a Tamagotchi?

[all laugh]

Sydnee: But— but—

Taylor: You got a Giga Pet?

Sydnee: As a result... [laughs] my— my Tamagotchi has been on a two hour delay.

Rileigh: Which is so silly, 'cause the school's flooded. So, like, what is the— the delay's not gonna get rid of the water.

Sydnee: I don't—I'm not sure what's hap— like, the whole school— so, it's Code Orange, which means—[laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Which I always think of *Spongebob: The Musical* when they go [laughs] "The threat level is Code Orange," and they do a little thing. Anyway—

Rileigh: Sydnee, you're the only person that has ever said "This is like in *Spongebob: The Musical*."

Sydnee: I love *Spongebob: The Musical*. It's brilliant. It's great. Uh, anyway... [laughs] Code Orange means all students are remote learning. Remote learning is different than virtual learning.

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: We have not done remote learning, but that's what all the other students who are in person now, 'cause West Virginia went back five days a week, except we never did, because then the flooding happened, so it never actually happened. But in theory, we're back five days a week, but they're all remote, who

were gonna go to school. My kid is still virtual, so my Tamagotchi just does virtual school except on a two hour delay, which means... we just start late every day. I don't know. It has been so— I never know what's happening. Charlie looks at me every day and is like, "Is— is— is school happening? Now?"

And I'm like, "I don't know. Let's just keep doing math." [laughs]

Rileigh: That's how I feel every day.

Sydnee: "We'll just—[laughs] we'll just keep working through this math book, I guess." [laughs]

Taylor: I mean, I— you know, uh— I sliced my eyeball with a cosplay contact, uh... Sunday, I guess? And, like, so I had two days of just all the lights off and, like, not being able to see or do anything, and time was meaningless.

And it— I guess I was well-prepared for that, [through laughter] because— 'cause it— like, I was like, "I don't know what day it is. It's— there is the— the time when I will see again, and the time when I could see, and then there is the now time that is dark, and that is the only time I know." [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: And that's basically what this year has been. [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: The time when I could go outside, the time when I will eventually be able to go outside, and now. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah, yeah. It doesn't matter. Like, it's just— who knows!

Rileigh: I, uh—[laughs] I tried to drive on one of our main, um, roads the other day, through the middle of Huntington, and it was closed on both ends, because one end was flooded so badly there were, I mean, do— like, feet of water, many feet of water.

Sydnee: Oh yeah. The flooding is, like—

Rileigh: It's not, like—

Sydnee: —they closed our flood walls.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: They never close— they put up, like, the big stone gate to close the flood wall, which I have not seen...

Rileigh: Ever. I have never seen it.

Sydnee: I think it's happened in my lifetime, but I don't remember.

Rileigh: Yeah. I mean, there— it buried cars. Um, but the other end was shut down [holding back laughter] because the, uh, Subaru dealership— there were, like, six cars that were on fire. So one end there were cars on fire, and the other end there was flooding! [through laughter] I just— I thought, "Okay, never mind. I'm gonna turn around and go home. This is a sign I should come back home."

Sydnee: That was a wild story. That was a— there was a car that caught on fire on the interstate, so they pulled off the interstate and drove to a car dealership and pulled into the lot, and then their car caught a bunch of other cars on fire.

Rileigh: No one was hurt. They were empty.

Sydnee: No one was hurt, yes.

Rileigh: They were empty new cars, but—[laughs]

Sydnee: The cars were damaged, the people were fine, so it's—

Taylor: Have we—

Sydnee: I mean, I guess that's... a happier ending. But...

Taylor: Has anybody checked to see if the moon has turned to blood? Or the o—

Rileigh: [laughs] I gotta look tonight.

Taylor: —oceans are on fire? Yeah, or— are there locusts?

Sydnee: Yes!

Rileigh: Yes!

Taylor: Are there any locusts listening to this podcast?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Are you— are you here? Is this end times? I— it's cool, like, I just wanna know.

Sydnee: But the locusts— yeah.

Rileigh: The big 17-year locusts that are super, super loud and cover every surface—

Taylor: [through laughter] Oh, wait, they're— oh no! [laughs loudly]

Rileigh: —are comin' back to West Virginia this year.

Sydnee: Yes. This is a locust year.

Taylor: Wait, wait! Y'all!

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Somebody call Demi Moore! These seals are breaking!

[all laugh]

Rileigh: I like that for once West Virginia was in the news for something positive. You know, we were doing really well, and we are, with our vaccination rates and, like, how we're vaccinating people. Um, but in return, the universe was like, "Mm-mm. You know what? Here's an ice storm. Here's flooding. Here's some random fires. And here's locusts." [laughs]

Sydnee: And there's still, I mean, a ton of people with no power, and people with, um—

Rileigh: [simultaneously] Oh yeah, and no internet.

Sydnee: Yeah, no internet. And no, uh— no clean water.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Either on a boil water advisory or, like, pipes burst, no water. I mean, like...

Rileigh: Yeah. Two weeks later.

Sydnee: Yeah. It's a mess, y'all.

Rileigh: There's a lot goin' on... over here.

Taylor: Yeah. I hope— I hope everybody's staying as safe as they can. That's... that's a nightmare.

Sydnee: Um, yeah, I know. This— you know, they came up— came out with that remake of *The Stand* not too long ago.

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: And, like, I— did you know that?

Taylor: I knew that they were making that. Did that happen?

Sydnee: It's out.

Taylor: Wow!

Sydnee: You can watch it.

Rileigh: It happened. [laughs]

Sydnee: It happened. But it— and I loved *The Stand*. I've read the book multiple times. I loved the old miniseries. Um, so you'd think I would be all over that, and I just can't bring myself—[laughs] right now. It's just, like, too— it cuts too close to the bone right now.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs] Not ready for that.

Taylor: I believe that. [laughs] I was gonna say Stephen King couldn't have written this, but maybe he has. Maybe he is. [laughs] I guess that's where we are.

Rileigh: Here we are. I would like to mention and point out also, two weeks in a row, Stephen King's work has found its way into our podcast. [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah, I know. Are we in— no, we'd have to be in Maine. [laughs]

Rileigh: That's true.

