

Wonderful! 200: The Lead Anniversary

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hello, this is Griffin, big 200, bicentennial...

Rachel: Uh...?

Griffin: ... di-centennial— 200, McElroy!

Rachel: And this is *Wonderful* episode 200!

Griffin: We've got a lot planned for you for this very special one!

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: First off—

Rachel: Come on in, TV on the Radio!

Griffin: Come on in! And then balloons dropping. There's— Uh, okay there's, like, three balloons because we didn't have much of a budget for this one.

Rachel: Spent it all on TV on the Radio.

Griffin: Please don't steal the balloons because we will need them for our 300th episode.

Rachel: [giggling]

Griffin: Balloons don't grow on trees. They come out of rubber plants.

Rachel: Sound the airhorn.

Griffin: [briefly imitates airhorn]

Rachel: Ba-ba-ba-bow!

[MLG airhorn sound effect]

Griffin: That's good. Oh, yeah, that feels— Now it feels like a party. We didn't— We forgot it was episode 200 until we just sat down to record.

Rachel: You know, I kind of remembered. Uh, but I didn't know what one does for 200. Do you recall?

Griffin: Uh, it's— I think 200 is the lead anniversary.

Rachel: Ooh! [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, so I got you this— I got you this big pipe.

Rachel: Thank you!

Griffin: Yeah, you're welcome!

Rachel: Ooh, it tastes so sweet.

Griffin: Well, no, don't do that.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, no it's great. It's— We've— The thing is, I feel like with *Rosebuddies* factored in...

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: We've done many hundreds of— I think we're getting closer to 400 than we are 200.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: But it's still a special occasion.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: I love you very much and I really love doing this podcast.

Rachel: I love you, too.

Griffin: Do you have any maybe small wonders?

Rachel: I do, actually.

Griffin: Oh!

Rachel: I went on a walk this morning and I am excited about all of the Halloween décor.

Griffin: Yes!

Rachel: This feels like the first year maybe, possibly, there will be trick-or-treating. Uh, because there hasn't been as much recently. Uh, and people are really going all out.

Griffin: I feel like that's true as well, uh, I'll be curious if that carries over to, uh, Christmas and the bright twinkly lights that you get out of that.

Rachel: Oh, yeah.

Griffin: But Christmas doesn't have a door-to-door, sort of, unless you go a-wassailing, huh?

Rachel: [laughing] Uh-huh.

Griffin: Man, I'd love to a-wassailing.

Rachel: I think you'd be good at it.

Griffin: I think I would, too. We had carolers come to our door a couple times since we've lived in Austin.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And it's one of those things that when I think about doing it, I think like, that nobody wants that. Nobody wants me to come to their door and sing to them. But every time it's happened to me...

Rachel: Yes!

Griffin: It's been a magical...

Rachel: Hands down, the most magical. It is a little awkward because you stand there and you don't know what you've committed to necessarily.

Griffin: Yes, yes.

Rachel: Because sometimes they'll start up another song and you're like, "Oh! Oh. Okay."

Griffin: "Okay!" Yeah, I think when you're wassailing, you should get one and done. Why are we talking about Christmas when it's the month of...

Rachel: The spookies.

Griffin: The scary times. Um...

Rachel: What's your small wonder?

Griffin: Yeah, I'm gonna say you in a hat. You've been wearing a hat a lot lately. I bought this, like, neat sort of retro-style St. Louis Blues cap that is too small for my board.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Um, but it looks great on you and you've been wearing it a lot lately and I just, I love it. It's like I'm [holding back laughter] married to Billy Crystal.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I saw that one coming from, like, five seconds before I said it, I was like, "Who wears a hat? Who wears a hat? Billy Crystal wears a blue hat. Oh, but I can't possibly say my wife reminds me of Billy Crystal. Oh, no! I'm saying it! I'm saying it! It's happening!"

Rachel: You know what? I'm one of the few people that takes that as high praise.

Griffin: Sure!

