

MBMBaM 594: The Trumpet

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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 music plays]

Justin: Hello and welcome to *My Brother, My Brother and Me*, an advice show for the modern era. I am your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis: And I am Archduke Travis McElroy, Lord of the Manor.

Griffin: [slowly, like a lazy aristocrat] And I am Griffin McElroy.

Justin: Sorry, what's that?

Griffin: That's fancy man, that's fancy man.

Justin: Oh, God.

Travis: Oh, you know what we need? This will be fucking fancy, take flight. We need to hire a herald for the year to announce us for us.

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: I've advocated for this a long time on the show.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Uh, get yourself a personal herald and I think that this is the time for it.

Griffin: In old timey art and stuff, when they did show, like a herald or town crier...

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I always thought that my man had a horn, but I do believe it was some sort of proto-vuvuzela.

Justin: Mm.

Griffin: Like, some— You know what I mean? Because I would—

Travis: [crosstalk] ... come and whip it over his head and be like, "Check out the prince!"

Griffin: Or something— Well, no, if the prince is already there, then the town herald sucks shit at his job. You got to let— You've got to give me fair warning so I can get my kids dressed up in their finery and get them outside to greet the prince and all that stuff. But I'm just saying, if he came out in middle of town and was like [imitates vuvuzela]. That vuvuzela, that good vuvuzela sound? I would stop what I was doing. Chopping lumber...

Travis: Yep.

Justin: Peeling potatoes.

Travis: Selecting bodies.

Griffin: ...rye and— Yeah, exactly.

Travis: Can I say [crosstalk].

Griffin: I would be such a fucking good, like, 17th century agrarian, like, dude...

Justin: I mean, you have the constitution for it [crosstalk].

Travis: You've got the constitution, you've got the build, you have the sinew.

Justin: The sinew, the muscle— the musculature, if I may be so bold.

Travis: The iron stomach that can eat basically uncooked meat.

Griffin: It would be so dope. I think I would be really good at collecting barleys to give to the king and the satisfaction I would get out of that. My family wouldn't have any of the barley, but I would know, like, "Mm, I bet the king's eating good today." I would love that shit.

Justin: [crosstalk] Yeah, I think you would actually probably not make it through the week. Griffin, if you ever see a portal and you step through and you look around and you don't see any cars, you should just start funeral planning. [laughs]

Travis: Yeah, I mean listen...

Justin: You're not having a time.

Travis: Come back through the portal if you can.

Justin: Come back to the portal if you can, but if not, like, start your funeral plan...

Travis: They don't have a Imodium back then.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: And, like, that would be my number one concern. They don't have, like, white noise machines to help you sleep.

Griffin: Okay—

Justin: I would love if Griffin was the one who got stuck through the portal in *Hello from the Magic Tavern*, the portal behind the Burger King, because it would literally just be like an afternoon of him, like...

Griffin: But that's—

Justin: ... tripping over a log, falling into a sharp rock, and dying in the forest.

Travis: Justin, there's a chance that the denizens of this world would see him and be like, "Look at that pasty skin and his noodley arms. He must be royalty."

Justin: Oh, maybe!

Griffin: Yeah. That's— Maybe,

Travis: "That young waif has never worked a day in his life."

Griffin: I'm also—

Justin: "Excuse me, are you besmirched by consumption?"

Griffin: I have a 21st century immune system. They have nothing that could take me down. That's the first thing. Second thing...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Well...

Justin: Does it work like that?

Griffin: Even if I did get sort of diarrhea so bad that it sort of became my sort of defining characteristic, if I knew that— As long as I'm getting that barley to my great king and I knew that he was stuffed to the gills with this good stuff and...

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: I think I would be okay with it.

Travis: Now, here's what I will say, Griffin, if you were able to survive the everything, I see you being the wise barley farmer that delivers the barley in such a way that the king is like, "I'm going to elevate you. You not only deliver the barley—"

Justin: But he wouldn't— He wouldn't. He'd be like, "Yeah, barley's my fucking life. I live for this."

Griffin: But the other—

Travis: "I would elevate you, but then I'm worried that that would affect the barley supply chain. And so, like, I want you to know that in my heart, I've elevated you. But also, if you don't deliver this fucking barley on a regular schedule, I'll have your literal head."