Sydnee: We'd have to be somewhere in New England.

Rileigh: It's true.

Taylor: Maybe it—

Sydnee: Well, you are.

Taylor: —it was always March, and it was all Maine. [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Who decides where Maine ends?

Rileigh: March never ended.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Hey, wa— he— hey, wa— wake me up when pandemic ends.

Taylor: Oh, there's the transition.

Rileigh: Oh...

Sydnee: Hey, did you like that?

Taylor: Yes.

Rileigh: I mean, maybe it'll be when September ends.

Taylor: Maybe. Uh...

Rileigh: [sighs heavily]

Sydnee: [sighs heavily]

Rileigh: Maybe.

Taylor: Okay. Not—

Sydnee: [quietly] Heavy sigh.

Taylor: —not to be a downer, but for anybody that makes those meme jokes about "Wake Me Up When September Ends," uh, that song is about Billy Joe Armstrong's father passing, so... it's a serious song for him.

Sydnee: Oh.

Rileigh: Sad.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Well, I did not mean to make a joke about that.

Taylor: That's okay. I— but... uh, yeah. We're talking about Green Day! That was the topic.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: There was the end times, and now let's talk about Green Day. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yes. That's it. Yeah.

Sydnee: Yes.

Rileigh: That makes sense.

Sydnee: I think that fits.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, so, Teylor. Do you wanna— I— what— why— let me start with— I think it might seem kind of obvious. Green Day is, like, a... for a lot of us, of our age group, Green Day was a huge deal, and continues to be very relevant to this day. But, like, it seems obvious, but why have you chosen Green Day?

Teylor: Well, uh, I mean, Green Day was— it's definitely one of my favorite bands. Um, it was a band that— I kinda have a funny history with Green Day in that I've always loved their music since I was, like, in high school. But, like, I never felt like I was allowed to love their music until it was too lame to love their music, if that makes sense.

Sydnee: Yeah, mm-hmm.

Teylor: In high school they were still cool. Like, I was in high school in 2000 to 2004. This is before the Broadway era, before *American Idiot* or *21st Century Breakdown*, which I love— I love all of that.

But, like, in high school they were definitely the punk kids that— I don't know. Like, to me there was no difference between the punk kids that could afford to shop at Hot Topic and, like, the popular kids that could afford to shop at, like, Abercrombie and Fitch.

They were the— they were two sides of the same coin, and they were all kind of mean, and judgmental, and I— even though I liked punk music at the time, I never felt comfortable, like, even wearing a band t-shirt, because it would've in— invited... being mocked or made fun of. Uh, I remember—

Sydnee: Uh—

Teylor: Go ahead.

Sydnee: I was just gonna say, it's interesting that I— I don't think— I don't feel like I remember thinking about Green Day as punk music.

Taylor: I mean, it's— it's funny, 'cause— I mean, it's— it's pop punk. I think that's fair. Uh, it definitely was one of those bands that reawakened an interest in punk music and kind of defined what punk would be for the 90's.

Um, I mean, it's a seminal— it's a seminal punk band. And it's funny that it doesn't get considered punk, because if you look at Green Day up against what people hold up as, like, "[gruff voice] This is punk rock! Like, The Ramones, or the The Sex Pistols, or The Clash."

They're doing the same stuff. They are absolutely doing the same stuff, and arguably they're doing a little harder and, like, definitely more cohesively. But I don't know. Like, if it's not— if it's not discordant and angry then it's like, "Oh, it's not punk." And they were just good at it. They were good at what all those other bands were already doing.

Um... but I remember, like, in high school, uh, mom got me a Green Day shirt. It was on sale from Hot Topic and it was in my Easter basket. Uh...

Sydnee: [laughs loudly]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Uh-huh, uh-huh. And mom hid that—

Sydnee: That's so mom, by the way.

Rileigh: That's very mom.

Taylor: [through laughter] Yes.

Sydnee: Everything about that is— that's a very on-brand story for mom.

Taylor: And it was, like, an XL. But, you know, like that— it was a Green Day shirt, and I could tell you exactly which one it is 'cause it's on sale— I looked it up. Now it is considered a vintage t-shirt and you pay, like, 70 dollars—

Rileigh: Oh!

Taylor: —it's a red Green Day shirt with a dragon on it. And she got me this shirt— because Mom was pretty good at, like, being aware of what I was into but

not really pushing me about it. She would just, like, buy me something and be like, "Look! This is a thing you like, right?"

She also got me, like, a Rob Zombie CD collection. Like, just kind of took a— took a stab at that, and I was... into it, but never would've said that. Um, but this shirt hung in my closet through my entire high school career, and I never once wore it.

I wanted to, I loved the band, but I was so terrified of being made fun of by the real punks. You know, that was such the era of, you don't wanna be a poser, you don't wanna be, you know, a— a fake punk, that I would never wear it. It just hung there, like a beacon. [laughs] So it really wasn't—

Sydnee: That's so true.

Taylor: Oh, go ahead.

Sydnee: No, that's so— but that's such a good point that you make, and I think we've referenced it before. But, like, I feel like with your generation, Rileigh, I've seen so many people wearing, like, band t-shirts that, like, I know there's no way you're into— like, you are not a huge Metallica fan.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I know you're not. Right? Like, I know you—

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You— you have heard, like, one song from Van Halen and it was on a commercial. I *know* you don't know who Van Halen is. And I'm not saying, like, "I do." Or, "I'm super cool." I wasn't— that wasn't me, either.

That was, you know, prior to us, too. But, like, that is not stigmatized at all the way that in our generation— Taylor, you are so right. Like, if you were gonna wear a Green Day t-shirt, you can't just like Green Day. You better be all about Green Day.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: I feel like it was— like, the kind of vibe I get— which I never really experienced because, again, I think we have reached a point in clothing where you can go into, like, an Urban Outfitters or Forever 21 or whatever and there's a whole section of just quote, unquote, "vintage band tees."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: Of just all those bands. But the point isn't really because you like the band, it's because it's a cute shirt.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Um, so, like, I don't own very many of them, but lots of people I know do. It's a very cute look, I like it, 'cause usually they are just very cute shirts. I'm thankful we've reached a point where we can just wear them because they're cute shirts. [laughs] But I get the vibe that it used to be like, "I better know, like, five songs at least by this band that I'm wearing their shirt so I can name them, and know them."