Rachel: I... I'm okay with that.

Griffin: Okay! Good. I knew that about you, that's why...

Rachel: Because Billy Crystal can wear a hat.

Griffin: Billy Crystal fucks.

Rachel: [laughs] Say what you will about Billy Crystal, but dude can wear a hat.

Griffin: Dude is maybe one of the most prodigious hat wearers that I've ever met.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: I've never met Billy Crystal. But I will one day.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: Do you wanna do your big thing?

Rachel: I do!

Griffin: Alright.

Rachel: Um...

Griffin: Do you forget what your big thing is?

Rachel: No, I'm just trying to think if I want to frame it in a particular way.

Griffin: Oh, boy.

Rachel: Uh, I think I will just start by saying that the bulk of my research focused on Louie, the St. Louis Blues bear mascot.

Griffin: Okay, okay! I didn't— I've watched a lot of St. Louis Blues games. I don't know that I've seen a bear in the audience.

Rachel: Mm.

Griffin: Am I just not paying close enough attention?

Rachel: Not paying enough attention.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: I mean, here's the thing that is inherently great about a hockey mascot. Um, it's a relatively new phenomenon because I think mascots traditionally... One, they kind of serve to pump up the crowd on, potentially, a slower sport, you know?

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Like a baseball.

Griffin: You got to have it for baseball.

Rachel: You got to get somebody on top of the dugout doing a little dance, getting everybody back in the game, or you know, it's like a football, maybe, where you know, you're close to the field. There's a lot of places to run around.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Hockey, there's really no place for that mascot to go.

Griffin: You slip and you fall on your tuchus.

Rachel: Yeah. I mean, the seats start right where the ice ends and those aisles are pretty small and so usually, they have to put the mascot up in this kind of strange holding pen.

Griffin: Yeah, like a jail. A Gritty jail for the crimes.

Rachel: [laughs] And this is also, as I mentioned, like a relatively newish thing, at least for the St. Louis Blues it is. I mean, some teams have had mascots for longer.

Griffin: I mean, the Huntington Blizzard, uh, had a polar bear mascot whose name I can't remember, but I'm gonna say was named Blizzy.

Rachel: Polar bear— Bears are generally pretty popular.

Griffin: Sure.

Rachel: If you think about, like, the cold ice, you know. You want, like, a cold weather creature.

Griffin: And then you have the teams that have a animal name. So, like, the Penguins, I imagine, it would be fucked up if they were like, "And here's our mascot, an arctic fox."

Rachel: [laughs] It's true. Um, I will also say I'm not here today to talk about Gritty.

Griffin: Yeah and that's okay. I think Gritty gets enough— We've spilled enough ink on Gritty.

Rachel: I know, I think so too.

Griffin: I think Gritty's fantastic, I love the idea of an amorphous horror as the mascot for a team. But we all know Gritty, we love Gritty. I want to hear about the Blues bear.

Rachel: So, Louie showed up on the scene in 2007.

Griffin: Wow, that is a fresh young mascot.

Rachel: Yeah. Yeah, apparently his great debut was October 10th, 2007. He was introduced to the fans and got to play When the Blues Go Marching In on his saxophone.

Griffin: Huh. Wow.

Rachel: Saxophone didn't stick around. Don't see him really with a saxophone these days.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: The name Louie was the result of a contest. I found, like, an original website that listed the name options back when people were voting.

Griffin: Got to hear these.

Rachel: So of course, Louie.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Also Bluey, which I sometimes think is his name, because I wasn't connected to this moment in Blues history.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Uh, we got Archie, was another option. Brawler, which I think sets a very different tone for what this could have been.

Griffin: Okay. Louie— Is Louie L-O-U-I-S or L-O-U-I-E?

Rachel: L-O-U-I-E. Because that would be confusing. St. Louis, if you spelt it that way, you know...

Griffin: There's a lot that's confusing about it.

Rachel: Lewis, the spokes-bear. Uh, also Bud E. Bear was an option.