Justin: Baron Harkonnen left Griffin with the worst barley collecting equipment just to sabotage him.

Griffin: Yeah. It was bullshit.

Travis: But then Griffin was able to do it. He tied two donkeys together and they got all the barley.

Griffin: I'm just saying, when all the other serfs begin their uprising, "Why does the king keep taking literally 100% of our barley? Come on, Griffin, let's fucking ride." I would be like, "Eh, you all go on ahead. I will definitely catch up on this uprising. Catch me on the next uprising for sure. I just got to place a quick phone call to my liege."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: This is a good point, Griffin, because it's just occurred to me that, like, in that way, I actually think you might survive better.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: I think if I went back through the portal and the other serfs were like, "The king keeps taking all of our barley." I'd be like, "Yeah, there's

barley any left for us." They would just murder me. I think the problem would be like, "Hey, we're real sick of whatever this thing is that you're doing, where some words sound like other words, so we're just going to just go ahead and kill you."

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: And there's no forensics or cops or anything.

Justin: That would be an amazing bifurcation of the timeline, if the first person to do a pun, if everyone's like, "Kill him! Kill the witch!"

Travis: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: "Destroy him!" And then there's no puns.

Travis: "Only the devil could figure out that some words sound like other words!"

Griffin: It's fine, though, because if at any point, if other denizens of the fiefdom ever did get PO'd at me, I just pull out my cell phone and be like, "Y'all should not, actually. Check out my fucking light rectangle, idiots. Now step back, let me harvest my barley and give it to my dad— I mean the king. Oops, did I do that? That's so— Oh man, that's embarrassing."

Justin: So this is an advice show. We are going to take your questions that you asked us and we're going to turn them, alchemy-like, into wisdom. I have a slight fever, but I'm not—

Travis: This isn't a question. I know sometimes—

Justin: I'm COVID-free.

Travis: Justin slips into a question and it's hard to tell. Is that Justin? Is that question? This is Justin.

Griffin: That's your internal joke combustion engine.

Justin: I just don't want people to be like, everyone's looking for us to slip even for a second. You know what I mean? Everyone's—

Travis: They're all coming for the crown.

Justin: Everyone's coming for the crown. They're waiting for us to slip up—

Griffin: Not me!

Travis: Not Griffin. Griffin respects the liege.

Griffin: I think who's got the crown on now is great and I will definitely send them all my crop this year.

[silence]

Justin: "I work at—" Oh, sorry. That's not the first question.

Travis: Give me that first question, Justin.

Justin: [singing] "How can I be more like Captain Jack Sparrow?" [continues singing] That's from Maritime, Massachusetts, Waiting for an Answer.

Griffin: Can I ask why you'd— Why this is something you would want?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Well, it's so rare that a question comes along that I'm like, "Oh, I've got this."

Justin: No, that's not what we're asking. Your internal machinations we've given up on a long time ago.

Travis: Oh, great.

Justin: What Griffin and I are asking, I think, I don't want to put words in your mouth there Griff, but why would you want to be more like Captain Jack Sparrow?

Griffin: Well, you're not putting words in my mouth. You're taking the words from my mouth because those are the words that escaped my mouth just moments ago.

Travis: Captain Jack Sparrow is a lovable rogue!

Justin: We can't conflate...

Griffin: Okay. Well...

Travis: And! And one of the greatest pirates that one guy has ever seen. And he's super clever. He gets out of scrapes. Um, he is a real out of the box problem solver. Um...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And, you know, he has his own ship, he makes his own rules. He seems more or less like a pretty cool dude to me, you guys.

Griffin: Let me just— For folks who maybe haven't seen these films, I'll summarize them real quick. There's Captain Jack Sparrow, there's his dad, Barbossa, who's also a captain...

Justin: [wheezes] Barbacoa.

Griffin: There's Barbacoa, there's squid face monster captain, and then there's like stuck up naval general guy.

Travis: Sure.

Griffin: And they all take turns sort of trading sides. So, but at every point throughout the 19 films that was made in this series, they just did different match-em-ups. Like in this one, Captain Jack Sparrow and Squid Face are teaming up against Good Guy and Barboca and then they'll switch the next one.

Justin: They switch it, they mix it up.

Griffin: Uh-oh! This time it's Captain Jack and Barboca and the good general against Squid Man! And I think that's the 7th or 8th one.