Sydnee: Five albums.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Five albums.

Taylor: You better be ready to answer, like, a quiz. But it's— it's funny, 'cause in retrospect— the thing is, like, you know, it wasn't until probably college, and even after college, that that's, like— Green Day came out with all of their— *American Idiot* and everything, and then they weren't cool anymore, right?

Then they were— like, in my perception they weren't cool anymore, so then I could like them. I could love them. They were mine now, 'cause they were lame. But in their own career that had already happened. Like, when Green Day signed to a major label with *Dookie*, like, their whole, like— you know, they were, um, like, East Bay, like, California, like, indie punk rock darlings and when they signed to a major label their whole fan base— like, a huge part of it turned their back on them. They were sellouts. That was— you know, selling out was like the ultimate sin in those days, and they were kind of rejected, and a lot of their music hearkens to that sense of rejection.

Like, you have songs like "86" That are entirely about just not being welcome in your scene, and I feel like that's a big reason that I love their music, because it had that— I mean, it wasn't music for well-adjusted cool people. It was music for people that were— a lot of their songs are about mental illness, you know? You have, like, "The Panic Song" and, like, "Basket Case."

A lot of their songs were about just kind of being... just a disgusting waste of a person and trying to, like, just embrace that. You have, like, "Long View" and, like, "Geek Stink Breath."

Like, their— their songs were about being, like, a troubled, disgruntled, kind of rejected person, and I latched onto that. I got that. And in a way it was like, "Oh, this music isn't for you, cool, well-adjusted punks that I have money to look punk! This music is for me! It's about gross weirdos!"

[laughs quietly]

Sydnee: See, I also liked it because I felt like... I think that in my mind, kind of what you said, Tey. Punk music was not inherently listenable.

Taylor: [laughs loudly]

Sydnee: Like, it was something that— it, like— it was connected to a very specific sort of emotion and, like, experience you wanted, and you could experience that. But it wasn't necessarily something you're just like, "Oh, I think I'll turn on some... punk music now, and just sort of chill in my room."

Like, that was not how I thought about it, and Green Day is so listenable. Like, it's so— you can turn it on and I think... I don't think it's music that, like— I mean, you could have on in— well, like, various ages, at, like, a get together, and have it on in the background.

And it's pretty pleasant still. I mean, I know that sounds like I'm giving it a hard time, 'cause that's, like, a mean thing to say about punk music. But, like, it is so listenable! [laughs quietly]

Taylor: But I think that's what was special, and it's what continues to be special about Green Day, is that when you have an earnest desire to connect with people with your art, that comes through in a way of making it something that people

can connect with, you know? That—that just, like, discordant, like, "Whatever, we're punk. We don't care if you get it."

Like, I get that. There's lots of music like that, and I enjoy some of it. But the thing that I like about Green Day is there is an earnest desire to communicate ideas and connect with people, and that is via their... like, impeccable ability to make catchy hooks and, like, iconic lyrics. And that—that requires a bit of, like, opening yourself up. That's kind of a vulnerability, you know?

When you hide behind that wall of sound, yeah, you can be, you know, punk as heck. But when you actually reveal yourself, that's vulnerability. And I think a lot of people recoiled against that. I think people continue to recoil against that in music. And that was the thing that drew me in.

It was that— that... very honest presentation of— of, like, just struggling with anxiety, and being weird, and being an outcast, and I'm not even gonna try to hide it between "But I'm too cool to care." Like, I'm not too cool to care. I care. [laughs] I'm obsessed.

Sydnee: Yeah. Well, and vocal talent, I would say. Like, you know, a voice that you want to listen to that is pleasant and— and I feel like it really— 'cause I went to, in my youth... [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I went to many shows that were called punk shows.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Um, and by that I mean local punk shows. I don't mean, like, big name anything. I went to a lot of local punk shows. And the word "punk" can be used to excuse all manner of sins [laughs quietly] in a concert.

And, uh, and sometimes, like, I got what they were going for. Like, "Okay, I am here in this crowded YWCA." Um, at this point we were all wearing skinny jeans, the sin of skinny jeans had been committed.

Rileigh: Oh man, not skinny jeans. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Tight jeans, little t-shirts, and Chuck Taylors.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Um... [laughs] everybody..

Rileigh: And side parts.

Sydnee: Every— oh yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, but yes. Lots of ironic t-shirts, skinny jeans, and Chucks. That was the whole room. Um, and everybody was, like, feeling the music, even if the music was like, "Man, I don't even think they're all playing the same song right now. [laughs] Like, what is happening on this YWCA stage? I don't know. But we're feeling it so hard."

And so, like, I get that. Like, I get that experience. Um, but Green Day was always this other thing that, like, I could then take home with me and enjoy all the times, and not just in those angry [through laughter] YWCA times.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Always the YWCA.

Rileigh: Never the YMCA.

Taylor: No, no.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: You could afford the YWCA.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs] You really could. It was pretty cheap to rent. [laughs]

Taylor: Well, but that— but that's— that was the— that's still the magic of what they do. I mean, I think that, you know, that— and maybe it's because they went through that initial kind of... being shunned from their cool, like, punker-than-

thou punk rock roots, I do think it's a band that kind of just said, "Well, that's that. Whatever we're gonna do—" and Billy Joe Armstrong has made statements similar to that where he's kind of said, like, "Whether we fly or whether we fail, we're kind of on our own now. We're doing our own thing."

And I— I don't know. You gotta kind of respect that versus a band that regurgitates what they think sells, or sticks to this kind of idea that, like, their success comes from obscurity. Like, they were on an artistic journey. And, I mean, you— for anything else you can say about Green Day, they definitely continued to do whatever the heck they wanted to do [through laughter] with their music.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I— I want to talk about, Rileigh—

Rileigh: [snorts]

Sydnee: —your experience with Green Day. 'Cause Rileigh comes from this, uh— from a very different perspective, where she [laughs] learned to love and appreciate Green Day.