Griffin: That's not— That sucks.

Rachel: And Bubl .

Griffin: Hey!

Rachel: [laughing] Which is sort of, just delightful, I think. Here, by the way, here is a picture for you, the reveal of Louie with his saxophone in October, 2007.

Griffin: Hey, he gives off a certain energy that I got to look at some more jpegs of this beautiful bear.

Rachel: I think they were maybe anticipating some kind of Blues Brother thing because he is wearing a full suit and sunglasses.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: They did not stick with that.

Griffin: He looks nonthreatening. He looks, um...

Rachel: He's very cuddly.

Griffin: Yeah, I would love to give him a cuddle. Which is funny because I don't think hockey is the cuddliest of the sports. That is rugby, of course.

Rachel: Um, do you want to hear his origin story, per the website?

Griffin: I would love to hear it. Wait, is this a fictional one like, "He came through the gumdrop forest—"

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Oh, fantastic.

Rachel: "A number of years ago in a small town near the arctic circle, a bouncing baby polar bear was born. But this bear was very different from all the other polar bears in the town. While all the other bears had white fur, this bear's fur was blue."

Griffin: Aw, man.

Rachel: "Then one day, he was told about a hockey team called the St. Louis Blues!" [laughs]

Griffin: This is not a good origin story. This is a bad origin story.

Rachel: No, in the arctic circle, they were like, "Hey, you know what you should check out?"

Griffin: "You know what else is blue?"

Rachel: [laughs] "Since the blue bear loved hockey, blues music, and was blue himself, he knew he had to find this team."

Griffin: Why did he know about blues music?

Rachel: [laughs] They kind of gloss over that.

Griffin: How did this four-legged animal from the arctic circle know about blues music?

Rachel: "When he was old enough, the blue bear travelled all the way to St. Louis to meet the Blues." [laughs] We don't have any minor bears, here. Let us know. This bear is legal.

Griffin: Yeah, I guess?

Rachel: "After meeting the team, he was inspired with their high energy and great teamwork. Even though they had never met a blue bear before, all the Blues players and coaches liked him so much they invited him to be part of the team as their mascot."

Griffin: Yeah, no, that didn't— I'm not seeing fucking Vladimir Tarasenko, like, "Mm, yes. This is a cool bear."

Rachel: I like that they invited him as their mascot, so there is a moment where it was like, "Should we put this guy center ice?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Or he should probably be the mascot.

Griffin: "Should do a flip!"
"No, I can't do a flip."
"Okay."

Rachel: So, that's the story.

Griffin: Okay, it's good— It's a fine story. I— There's room for punch-up I think. I think I can give a couple of notes?

Rachel: Yeah, I mean. You bring up a good point with the blues, like the music. Like, how did he become a fan of music, or hockey for that matter?

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, what if we went the Dumbo route? Like what if he was, like, captured in the arctic circle and brought to perform in, like, a circus or something like that? But...

Rachel: Ooh, I like that. I like that.

Griffin: And he hated it, he was miserable there. But there was maybe a, uh, like a strong man who loved blues music and so he'd hear it coming from his tent and then—

Rachel: And then he had the opportunity to secure his freedom if he entered into some kind of ice race...

Griffin: Oh! Yeah.

Rachel: ... where he demonstrated his ability to skate.

Griffin: And he won, but the mean ringleader still didn't uphold his end of the bargain. So Bluey— Louie the Blues bear broke out of his cage and ate everyone except for the strong man who was like, "You're cool." And he's like, "What is this great music though?" And he's like, "This is blues." And also, maybe the circus was in St. Louis at the time.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: And so he went to a—

Rachel: And that strong man was...

Griffin and Rachel: Coach Berube.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Who was, like, "I'll follow you. I'll follow you, blue bear."

Rachel: Uh, so Louie, pretty popular as hockey mascots go. There was a poll from Play Canada that surveyed 2000 NHL fans and Louie was named fourth most popular mascot.