Justin: It's kind of like wrestlin' in that way. People are always like...

Travis: It is! It's very much so.

Justin: ...formed NWO, new water organization.

Griffin: It was fucked up— [laughs] It was fucked up in that one movie where they all were the good guy and they just kind of sailed around for a while. Nothing really happened in that one because wasn't a bad guy one.

Justin: Wait, what if none of us are the bad guy? What if we just want different things? That's okay.

Travis: What if all of our motivations are different and our life goals just don't, like, line up?

Justin: That's okay.

Travis: But we can learn to see each other's perspective. Hey, let's hug.

Griffin: And then there was the one movie that was— It was just Captain Jack Sparrow and all the other captains were gone and everybody in the movie theater kept yelling like, "This sucks! This needs more cap-i-tains!" Oh, also, Orlando Blooms becomes a captain at the end of one of them, so there's five captains all sort of just switching around...

Travis: I think he becomes undead?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: If I remember correctly?

Griffin: It's really cool flicks.

Travis: But he does take time. Orlando Bloom does take time to get Kiera Knightley pregnant before he then goes away for, I believe, ten years at a time, if I'm not mistaken.

Griffin: Yeah. Before he turns into a bone skeleton and he doesn't have any more [whispers] cum.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: We can't talk about Jack Sparrow without relating the anecdote of the freest man I ever met.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: I was in a murder mystery and, wait, I used to do these murder mysteries at Ravenwood Castle all the time. Beautiful place. They don't do them anymore, Mystery Denham, they used to run them, retired. But at the end of the day or the end of the weekend, once the murders have been solved and the corpse was cold...

Griffin: Piled.

Justin: Everybody—

Griffin: And burned. [laughed]

Justin: Everybody would stand up and introduce themselves.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And there was a guy at one who was dressed like Jack Sparrow. And I'd clock this dude before—

Travis: Captain. Captain Jack Sparrow.

Justin: Well, we're on land, so he didn't have the authority.

Travis: He's still a captain, sir!

Griffin: He's still a captain, Juice.

Justin: Captain Jack. And he was like— I clocked this guy before, this exact same Captain Jack, because it was, like, a pretty good Captain Jack. And he said, "I realized something this weekend. I used to think that when I came here and I got dressed up like this, I was putting a costume. But what I realized is this is me and what I'm wearing out there? That's the costume."

Travis: Fuck, dude.

Justin: Fuck, yes, dude.

Travis: Fuck, yes!

Justin: Live it! I'm just saying if they need a new Captain Jack, he's probably still in Ravenwood Castle.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That's so much like that [crosstalk].

Justin: How can you be more like him?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: We didn't even attempt it. We just talked about him for a while.

Travis: Hey, wait, no, no, Justin, that's how can you look like—

Griffin: I mean, just like...

Travis: How can I *be* more like Jonathan— Jonathan Sparrow. [laughs] That's his real name, of course. Jonathan.

Griffin: He's so fucking dirty.

Travis: He is dirty.

Griffin: That's why I couldn't— I could not do that life because he's so— He's so dirty. He's not even just like, "I haven't taken a shower or bath in a while" dirty. He's done things to become, like, more dirty. It's a vibe he is doing of just, like, "Can I be the dirtiest rascal on the seven seas?"

Travis: Well, yeah he's a dirty rascal. I think that is rule number one, be a dirty rascal. I think rule number two, if you accomplish something and it seems more difficult than it really was, say it was turtles. That's a good one.

Justin: That's a good one.

Travis: Say it was turtles.

Griffin: That's funny. Every time he did that one, it was funny.

Travis: Every time. Every time he was like, "Sea turtles." And they're like, "Oh, fuck this dude rules."

Justin: I'll turn to Wikipedia. It begins the characterization section with, "According to screenwriters Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio, Sparrow is a trickster who uses wit and deceit..."

Travis: Yep. [unintelligible], always stirring up the pot.

Justin: "... is a trickster who uses wit and deceit to attain his goals, preferring to end disputes verbally instead of by force."

Griffin: Ohh...

Justin: "He walks with a slightly drunken swagger and has slurred speech and flailing hand gestures."

Travis: Yes.

Justin: "Sparrow is shrewd, calculating, and eccentric." So that— The slightly drunken swagger, I think, is attainable right now.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: That's attainable today, if you wish.