But before we do that.

Rileigh: Let's check the group message. [laughs]

Um, so we've all— we've all got goals, you know? Whether it's— you gotta study, work, I don't know, goals in your... at... I... home life, get organized maybe. I don't know. We've all got goals.

Sydnee: Care for— care for my Tamagotchi... child.

Rileigh: Care for your Tamagotchi, sure, of course. Your virtual child. Um, but have you thought about your hair goals?

Sydnee: Hmm.

Rileigh: 'Cause they are just as important. Um, and that is why I used Function of Beauty to fulfill my hair goals of getting my hair healthier, shinier, more voluminous, perhaps. They are the world leader in customizable beauty, offering precise formulations for your hair's specific needs.

And honestly, it's really fun to figure out what you're gonna get from Function of Beauty, because all you have to do is take a quick quiz that tells them about your hair type and those hair goals.

Um, maybe you want to lengthen your hair, oil control, dryness, and you answer all these questions about what scents you like, about what you want out of your shampoo and your conditioner, and then they determine the perfect blend of ingredients, they bottle your formula, and deliver it right to you.

So, Teylor, if our listeners want to check out Function of Beauty, what should they do?

Teylor: Never buy off the shelf just to be disappointed ever again. Go to functionofbeauty.com/buffering to take your quiz and save 20% on your first order. That applies to their full range of customized hair, skin, and body products. Go to functionofbeauty.com/buffering to let them know we sent you and get 20% off your order. Once again, that's functionofbeauty.com/buffering.

Sydnee: So, I found— I don't know if you all have experienced this, but when you go out into the world with, like, your big kid job, like, when you're supposed to dress up and pretend to be professional—

Rileigh: Sure.

Teylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: —like, you start developing this kind of wardrobe that you have to wear to that, and, uh, you don't necessarily feel comfortable in all of it. And so sometimes you're looking in the closet and you're like, "[sighs] Today... I'm not gonna have a comfortable pants day, 'cause I gotta wear those dress pants that somehow I got, and I don't know where I got 'em, and I don't like 'em, but they're the things I wear to work, so I have to."

You don't have to choose anymore! You can look professional and still feel comfortable with Betabrand dress pant yoga pants. Uh, I can vouch for them, 'cause I've been wearing them for a long time.

Um, I got so tired of trying to, like, find those— I feel like they were all these scratchy work pants that I didn't want to wear, but they look nice, and so you wanna look nice.

Betabrand pants are super comfortable, they feel like yoga pants but they're not yoga pants. They are dress pants. Um, and they look like dress pants! Nobody will know your secret, which is that you are so comfortable. They would be jealous.

You know, you should let 'em in on your secret, actually. Tell everybody about your Betabrand dress pant yoga pants! Um, maybe it'll be a better work environment, right? 'Cause everybody'll be as comfortable as you are?

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I think so. I think if we were all wearing—

Rileigh: Everybody would be happier and comfier.

Sydnee: Yeah! More comfortable pants, we'd all be happier. They're made of wrinkle-resistant stretch-knit fabric. They're perfect for long workdays and to wear out after work or back home at the end of the day, whatever. You look great in your Betabrand dress pants yoga pants, and you feel comfortable. So, don't keep that a secret. Tell everybody about it.

And Teylor, what should they tell everybody about it?

Teylor: Well, right now our listeners can get 25% off their first order when you go to betabrand.com/buffering. That's 25% off your first order for a limited time at betabrand.com/buffering. Find out why people are ditching typical work pants for Betabrand's dress pant yoga pants. Go to betabrand.com/buffering for that 25% off.

Sydnee: Now, Teylor, you mentioned how Green Day has continued to do their own thing. Um, and no matter whether people liked it or not. Which, I think it's funny, 'cause when I think about, like, that phrase, I think about how at the end of *Dookie*, right? There was the secret song.

Teylor: [through laughter] Yeah.

Sydnee: Which, uh, it was back in the day when you had to let the CD play and then the secret song would come on.

And, uh, the secret song is... well, I don't— can I say what it's about? Am I allowed to say that?

Taylor: I mean, I— I think so, right?

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [whispering] It's about masturbation.

Rileigh: [gasps]

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: But—

Sydnee: But I didn't know that. [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Well, I remember being explained to me by our neighbor.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: The young man that lived across the street from us, who played the secret song for us and then said, "Do you know what this song is about?" [laughs loudly]

Sydnee: Yes. I have that vivid memory, and then going "[gasps loudly] What?!"

Rileigh: "What?!"

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: That was a— that was a— and that was when *Dookie* came out. *Dookie* came out in, like, '94, I think?

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Taylor: So we— I was, what? Like... I was eight? [laughs]

Sydnee: I mean... I would've been nine. No. No, eleven.

Taylor: Yeah, okay. So— so very young when having that explained to you by your neighbor.

Sydnee: Had to think about it. Yeah. Yeah. So, that was what they wanted to do back then. Now, what did you— what was your introduction to Green Day, Raleigh?

Raleigh: Um, I want to preface this by saying this is not the only experience I have had with Green Day before this recording experience, but this was my first experience with Green Day.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: Okay. I just wanted to make that clear. Um, when the album *American Idiot* became a jukebox musical.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: It became a stage musical, and it went on tour, and I cannot tell you why, but for some reason it did come to Huntington, West Virginia [holding back laughter] on its national tour after Broadway.

Um... and, uh, we went and saw it, and that was my first experience with their music, because it is their music exactly, just into, like, a— you know, it's like *Mamma Mia* with Abba. Like, it's a jukebox musical.

Sydnee: It's just like *Mamma Mia* with Abba! [laughs]

Raleigh: Well, I mean, like, they didn't change the music, is all I meant.

Sydnee: I know, I know, I know what you mean.

Raleigh: Like, it's their music, just they put a story in the middle of all of it.