Griffin: Was Gritty one? Was Gritty number—

Rachel: No!

Griffin: What!?

Rachel: In this survey, Gritty came in 21st.

Griffin: Get the— No! No! No!

Rachel: And then it says, "But he was the fourth most popular in terms of mascots among their own team's fans."

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: So I guess Philadelphia was like, "We love Gritty."

Griffin: No! But there was a significant portion of Philadelphia hockey fans who were like, "We don't love Gritty." And that's why he clocked in fourth. This poll is maximum sus.

Rachel: Um, I wanted to talk about some of the other, very quickly. Uh, the top was Carlton the Bear from the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Griffin: Love him, love him, of course.

Rachel: Um, let me show you... I just, I figure, you know, you'll want to know.

Griffin: Sure!

Rachel: Carlton is a polar bear.

Griffin: Yeah, no. He's a pretty much right over the plate polar bear.

Rachel: Yeah. And he's been around since 1995. Toronto Maple Leafs was ahead of the game here.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Um...

Griffin: Yo, I want to know about the expansion team, the Seattle Kraken is—

Rachel: Oh, yeah. What does that one look like?

Griffin: They poached some of our beautiful boys off the blues, but I mean that's what you have to do with an expansion team, so there is a little bit of resentment there but that team name has the opportunity for one of the all-time best mascots ever. If it's just another polar bear or Kodiak bear, I'm going to be so disappointed. If it's not, like, a many-tentacled beast that just, like, drops down from the rafters?

Rachel: Um...

Griffin: They might not have it— Maybe they'll poach Louie as their expansion mascot.

Rachel: Yeah, I don't see him yet. I guess because they haven't really debuted him.

Griffin: I mean, you got to put him to the folks in R&D to really figure out...

Rachel: There are some, what are possibly estimates of what he's going to look like.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: So, for example I found this, but this is not an authorized website.

Griffin: That's not anything.

Rachel: So I don't think that's...

Griffin: That's a bear with tentacles for arms and hair, which is fun. There's a Splatoon vibe there that I'm into.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Let me hit you with this: a not completely visible mascot, but from time to time, eight enormous robotic tentacles drop down from the ceiling and just, like, wiggle and wave around.

Rachel: [laughs] Oh, I like that.

Griffin: And, like, throw around like, pizza hut coupons, right?

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: That's good.

Rachel: [laughing] Um, here is Slapshot, of the Washington Capitals. Appears to be some kind of eagle.

Griffin: Alright, that's okay.

Rachel: Which I guess is because of the Washington thing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: You know, maybe they wanted something super patriotic. Um, there's also Howler. Uh, which is the Coyotes. Just looks like a real friendly, Wile E. Coyote sort of guy.

Griffin: I don't like that.

Rachel: Oh, you don't?

Griffin: No, because coyotes are nasty little scoundrels.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: And I feel like having, like, a cute coyote... I don't know. God, I don't want to side track this segment, but for me, the energy that hockey sort of captures, there's an intensity and a violence there that I feel like, so far only Gritty has been able to really manifest.

Rachel: There's also kind of the anti-Slapshot. So, Slapshot as I mentioned was a eagle, um...

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Chicago Blackhawks, obviously problematic, uh...

Griffin: Sure.

Rachel: ... logo.

Griffin: Emblem, yes.

Rachel: Has Tommyhawk...

Griffin: Okay. The black hawk.

Rachel: ... which is not— Yeah. Not a great...

Griffin: No.

Rachel: Not a great look. Um, yeah. I just— You know, I looked to see if we'd talked about mascots before. And you had actually talked about Marshall's.

Griffin: Yeah! Marco!

Rachel: Marco!

Griffin: Who went from being—

Rachel: [crosstalk] ... super jacked.

Griffin: Who went from being a real buffalo, to a fun cartoon buffalo, to a fucking jacked, very horny buffalo.

Rachel: [laughs] Yeah. Um, Louie's just a cuddly guy.