Travis: You don't even got to be drunk to do that, man.

Justin: Yeah, you just get a little swag.

Travis: Also, he's a very good swordsman. I just want to— Not the best in the movie, you can find...

Justin: I mean, that's like, so hard though. Of, like, all the character traits to try to embody, I don't think you need that one.

Travis: Well, not at first.

Griffin: Isn't it fucked up that on the Pirates of the Caribbean ride, they did add Captain Jack to it, but they— And he looks, like, pretty photorealistic, I would say.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: That's actually Johnny Depp every time.

Griffin: But the other animatrons in that ride still kind of look like sort of ghoulish commedia dell'arte masks of fear. But then, like, you turn a corner and there's photorealistic Captain Jack Sparrow and he's like, "You have to get me out of here!"

Travis: "Yes, take me to the Hall of Presidents!"

Griffin: "I belong in the Hall of Presidents!"

Travis: And you're like, "What?" That would be great, by the way. Hey, Disney, if you're listening, just start incorporating Jack Sparrow into other

animatronic things, too, like the Bear Jamboree and Hall of Presidents. Anywhere there are animatronics, just have, like, sneaky Jack Sparrow peaking out from behind things and, like, out of barrels and shit.

Griffin: That's fun. Yeah.

Justin: There's a quote on here, too, I just wanted to pass along. It says, "Gentleman, m'lady, you will always remember this as the day that you almost caught Captain Jack Sparrow." And that's the sourced to, "Jack almost escapes another sticky situation."

Travis: Wow.

Justin: So that is something that I have tried in my day-to-day life. If I go to the post office and there's a big line and I'm about to wait in a line, and then I'm like, "No, I'm not going to wait in the line. I'll loudly announce, Gentleman, m'lady, you'll always remember this as the day you almost caught Captain Justin McElroy."

Travis: And they're like, "Were we catching— What was happening?"

Justin: "Exactly," I'll say. "Exactly."

Griffin: Better luck next time.

Travis: And then you'll swing out on a rope.

Justin: They will never bring me down.

Travis: Now, here's the wing. That rope is attached to nothing. Justin is just always holding a rope and a saver and if he sees a situation he wants to get out of, he swings the saver and just yells, "Hazzah!" And then kind of walks out holding the rope up like he's swinging on it, which is not— Don't get me wrong, it's a cool move. It works every time, it plays.

Griffin: Anyway, that was a lot of talk about *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Travis, you're welcome.

Justin: You're welcome.

Griffin: That was a gift [crosstalk]

Travis: It's just once a year. I needed it. Listen, I realize I kind of called that in really early this year and I'm going to be fucking regretting that in August.

Justin: Yeah, come on...

Griffin: For sure.

Justin: Like, "I'd give anything to talk about it!"

Travis: I get it. I get it, but I needed it.

Griffin: Can we approach the Wizard's throne and make a sweet offer?

Justin: I love that.

Travis: I brought barley!

Griffin: You what?

Travis: I brought barley.

Griffin: Oh, yeah. Uh, the Wizard—

Travis: You forgot your own fucking thing from, like, 10 minutes ago?

Griffin: He's allergic, Travis. I didn't forget it! The Wizard is allergic to grains.

Travis: This is, actually, this is nut-based barley. [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, nut barley huh? Yum, yum, yum.

Travis: Yeah, I made it from almonds.

Griffin: He does paleo, Travis.

Travis: Fuck!

Griffin: You should know that. Yeah.

Travis: Hey, it's cool, this is meat nuts.

Griffin: [laughing] These are meat nuts...

Travis: I made almonds out of beef and then I used those beef almonds to make barley.

Griffin: These are delicious meat nuts. Uh, okay, so this one was sent in by Celia. Thank you, Celia. It's a Wikihow article and it's from the Wizard. He wrote it and it's how to Convince Your Parents to Let You Wear a Thong.

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: [sighs]

Griffin: Let's just say step zero, keep your grades up.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] Obviously.

Travis: Keep your grades up.

Griffin: If your grades slip, there's no way that this is going to happen.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "Convincing your parents to let you wear a thong may seem like an impossible task. With enough preparation and strategy, your chance of convincing them strengthens. Convince them with a persuasive argument

that will leave them confident in your abilities." Ah, yes. They know— They're going to rock that shit.