Sydnee: Sure, sure.

Rileigh: But after that was when I went home and started listening to the rest of their music, and downloaded *American Idiot*. I mean, this was probably... [sighs] eight or nine years ago. A very long— very long time ago. Yeah, that their musical was out there. Um, so that was my first experience, was with the album *American Idiot*, which I have listened to a lot. And then *Dookie*, and other... albums. Um, yeah.

Sydnee: It's, uh— it's so funny, 'cause it's one of those things where, like, I remember when that first happened. I remember having that— this is like— I hope that this is a generational thing. I hope this is a 90's knee jerk reflex where you hear something like that, like "Green Day has a musical," and you go, [scoffs].

Like, "[scoffs] Is this what happens? All the things I love, they grow up and they get, you know, old and uncool." And, like you have that— and I think it's a very 90's thing. And then, like, I got older and I was like, "Well, that's not true. 'Cause, like, musical theater is cool." Is that okay to say? [laughs quietly] Musical theater is cool!

Rileigh: [holding back laughter] Musical theater's cool.

Sydnee: And, like, something that is— it is— that people enjoy doing, and making, and watching, and whatever, is cool... inherently. 'Cause somebody enjoyed making it, somebody enjoyed performing it, somebody enjoyed watching it. That's all cool. People enjoyed it. Like, what's wrong with any of that. Um... but, uh, I remember having that immediate, like, "[scoffs] This is what happens when you get older."

[all laugh]

Sydnee: The things you love get so commercial and become musicals! [laughs]

Taylor: That's a— that's a, like, "Oh no, your favs eventually become jukebox musicals." That's a— I think that's an okay problem to have.

Sydnee: I mean, it happened to Alanis too. [laughs]

Rileigh: That's true.

Taylor: That's true.

Rileigh: And *Jagged Little Pill* rocks. Um—

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: —the musical and the album.

Sydnee: [through laughter] *Jagged Little Pill* rocks, the musical!

Rileigh: It does! The musical and the album. I listened to the album before the musical ever existed, but the musical's great too.

Taylor: But I think it shows the power of when you let go of trying to be cool and you just do the stuff you respond to. I think that's what that— that's the lesson that I take away from that, you know? 'Cause I think that Green Day was a band that had to break from that. That disapproval that they got.

You know, the scene that brought them up, that loved them, the scorn from that, I think that there was a very distinct reaction where they were like, "We're just gonna— we're gonna do our stuff. [through laughter] We're gonna go and—"

And, I mean, to this day! Like, their newest albums are still kind of experimental, and even if it's not my thing necessarily, I like that— you know, if you follow your own artistic path, you might not always hit the zeitgeist of what's goin' on. You might hit it and then you might stray from it. But, like, you're on your own kind of journey there, so who cares?

When you're through being cool, the whole world kind of opens up. [laughs]

Rileigh: Mm-hmm. Um, I was wondering as I was relistening to *American Idiot*, 'cause I hadn't listened to it in a while, but one of my favorite things about that album is that they have songs that are two songs, that are one song. Like, um, "Give Me Novacaine/She's A Rebel" is, like, two songs, but it doesn't stop. It's both of the songs, and one goes into the other.

Was that, like, a thing that other bands did? Was that a very Green Day thing? 'Cause I think that's really cool. Um, but it also, I mean, I think lent itself very well to something like a musical, because it just, like, one song transitioned into another. But I know that's not what it was written for.

Sydnee: I don't think that was a... I feel like that's an older thing than, um— than, like, our era. Like, songs that were two songs, and kind of transitioned into one another were more of, like, um, experimental kind of rock, psychedelic stuff that happened before our era. I mean, I don't— Teylor, you can correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't feel like that was a common thing.

Teylor: No, no. And definitely not in the punk world. [laughs] Like...

Sydnee: No.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Teylor: You know, the idea of a concept album, of an album that's telling a story, like a theatrical story, which is— even before the musical, like—

Rileigh: It is.

Teylor: —if you listen to *American Idiot*, it's telling a story. Um, and *21st Century Breakdown*, too. Like— and then you get *iUno!*, *iDos!*, *iTré!*. It's the continuation of this idea that, you know, we're making stories with our albums. That's— I feel like it's not necessarily unique to Green Day, but they were definitely unique in the punk scene doing that.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: No, I feel like— I feel like that the music, especially as you get into, like, the later 90's and early 2000's, the music that was kind of all around us was the easily-digestible, you know, three minute— an album of a bunch of three minute long songs that could— many of them could be singles, were all entities unto themselves, incredibly catchy, hooky, you know.

Rileigh: Pop.

Sydnee: Pop.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. I mean, that was— and even, like— that's where punk music, alternative music, [laughs quietly] rock— all these things became this other thing. It's sort of like in *Trolls 2: World Tour*.

Rileigh: [hisses quietly]

Taylor: What?

Sydnee: You know how they talk about how the pop trolls...

Taylor: What?

Sydnee: ... appropriated the music from all the other types of music? And—

Rileigh: Sydnee, I didn't think we—

Sydnee: —homogenized it into pop music, and that because they stole everybody's music and didn't credit them, that's what destroyed trolls', like, unity.

Rileigh: I didn't think we had completely lost you, but now on this podcast episode so far you've referenced—

Taylor: Yeah...

Rileigh: —both *Spongebob: The Musical* and *Trolls 2: World Tour*. Those have been your two cultural touch points throughout [through laughter] this episode.

Sydnee: *Trolls*— *Trolls: World Tour* is a very important lesson, in—

Taylor: Oh— okay. Well... okay.

Sydnee: [laughs] In, like, what true diversity means, and the dangers of, like— what Poppy keeps saying is "We're all the same." And, like, we're not all the same, and that's good.

[pause]

What were we talking about? [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: About Green Day.

Taylor: Green Day!

Rileigh: And now I would like to keep a running timer of all the times you've mentioned *Trolls: World Tour* in our podcast!

Taylor: Are you— are you paid by them?

Sydnee: [through laughter] My husband did—

Rileigh: I mean, Justin's in it.