Griffin: Cuddly guy.

Rachel: Uh, you can arrange for appearances of Louie's. You can get a ten-minute appearance where he takes a few pictures. You can do a thirty-minute appearance where he really gets the guests excited. All of that is available to you on the website, should you want Louie at your next gathering.

Griffin: You know what I'm just putting together?

Rachel: What?

Griffin: Do you know the mascot for the Phillies? The Philly Fanatic? He's a green monster with, like, a proboscis?

Rachel: Yeah, okay.

Griffin: Well, he's a green monster with a snoot and then they also have Gritty.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Is there just one person in Philadelphia who gets to design the mascots who's like, "a big fuzzy weird monster with horrifying violent eyes."

Rachel: He's got, like, a Mr. Potato Head set that's just, like, a variety of features that he puts together.

Griffin: I love it. Keep it up, Philadelphia. Everybody else, "A bear! A bird! Ours is a wolf!" Ours is a fucked-up alien that is gonna hurt you. He might hurt you.

Rachel: Yeah, if you think of Philadelphia Flyers, they really could have done a lot with that and not just weird monster.

Griffin: Yeah, but I'm glad that they went the route that they did.

Rachel: Yeah. Anyway, this isn't a Gritty podcast.

Griffin: No, it's not. Nor is it a Philly's Fanatic podcast.

Rachel: Yeah, we're not here to talk about Gritty, we're here to talk about Louie which is a very sweet bear and I love him so much.

Griffin: Good, I'm glad. They need to put him front and center more. I've literally never seen this bear on the television broadcast.

Rachel: You'll see him now.

Griffin: Oh, yeah?

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: You're saying he's been in the background the whole time?

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: I just haven't noticed this big ole bear?

Rachel: You've been too busy watching hockey, let me tell you. There's a bear out there.

Griffin: Yeah, just love that beautiful game. Hey, can I steal you away?

Rachel: Yes.

[ad break]

Griffin: Oh, here come the bumble boobs.

Rachel: I'm excited for this first one.

Griffin: Yeah, me too. This first one's for Kat and it's from [imitates fanfare] David Matthews, your boyfriend, not the band. Super good. "Hi, Kat—" [with a southern accent] "Hi, Kat. I'm so—"

Rachel: [laughs] No.

Griffin: No. "Hi, Kat. I'm so incredibly proud of you for beginning your grad school journey in Seattle. You inspire me every day. Though I miss you dearly and I'm so thankful for this year we've been able to spend together. I got to spent 2020 falling in love with you and I can't wait to keep doing so. You are my biggest wonder. I'll see you again soon, love David." Matthews.

Rachel: Cheers to David.

Griffin: Cheers to David and Kat, it's a good love.

Rachel: I bet David had a hard time, you know? Just, like, differentiating from the famous—

Griffin: Every time David Matthews goes to a party, they're like, "Did you hear who's coming?"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And then David Matthews, who seems amazing, shows up to the party and there's a lot of people there. A lot of crunchy waste-oids who are like, "That's not—"

Rachel: Mm-hmm. "Play Crash!"

Griffin: Yeah. And he's like, "I do know how to play. I do know how to play it. Of course, it would be wild if I didn't learn how to play some Dave Matthews Band songs, but no." Uh, you wanna do this next one?

Rachel: Yeah, this message is for Erica. It is from your nemesis.

Griffin: Whoa.

Rachel: "Erica, even though we are fight-on-sight, you are wonderful. I'm so glad we recognized each other's gremlin energy ten years ago and maybe in another ten years you will finally watch the things I recommend to you. Thank you for enabling my kittens, creating artisanal memes for the group chat, and being the bright spot of my year. Wizened crows and crime forever."

Griffin: That was a fun message.

Rachel: That was difficult for me to get through.

Griffin: It was a real hedge maze of words for you and I'm so glad you found a good nemesis who can challenge you.

Rachel: There's an assumption here that Erica only has one nemesis and maybe Erica is hearing this message and thinking, "Which of the nemeses is this from?"