Justin: That's like— That's terrible. That's basically saying, like, do a good job and convince them to. Like, okay. Yeah, Wikihow. That's why I'm here.

Griffin: Yeah. There's a lot of cognitive dissonance in this Wikihow article, and that's, like, compared to other Wikihow articles. And so that's saying something.

Travis: Wow.

Griffin: "Part one, prepare your argument. One, plan your strategy."

Travis: Yeah. What do you think I'm doing, Wikihow?

Griffin: Yeah. "It's a combination of appealing to your parents' reasonable side and appealing to their emotional side. You want to hit them from both angles to show your argument is thorough. Tell them how important this is to you." So...

Travis: So, like, is it like a slide show set to Sarah McLachlan? Is that what they're talking about? So I've got the details, but also a little tug of the heartstrings there, you know what I mean?

Griffin: I think that's secret.

Travis: [singing] In the thongs of the angels...

Griffin: That was lazy.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: When you plan your strategy—

Travis: [singing] In the cracks of the angels...Rest so beautiful...

Griffin: It's not getting— You're not— I'm actually listening to you in real time, so I know these are not getting more— There's not more effort going into it.

Travis: Well, this time I was getting there because the thongs would be in the cracks of the angels.

Griffin: Okay, okay. Uh, "When you plan your strategy, write down how you'll approach them reasonably. What kind of things do your parents react to on a logical level? What are their weaknesses?"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, that's great, because then you sit down, you're looking at the paper, which your dad loves. All dads love the paper. And you say, like, "Oh, did you see this? Turns out thongs are really good for the economy."

Griffin: Mm. That's great. A real Christmas story sort of tactic.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Oh, and then explain in really intricate detail how thongs are undermining cryptocurrency. I bet your dad will like that too, depending on your dad's age.

Griffin: Parents fucking—

Justin: Yeah, parents love crypto.

Travis: No, they hate crypto!

Justin: Oh, they hate crypto? Okay.

Travis: They don't understand it, Justin.

Griffin: "Do your parents have a strong sense of pride? Are they quick to avoid fear? These are the kinds of things you should be thinking about." That's great, because if this thong plan goes south, you will be multiple steps closer to knowing how to destroy your parents psychologically.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Is there a kid in your class that your parents acknowledge as the alpha? Right? Because, like that— Listen, my kid's coming home every day talking about, I don't know, Christina, Derek, I don't know, Jamal, somebody. Right? And I'm like, "What did they do today? Anything cool? That's so cool, man. They did what? Their parents bought them the new Switch?" Whatever it is. Right? And then it's like, "Oh, yeah, they wear a thong." And I'm like, "What, they do?"

Justin: Ugh, that's so cool.

Griffin: Okay, this next part is so tight. Let's just get through it, okay? "Two: Know why you want to wear a thong. An important part of your strategy is appealing to your parents' sense of reason. A well-reasoned argument includes persuasive justifications for wearing a thong. Write down five or six logical reasons why you would want to wear a thong."

Travis: Wow.

Griffin: Yeah, let me— "Thongs don't show panty lines. The main benefit of this is that it avoids attention to your butt. Surely your parents can get on board with that."

Justin: They don't want people looking at their baby's bottom.

Griffin: No way. "Thongs last longer. Since there's less fabric to deal with, they reshape better than regular ponties."

Travis: Is that true?

Griffin: "If you change shape at all, it is less likely that you'll have to buy new ponties, saving money. And then step three, thongs keep you cooler in hot temperatures. They are lightweight, allowing for better airflow. By avoiding sweat in your ponties, you will also avoid possible skin rashes or blemishes."

Travis: That's three reasons. They did say five or six.

Justin: Undeniable, right?

Griffin: But also, there's no fucking way thongs last longer.

Travis: There's no way.

Justin: Doesn't make sense.

Travis: They're inherently flimsier.

Griffin: The friction...

Justin: Friction, friction, friction.

Griffin: ... pressure.

Travis: But just, like, flimsy too. There's less room for stitching.

Justin: Wedgie problems.

Griffin: I mean...

Travis: That is the thing, let me tell you, I dabbled in speech and debate in high school. You got to have some counterpoints ready. Like, what are your parents going to bring up? Wedgie problems is definitely one of them.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And this is where you need a counterpoint, right? Where you're just, like, "I'm gonna wear a tight belt."