Sydnee: [laughs] Or he was.

Taylor: But, you know, I think—

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: —the—[sighs] I mean... the— that— it's— what— okay. That cohesiveness of, like, "Here are our album of, you know, segmented three minute pop... or pop punk hits."

Like, that idea, which runs through a lot of, you know, digestible pop punk music— and there's nothing wrong with that. There are plenty of bands that do that endlessly and I love them.

But what I love about Green Day is their total commitment to doing whatever they kind of feel like doing, and I think to me it reminds me a lot more of one of my other favorite bands, which is The Replacements. And The Replacements, they're— you know, you look at their catalog, and they kind of have no fear in going off.

Like, if they're gonna do a weird kind of strummy singer-songwriter thing, or they're gonna do a weird, like, kind of country feel. Like, they do that. You know, the clash does that too, and I feel like Green Day kind of continues in that tradition, and those are both bands that I think, like, you know, Billy Joe Armstrong has cited as— a s influential to him. And I think that's... that's just— that's more punk rock to me than endless power chord progression, like, hard hitting punk rock songs. Is being like, "What if we just do a weird little minute of country here? Because we feel like it?"

And I think some of my favorite songs by Green Day are those sort of weird, like— like "Misery," which is like this weird sort of, like, country ballad. Or, like, the slower songs, like "Macy's Day Parade" which is just a lovely slow sad song, and it's one of my top five favorite Green Day songs, and it's not... I don't know if you'd call it punk, but it's beautiful.

Rileigh: Yeah. And, I mean, um, "Jesus of Suburbia" on *American Idiot* is another that's, like, what? A nine and a half minute song?

Taylor: [through laughter] Yeah!

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: And it's basically multiple songs in one. Like, it switches a few times its tone, and the instruments that are being highlighted, and the feel, and the rhythm. Like, it changes multiple times, but it is one song, and it's wild to listen to. 'Cause, like, I was listening to it while I was working out, and I just kept thinking, like, "Did that song just change? I didn't think that that one had ended." And then, "No, oh, this is all— that's right, this is all one song." [laughs]

Taylor: Well, it's been compared to, like, "Bohemian Rhapsody," which, I... you know, that's like— "Bohemian Rhapsody's" amazing, but I get the comparison in that it's several songs in one. And then it's got the interlude that's literally— it's Motley Crue's "On With the Show," but it's kind of being paralleled with Green Day. Like, it's such an amazing... composition. Like, you know? And, I mean, they made a music video for that. [through laughter] They made a nine-minute music video for "Jesus of Suburbia!"

Rileigh: Oh my gosh.

Sydnee: I gotta watch that.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I haven't seen that.

Rileigh: I haven't seen that either.

Sydnee: But that's— I think that that, like— that speaks to several different things. Like, one, its artistry.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Because you're drawing on— like, at that point, when you're talking about something in terms of movements, you're drawing on, like, classical music to create pop punk music. Which is, like, what you should be doing is looking at everything for influences, and, like, the good stuff, taking good things from everything. You know, that's a good way to continue being fresh and relevant and, uh, making something that's interesting and unique.

Um, but it's also— again, I just think it's— it's so nice to— in today's world, I don't think it's weird to talk about how, like, if this is your thing and you enjoy it then it's cool, and you don't have to justify it any more than that. And as somebody who grew up in the 90's, that's such a refreshing... change. Um, because it also frees us from, like, who gets to decide what's cool.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: Um, and the same people were deciding what was cool over and over and over again back then. And, like, you know, if you didn't fit into that mold, maybe it didn't fit you.

Taylor: It's funny to see how many older album reviews of, like— now, you know, the pretentious, like, music opinion holders are like, "Oh, everything after *Warning* was garbage." But then, like, when *Warning* came out, there were a whole bunch of people that said, "No, it's garbage. It's not punk enough."

You know, when *Nimrod* came out there were people that were detracting from it. Like, every album they came out with pretty much after *Dookie*, and even *Insomniac*, like, got hit with these people that were like, "This is no longer punk," or "This is not punk enough."

And it's like— like, you know, that's always gonna be the case. But, like, it's— I think it's better to just keep going with what you're doing versus— I mean, not to— I love Weezer, but let's be real. Weezer trying to regurgitate *The Blue Album* was kind of where they went off track, right?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Like, *Pinkerton* was weird and different, but retrospectively it was gorgeous and artistic. But when they came out with *The Green Album* and were like, "This is what we're good at, right? We're just gonna do this again?"

Nobody liked it. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Yeah. No, I mean, that's true. Well... I like— I love Weezer. But yes.

Taylor: [simultaneously] Well, I still like— yeah, you know.

Sydnee: Your point is— yeah, your point is well-founded. Um, I wonder how much of this is, like... I've talked about before, like, you got to this point where all of a sudden, all of culture you could access again.

And, like, we used to have all those shows, all the shows about, like, throwback to the 80's and the 90's, where they would just teach you about— like, you'd have a whole MTV episode about the culture of the 90's for some reason, you know? And I remember thinking, like, "How much of this stuff do I remember, and how much of this stuff have I seen TV shows about so I think I remember it, but I didn't really experience it?"

And I feel like we're at a point where, especially with your generation, Rileigh, you guys are rediscovering everything from all times and pulling the stuff that you like back into relevance.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Um, and it's right there at your fingertips constantly. We don't— we don't get to curate what you find, you just find it. Um, and it really gives the opportunity for a lot of stuff to be quote, unquote, "cool."

Rileigh: Yeah, and I think that's why you get so many reboots or bands coming back together and making new albums or whatever. It's because people have rediscovered things online that they love, and then start talking about it again, and it starts getting popular again, so they redo it.

Um, you know, even Green Day or Blink-182 are bands that, like, people on TikTok talk about. Like, people younger than me, 13, 14-year-old actual Gen Z

TikTokers, um, as, like, these old bands. Like, "Have you heard of this band before? This old band called Blink-182?"

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs] Oh God!