Griffin: Oh, yeah. God, I wish I only had one nemesis. Holy shit, that would be— To be able to focus my energies on one nemesis?

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Ugh. That would be great.

[ad break]

Rachel: What is your thing that you are going to talk about today?

Griffin: I have to get all of these many, many jpegs of the Philly's Fanatic and Gritty off my cell phone.

Rachel: Yeah, you were really doing a deep dive over there.

Griffin: Yeah. I just, yeah. I am bringing a song. I, rarely, I feel like, bring just one song. But this is a new track, just dropped hot off the presses. I found it for the first time yesterday and I've listened to it, no joke, probably 30 times since then. I'm obsessed with it because it's a collaboration from two artists that I've been listening to nonstop this year. It's a song called *Romcom 2021* and it's a collab between Soccer Mommy and Kero Kero Bonito.

Rachel: Oh, do you think they got together and they said, "You know, let's make a song for Griffin."

Griffin: I genuinely— I have this in my notes. So we talked about Soccer Mommy on this show. I think you brought Soccer Mommy. Uh, really very solid, like, lo-fi... Sort of classical, indie rock vibe that is...

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: ... so, so chill and so good. Um, in the vein of, like, in the same way that Snail Mail is just, like, good classic indie rock stuff. Uh, and then Kero Kero Bonito, I don't know if I've ever, like, actually brought them to this show. Uh, wild connection, uh, Augustus, for the use of our theme song with Bo En, *Money Won't Pay*, is in Kero Kero Bonito.

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: Jamie and Gus are the two sort of backing music producers and, uh, a woman named Sarah Bonito. It's just, her stage name is the singer for Kero Kero Bonito. Anyway, I think I've maybe talked about them, a glancing shot at least, before.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah. For sure.

Griffin: One of my favorite bands, seen them live a couple times. Henry really likes them, uh, which is great because it's one of the few bands that, like, I can also get into. Anyway, for some reason, these two got together, uh, despite the fact that they occupy very different spaces in music...

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: ... to put together what is maybe my top bop of 2021, I don't see it being supplanted, called *Romcom 2021*. And let's play a little of it right now.

[*Romcom 2021* audio clip plays]

Griffin: So this song was actually released as a series of singles from Adult Swim, uh, who I guess does this every year, they do like a string of releases from artists that are cool and put them together in this huge playlist. So, this is actually the 23rd installment in their 2021 singles release.

And it's an easy way to keep track of what, uh, compilation it's on because the year is right there in the title of the song. Uh, I didn't realize this. Soccer Mommy actually released a track back in July called *Romcom 2004*. Did you hear that? Or see that that had come out.

Rachel: No.

Griffin: It was a wild one. It was— You know, the music that we've played of Soccer Mommy's here on the show is, like I said, just this very sort of clean indie rock. Uh, but this song was like, this weird, glitchy kind of poppy song with, uh, like guitars that have been distorted to this Hell dimension.

But the chorus is more or less the same as it is in *Romcom 2021* and it ruled. It was way different from anything else she had done, but it was very, very good. But with *Romcom 2021*, like, that— The chorus of that song and the vibe of that song has just been remixed into this, just, hyperpop masterpiece.

It heavily focuses on vocal chops of the chorus from Soccer Mommy from *Romcom 2004*, which is like, one of my favorite things, I think, in electronic music or pop music, where they just take somebody singing and, you know, put it in a sampler and turn it into its own instrument. Uh, that happens so much here and the lyrics that are added by Kero Kero Bonito are just this wild stream of consciousness run-on sentence about romcoms.

One of the verses just goes, "a country escape, fine young things. Isolophobia, two time. I don't want to know, well, actually I do. Soul reawakening. Love is all we have."

Rachel: Wow.

Griffin: That's very good, very evocative. Isolophobia is the fear of being alone, which I didn't know.

Rachel: Oh, yeah that makes sense.