Griffin: Oh, interesting.

Travis: No one's getting in there.

Griffin: [dad voice] "Well, um, well— Samantha, if you promise to just wear a tight belt every time you're wearing these things..." And then every time

you come downstairs in a tight belt, your parents'll be like, "Ah, how responsible!"

Travis: "Ah, good choices!"

Griffin: Speaking of, step three, "Show them you are responsible. Prove to your parents you are a responsible person who makes responsible choices. Doing this will give your argument more credibility."

Travis: Put a thong on a sack of flour for a while.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Carry it around with you. "Come on, baby. Come on, sweet girl."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh...

Travis: "Wow. She's doing a great job keeping those underpants on that sack of flour."

Griffin: "If you have chores or homework, do them on time without being asked..."

Travis: There it is, keep your grades up.

Justin: Keep your grades up, for sure.

Griffin: Keep your grades up. "Save your money instead of spending it on frivolous things. And do not stay out late or come home drunk."

"Well guys, I went a whole month without coming home drunk, so I think..."

"Yes, you're ready. You're ready now for those special underwear."

Uh, "Be prepared to pay for your thong." Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, no kidding.

Griffin: Like, the alternative is like, not going to work. "Look, I mopped like you asked me to. Now I need \$100." I do not know how much a thong costs.

Justin: For the best thongs! I don't want to sully myself.

Griffin: "Practice your argument in the mirror." Yeah, that's something that would be cool to have somebody walk in on.

"My butt! They get so sweaty, mom."

"What are you doing in there?"

"Nothing! Get out!"

Uh... "Approach your parents about the conversation. Yeah, ask when they seem to be in a good mood—"

Justin: Wait, approach them. [laughing] You just don't want to start screaming through the walls when they're doing—

Griffin: [crosstalk]

Travis: No, it's your chance to say, "Hey, hypothetically, if I were to ask you about thongs, just hypothetically."

Griffin: Okay, so part two, convincing your parents. "One, bring your notes with you." Awesome. Fucking awesome. "You can hide them in your pocket or another discreet place."

In your pocket is great because you can be like, "I need to wear a thong because, uh, my butt gets sweaty... or doesn't get sweaty— Hold on one sec." [imitates pulling out crinkly notes] "It says here my butt does get sweaty."

"Broach the subject calmly. Try to control the conversation as much as possible. The more you're interrupted, the easier it will be for you to lose your place and forget what to say." That's it. They just want to flummox you. That misdirection is like number one parenting secret.

Travis: That's why right off the bat, you have to flummox them. Call them by their first names.

Griffin: Yeah. "Do you, uh... Daddy, I really want this new Goo Jit Zu—"

Travis: You can't say Daddy. You got to say like, Jonathan.

Griffin: Jonathan. Well, this is what I'm imagining, my children coming to me asking for the new Goo Jit Zu toy. And I interrupt and say like, "But what is a Goo Jit Zu?" And then they're like all up in their mind labyrinth and they just can't escape it. "Go through your list of logical reasons."

"Did I mention the sweat thing and the panty lines? They got to go. They got to go. Everyone is going to look at my butt if I don't wear a thong. Is that what you want? Fucking weirdo."

Justin: "You're nasty."

Griffin: "You're nasty for that."

Justin: "You're a nasty dad and a nasty mom."

Griffin: "Appeal to their emotions." This one, I feel like you've given us a lot of ammunition for the logical stuff.

Justin: Yeah, I don't know what we're pulling on, heartstring wise.

Griffin: Um, "Remind them that you're growing up old enough to make decisions about how to adorn your own body." Yeah, I mean, that's pretty foolproof.

Travis: "Mom, dad, I'm 32! Let me wear a thong!"

Griffin: [laughs] "Invite questions."

"Well, Jonathan..."

Travis: [laugh hard]

Griffin: "Jonathan, Alicia, um, thus concludes my presentation."

Justin: "Thank you for your time today. I really appreciate your attention."

Travis: "There will be coffee and some snacks on your way out."

Griffin: "Oh, let's take some questions. Oh, wait, I'm getting the light. I'm sorry. That concludes my time. Stay tuned for the next TED Talk about macrobiology or whatever."

"Give them some time to talk it over or think about it."