Riley: And even I am like, "[through laughter] Okay, come on, guys! Come on." But it's true! Like—

Taylor: Ah, yes. This is growing up. [laughs]

Riley: Yeah. They bring stuff back into extreme popularity that hasn't— I mean, has stayed relevant and people have kept listening to it or watching it or whatever, but brought it back into the mainstream.

Sydnee: Like sea shanties.

Riley: Like sea shanties!

Taylor: Yes.

Riley: Like the Jonas Brothers. The Jonas Brothers got back together 'cause everyone was like, "What— what happened to those Joe Bros, man?" Now they're back together.

Sydnee: Well, the one got to host *Saturday Night Live*, so.

Riley: Yeah!

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Which— is that relevant? [laughs]

Riley: Yeah. Meh.

Sydnee: What does your generation think of that? [laughs]

Riley: That's a good question. [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, but yeah, I think— I think that's kind of cool, though. I don't know about the whole middle part thing, but otherwise...

Rileigh: I love— I love the middle part. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Well, and I— you know, I don't— like, I ultimately believe that art is subjective, and so whether I like something or don't like something doesn't mean anything about its quality. But I think it— it would be hard to argue that a band like Green Day doesn't produce— doesn't have the intrinsic ability to produce quality hooks, catchy lyrics. Like, you just— you can't look at how massively successful they've been and not say, "Okay, there's quality there."

Like, there is something that is eternally good about what they did. And I think that's— yeah, given that ability to have access to all media, I think there's a reason. Like, they're still producing albums, and whether or not you like the direction they're going in now, like, I loved *Revolution Radio*. You know, I think they got a new album out that it's a little bit— it's a little bit more, like, produced, it's a little bit dancier. And it's not my thing, but I love that they're still out there.

They're in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. How many bands in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame are still producing albums, and still experimenting with their sound? Like... that's... that's, uh— that's staying power. That's ingenuity.

Sydnee: Yeah. Well, and it's not— it's not giving the excuse of, like, um— I, uh— "I was of a time, that was my generation. Time has moved on, so I'm done now."

It's like, "I'll just make the next thing."

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Well, and I think some of it comes from the fact that maybe— if you look at, like, what they're— what they're singing about from the very beginning— like, specifically I mean, Billy Joe Armstrong is the main lyricist. The others have written plenty of songs, or done compositions for them. Mike Dirnt and Trey Cool. Uh—[laughs] um, fun— fun fact, Mike Dirnt— it's a stage name, but Dirnt comes from he was one of those kids that would just walk around playing the air bass and making a sound like "Dirnt, dirnt, dirnt, dirnt." And that's—

Rileigh: Oh my gosh!

Taylor: —that's where he gets his name.

Riley: That's amazing.

Taylor: I love that. [laughs] Right? Like, that's not a cool origin story, but we know that kid. We all grew up with that kid.

Sydney: That's really cool.

Taylor: But, like, you know, they weren't singing about being losers that didn't get the girl they wanted. They were singing about stuff that isn't fixed by success or money, right? They're singing about— about mental illness, about— about, like, deep wounds of, like, insecurity and— and— and, like, mania and anger, and they're singing about it in this way that— I think what gets to the core of why I love them is because, you know, I was never one for sad songs.

Like, I'm not gonna sit— when I'm depressed, I'm not gonna sit around listening to Elliot Smith or Bright Eyes and cry. I wanna listen to Green Day, that's sarcastic, and cutting, and dark humor. That's how I process my depression.

And I think that... you know, that's part of what— it doesn't matter how successful they became. Those issues still haunted, frankly, like, Billy Joe Armstrong. Like, he struggled with substance abuse his whole career, and that— you know, to the detriment of the band at some points.

But, like, because they were singing to sort of issues that were deeper than what success could fix, I think that maybe— maybe it's not a positive thing, but that plays into their longevity. Why it still connects with people like me, people that related to their music as teenagers are still hearing them and they're still being spoken to from them.

Sydney: Mm-hmm.

Riley: Mm-hmm.

Sydney: Well, I— I had forgotten. I am glad you brought Green Day up, because—

Riley: Yeah, me too.

Sydnee: —uh, I was sitting and listening to the playlist that you made while I was looking through some stuff, and it was just— I had forgotten how much I enjoyed listening to Green Day.

Like, listening to it when I'm focusing on it, listening to it when it's just on, um, it's just— I mean, it's hard for me to imagine that somebody wouldn't hear, like, the majority of Green Day songs and just think, like, "Oh, this is good, solid stuff, like, to—" whether or not you fall in love with it, like, to have on. It's just so... it's so good. I had forgotten how good it was.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: It— I made— so, I made Sydnee and Rileigh a playlist of, like, three or four songs from every Green Day album that I thought were kind of essential listening, and it was incredibly difficult, because there are the songs that I love, and then there are the songs that are the mega hits that you can't not put on a mix. And a lot of times it was just choosing between, like— you know, like, your children. Like, I don't know. Like, how do I leave one of these songs off? They're all good! Uh, yeah.

Sydnee: It's a— it's a really good mix. I don't know— is there a way to make that— oh, man. I'm about to show my age.

Taylor: [laughs] I think you can share a Spotify playlist, yes.

Rileigh: You can.

Sydnee: [sighs] Okay.

Rileigh: You can just— if you make it just a public playlist, then you can share a link, like, online, social media.

Sydnee: Yeah. I was gonna say, you should share it, 'cause if there's anybody who isn't really familiar with Green Day and would like to try it out, it's, like, a good condensing of the— it's like *The Princess Bride*. It's the best parts version. Um, and it encourages you to explore further.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Well, it's funny, 'cause even after I sent that to you all, I was listening to *Revolution Radio* this morning, just, you know, having it on in the background, and a song came on that I've definitely heard before, but I've never listened to it, and it was the song "Still Breathing." So, 2016, very, like— very new song in the Green Day catalog. And it— it was one of those moments, like so many songs in my past, that I heard and I was like, "Oh, this is a song for me."

And it's like, having that moment literally this morning with a very new song, comparatively, like, from the position of someone who's kind of been through— which, so much of their catalog is about just so much ugly stuff to live through, so many bad feelings. And then here's a song that's kind of like, "I'm still here. I'm still around."