Griffin: Uh, which I just assume is a thing most people have, so I'm surprised there's a word for it. Uh, in a statement accompanying the song's release, uh, Kero Kero Bonito said, "Our contributions were inspired by *Bridget Jones's Diary*, late summer, and UK garage vocal manipulation."

Rachel: Wow!

Griffin: Yeah. Like, yeah, absolutely. You got all of that, all those things right in there. Uh, no joke, I've listened to this song nonstop since I found it yesterday and I just— I cannot believe these two artists got together to make a track that is so completely up my alley.

Actually, it's funny because I think I brought up— I think it was this year, I did segment on Chvrches, who got together to do a collab with Wednesday Campanella, the Japanese electronic group, that I'd also

brought to this show which was another, just like, what is this Scottish electropop duo doing with this, like, Japanese sort of electrorap outfit.

But once again, these two incredibly great tastes have come together to make something that is... It's so exciting. And we've talked about this, this may be one of the first things we ever talked about on this show is finding a song that you know is going to be a song that you're going to listen to a lot for the rest of your life.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: I think that this has joined that sort of pantheon for me because it's like... Man, it's so perfect. The key art for this single, like the album art and, like, the animated background on the Adult Swim site when you go to listen to it is inspired by, uh, *Tomodachi Life* and, like, *Miis*. Like Nintendo *Miis*.

Rachel: Oh, yeah!

Griffin: Uh, which is, like, so choice. There's nothing about this that doesn't align with my shit perfectly.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Um, so yeah. I don't have a lot more notes on this, I don't have a lot more to say about it. Um, but I couldn't not bring because it's a top bop, 2021. Don't—

Rachel: So this is when I reveal to you that you are the star of a reality show called The Griffin Show.

Griffin: Aw, man!

Rachel: In which all of us are actors.

Griffin: Y'all got together to make this happen.

Rachel: Yeah. And we thought how do we add some spice to 2021 for Griffin?

Griffin: You've done it! You've done it. Thank you...

Rachel: You're welcome.

Griffin: ... to the producers, um, thank you to the Academy obviously.

Rachel: Uh-huh. Ed Harris.

Griffin: Ed Harris! Clutch.

Rachel: [giggles]

Griffin: Um, hey. Thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, *Money Won't Pay*. You can find a link to that in the episode description and thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network.

Rachel: Yeah. Maximum Fun's got a lot of cool stuff planned with this, uh, this block party. Maybe you've heard of it.

Griffin: Ooh.

Rachel: Coming up. A little, little cool stuff associated with that. Keep an ear and an eye out for that, you get to see all your favorite people together doing fun stuff.

Griffin: Sure. That was very—

Rachel: Check it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: [laughs] I would be a terrible MTV DJ.

Griffin: Well, you're being clandestine because I don't think either of us know how much is public knowledge about it.

Rachel: I know!

Griffin: But it'll be fun. Uh, I think that's it. I don't know that we have much more else to say to you. We have a bunch of merch at McElroyMerch.com, if you like—

Rachel: Yeah, there's a new *Adventure Zone* live show, if you enjoyed *MBMBaM Virtual*, get ready.

Griffin: Yes, we're doing Three-tenanny, the third installment in the Hootenanny series.

Rachel: Now the dad's there.

Griffin: Now the dad's there. Uh, that's the tagline for it.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's it, we're— That's it. We're gonna go. Keep it real, keep it chilly. Um...

Rachel: Keep it chilly?

Griffin: Keep it chilly, you know. Crisp, there's a crispness in the air and I want you all to just, like, savor that. Go outside. Eat the crispness. Touch a leaf.

Rachel: Uh-huh. Everyone's talking about pumpkins, but you know what I'm gonna say? Pears.

Griffin: Pears! Grab a pear, smush it between your hands.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Strong.

Rachel: Now you've got pear juice.

Griffin: Now you've got pear juicy hands. Smash that pear. Like the Hulk? Goodbye!

[theme music plays]

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