"No, you can't have a thong."

"Well, hold up. Circle back tomorrow."

Justin: "Think about it."

Griffin: "Remember what I said—"

Travis: "What does Alicia think?"

Griffin: "What does Alicia think? Alicia? You guys do not seem on the same page about this."

Travis: "You know, Jonathan, you never take time to ask Alicia what she thinks."

Justin: "Alicia, I'm so sorry you have to put up with this."

Griffin: "This dude, uh, this dude sucks shit."

Travis: "You know what? How about you and I, we'll go get some wine, Alicia, we don't need Jonathan for this."

Griffin: Uh, start part three. Reacting to the response. "Be prepared for any response." Okay? "Prepare yourself for the possibility they will say no or drive the discussion out. It's a good idea to come up with possible solutions to those scenarios, even if they do not happen."

You press the button and jail cell bars drop over every exit from the kitchen. "You're not going anywhere. I have these jail bars installed. Until we're done here. Until I'm done with you."

"React calmly. If they respond with an immediate no, don't storm off in a huff or raise your voice."

"Let me wear a thong."

"No."

[tense] "Okay, cool."

"If you feel yourself getting upset, breathe. Check to see if your body is tensing up and relax your body. If none of that works and everyone's still glaring at each other, tell a joke. Humor is a great way to diffuse a tense situation."

Travis: That's awesome.

Griffin: Play this. Play Sisqo's Thong Song at maximum volume on every smart device in the house.

Justin: "Alexa?"

Griffin: This one seems like actually a very good strategy. "Ask them why they say no." Like, "I want to wear a thong."

"No."

Justin: That's everything in your life, huh?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Speak on that.

Griffin: Speak on that, please.

Travis: "Do you think that this is something— Is this because your parents said no to you for something, Jonathan? Jonathan, are you just projecting forth your fear of not being responsible enough for a thong? I understand that. I understand that."

Griffin: "You've forgotten what it's like to want things, Jonathan."

Travis: "To want thongs, Jonathan."

Griffin: "And that's partially my fault since I was born. And I understand that that's a sacrifice parents have to make. But you don't have to force that on me. Did I mention the sweat?"

Travis: The sweaty butt.

Griffin: "And the panty lines? Why do you want my butt to sweat, Dad? Damn."

Travis: "I thought we were cool."

Griffin: Uh, "If your parents won't budge, offer them a compromise. Maybe you can suggest revisiting the topic after you show more responsibility." That's probably going to do it. "Is it because I didn't mop enough? Fuck!"

Travis: "Alright, Mom, Dad, compromise. I'll wear the thong over regular underpants."

Griffin: Yeah. "Finally, step five. Drop the subject. If all else fails, accept your fate and walk away. Do not continue to beg or harass your parents. Doing that will only diminish any chance of convincing them later and it will

put them in a bad mood. Walking away from the argument with grace allows you to keep your parents respect." Huh.

Justin: Seems like you already lost your parents respect because they don't respect you to let you wear the thong you crave.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: Yeah. Um... I think also I'll add a step six on this Wiki article. I don't think you're allowed to— I don't think these are up for community edits, but you could also just do it.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And what are they going to do? You know what I mean? You'll have to wash them yourself to not get— If you really want to cloak the situation, but like, they're not going to be like, "Hmm, Samantha can't help but notice there's not as many panty lines this morning," because that's a fucking wild thing to say over in the breakfast nook. I think that these are foolproof ideas.

Travis: I will also say if your parents say no, instead of just walking away and accepting your fate, let me offer this say, like, "Okay, I hear you. Let's revisit this in Q3." And now...

Griffin: "Let's circle back in Q3."

Travis: I think that that's going to, like, knock them off their groove a little bit so that when you bring it up in Q3, they're like, "I think they're a business person."

Justin: Sometimes my kids drop something and that would be the exact moment to attack. Like, if they just dropped it, like, [casually] "Alright," I would be so sort of like, I would need to sit down on the floor for a little bit.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And that's the time where you like, "If you change your mind, let me know."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Show me the exact date on this calendar where I'm gonna be allowed to wear thongs.

Griffin: In Q3. The thing is Q2, Q2's the summertime. And so my butt is going to be just covered with rashes and irritation because of my stupid big underwear.

Travis: That, to be fair, Griffin, that depends on when your family's fiscal year starts, right?