And it was one of those moments where, like, "Aw, man! You and me, Green Day, we've gone through this together, and we're still here!" [laughs] We're still making mistakes, we're still not our best selves, but we're still here. And that's powerful that at this— this far down the road... I mean, I think everybody maybe has bands they go through their life with, you know? People that just kind of stay on the same track, and I'm— I'm happy to have this as one of mine. [laughs quietly]

Riley: Yeah.

Sydnee: Well—

Riley: [quietly] That's how I feel about Taylor Swift.

Taylor: [laughs] Yeah, that— and I'm glad you have T. Swift.

[all laugh]

Sydnee: That's how I feel about *Grease 2*.

Riley: Ugh. Man.

Taylor: Okay. [laughs]

Riley: Still.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: No, I'm joking. But that— I think what you just said is— you know, I don't make music. But I do— I mean, we all do— create things that we hope people enjoy. And, like, as an artist, that's all you hope for, is that when you make something, somebody out there has a moment like that. So...

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I think that's success.

Taylor: Yeah. And that requires earnest desire to connect, and if that translates sometimes to selling out, maybe it's okay. [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: What is selling out? Does your generation even care about that anymore?

Rileigh: I don't— I don't—

Taylor: I hope not.

Rileigh: No. [laughs] I'm gonna say no.

Taylor: I can't— anybody that's worked, like, a minimum wage job that has the opportunity to quote, unquote, "sell out," I can only assume the people that are concerned with selling out have, like, trust funds. Like, that's...

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Anybody that's gonna be like, "No, I don't wanna be successful. I wanna toil in obscurity!" Like, you— you've got a bankroll behind you.

Sydnee: Yes, exactly.

Rileigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Well, thank you, Taylor.

Rileigh: Yeah, thanks, Tey.

Sydnee: This was— this was a really good topic, 'cause, um, it was really fun to revisit Green Day. 'Cause it had been a while.

Taylor: Thank you! Thank you for listening.

Sydnee: Rileigh?

Rileigh: Yes?

Sydnee: What's next?

Rileigh: Uh, well, what I have brought next is significantly less meaningful, um, but it is a show that was important to my youth, and apparently my future career choices as a— as an internet... [laughs quietly] creator.

Um, and that's *iCarly*.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: It was recently put on Netflix so everyone's been talking about it. Um, I— you know, it was very important to me growing up, and apparently *iCarly*, Carly becoming the original professional internet comedian...

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: [laughs]

Rileigh: ... is why I am where I am. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Alright! I have never— I am familiar with what it is. I've never watched it.

Rileigh: You don't need to watch all of it. It's the kind of show that, like, you watch a few episodes, you get the— you get the point.

Sydnee: Alright.

Rileigh: They're all kind of the same, but yeah.

Sydnee: Well, I will check it out!

Rileigh: Alright.

Sydnee: Where is it?

Rileigh: Netflix.

Sydnee: Netflix.

Taylor: Okay.

Sydnee: Alright. Well, we will check it out before next week.

Rileigh: Alright. [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: Find out Rileigh's origin story.

Rileigh: It's become relevant again. I just want to talk about it. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Syd, start trying to figure out how you can relate it to *Trolls 2* and *Grease 2*.

Sydnee: Yeah. Do you already have some ideas for that? You wanna—

Rileigh: No, I don't! That's on you.

Sydnee: —workshop that later? Okay, alright. I'll find a way.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: You should really watch *Trolls: World Tour*. It was very good.

Taylor: I've seen it! I watched it when it debuted.

Sydnee: Oh. Well, see, then you know!

Taylor: Then I know.

Sydnee: [laughs loudly]

Raleigh: [laughs loudly]

Sydnee: It's been a long March, guys.

Raleigh: It's March 3rd. [laughs]

Taylor: March 3000 and something.

Sydnee: Is it?

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Is it really, though?

Raleigh: No, it's, like, 368th or whatever. [laughs]

Taylor: It's just More-ch now just More-ch. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] More March. More-ch. That— officially this month is now More-ch. Um... thank you all for listening. I hope your More-ch is going better than West Virginia's More-ch is going. Um, hey. We're doing the vaccine thing, though, but...

Raleigh: Yeah, got that.

Sydnee: Uh, thank you to our listeners. Um, you can tweet at us @stillbuff. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org if you have things you wanna email us about, things you wanna put in an email. You should go to Maximumfun.org. There are so many podcasts, and you would love them, and go and listen to them. They're great.

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

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

[theme music plays in the background]

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Rileigh: I am still buffering...

Sydnee and Taylor: And I...

Taylor: ... was— am!

Sydnee: ... am... too.

Taylor: [laughs loudly]

Rileigh: None of us can get our lines right!

Sydnee: More-ch!

Taylor: More-ch! [laughs]

Rileigh: It's More-ch!

Sydnee: It's all because of More-ch!

[all laugh]

Rileigh: Taylor's the one of us that has actually stopped— stopped buffering.

Taylor: I have. I— I was—

Rileigh: Taylor's made it.

Taylor: No, I'm just— no, I'm just permanently just— this is as buffered as I get.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [singing] I'm confused, you see!

Taylor: [laughs] Oh, no.

[radio effects]

Speaker One: Maximum Fun is a network by and for cool, popular people, but did you know it also has an offering designed to appeal to nerds?

Speaker Two: A show for nerds? On Maximum Fun? The devil, you say?

Speaker One: It's true! It's called *The Greatest Generation*, and they review episodes of a television program for nerds called *Star Trek*. They reviewed *TNG*, *DS9*, and are now reviewing *Voyager*.

Speaker Two: Hey, *Star Trek*! My daughter enjoys that program.

Speaker One: Well, if she enjoys that, and she enjoys humor of the flatulent variety, might I recommend she subscribe to *The Greatest Generation*?

Speaker Two: Hey, are you callin' my kid a nerd? Why, I oughta...

Speaker One: Well, gotta go! Become a [unintelligible] by subscribing to *The Greatest Generation* on Maximumfun.org today!

[running]

[chord]

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