Griffin: That's a fair point. I mean, if anything, just a week after you do this conversation, if it fails, you sit down in the breakfast nook and you go, "[yells] Ow! Sorry, guys. Covered in rashes. Chockablock rashes down there. Wow, it's irritated. Oh, man. The kids in school, they keep yelling at me every time I yell. Every time I sit down at the classroom desk or lunch table."

Travis: Yeah, and they're like, "Is it your visible panty lines that are giving you rashes, sweaty butt?"

Justin: "Are you wearing a teenage diaper?"

Travis: "Oh, it hurts."

Griffin: [singing] Teenage diaper!

Travis: [singing] Teenager mutant ninja diaper...

Griffin: That's good. Any other things?

Justin: Nobody's got any other...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Give me one second... Um, let's take a break and we'll go on into the Money Zone, what do you guys think about that?

Griffin: Yer!

[theme music plays]

Travis: Hey, can I tell you guys something absolutely wild?

Griffin: Yah-huh.

Travis: I tweeted. "Lou, wherever you are, we need Mambo Number 6 now more than ever." And Linda Carter, AKA Wonder Woman, retweeted it, quote, tweeted it and said, "Sounds like a fun job for the Justice League."

Griffin: What!?

Travis: What the fuck?

Justin: Travis, how would you say— Why would you say this when we're going into the Money Zone?

Travis: We could talk about it when we come back.

Griffin: No, I mean, I think we're in it now. I think you've started it.

Justin: Yeah. We can't do the ads now because we have to talk about why Linda Carter thinks a good job for the Justice League would be to find Lou Bega and make him do Mambo Number 6.

Griffin: A big thing is why this ended up on Linda Carter's plate in the first place.

Travis: Linda Carter does not follow me on Twitter.

Justin: No.

Griffin: Yeah, but there's obviously some degree of separation there where, like, somebody retweeted it, and then Linda Carter saw that and was like, "I don't know who this fucking Travis nobody is, but he's got some dope thoughts about Lou Bega. But what about instead of Lou Bega, it's Aquaman?"

Justin: What if they sent, like, the D-string Justice League to go find Lou Bega? That actually would be a fun idea.

Travis: "Wonder Twins! Go find Lou Bega!"

Justin: Yeah. Wonder Twins and some of the other bad ones that nobody likes. Red Tornado, maybe.

Griffin: I think that the amount of— You're not thinking, I think, logically about this, because there is uncalculable power that exists in the Dead Sea Mambo Scrolls. The Mambo Apocrypha of 1 through 4. I think that if we got our hands on that quadrilogy, it would be enough to tide us over for the next few centuries.

Travis: "Lou, you have to do Mambo Number 6."

"Clark, I told you, I... can't return to that life. I don't know that I'm able to wield the power responsibly."

Griffin: "There's no more woman names! I used them all in 5!"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "I dumped in too much trumpet. Don't you understand? It was too much!"

Griffin: There would be a break in Mamba Number 6, like, "Even more trumpet!" And it would just be eight discordant trumpets. Just all—

Travis: The moon would shatter.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "I knew it!"

Justin: On the Mambo Number 5 maxi single, there are four tracks. I'm betting it was like a cassingle, right? It would have to be.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Uh, Mambo 5 Five, Radio Edit. Mambo Number 5, Extended Mix. Mambo Havana Club Mix. Mambo: The Trumpet. And that one is six minutes long.

Travis: Oh, God.

Justin: I don't know if it's just like, "Hey, here's something you could sample. It's the trumpet."

Griffin: Mm-hmm. But it's just him saying, "the trumpet" in a bunch of different ways for six minutes. No horn is present on the track. Okay. Anyway, hey, I want to tell you about Stamps.com.

If you're a small business owner or you're busy or you work from your house and need to get things to go from one place to another, don't worry about the post office, because it can be big lines. With Stamps.com. You could skip the trip and never waste another dollar or minute.

Travis: Skip the trip and flip the script.

Griffin: With Stamps.com, they let you print official postage, right from your computer, so you can spend less time at the PO - and that's post office - and more time running your business. Stamps.com gives you access to all the post office's wonderful powers and UPS shipping services that you need right from your computer and you get discounts you can't find anywhere else, like up to 40% off USPS rates and 60— No, that's backwards. 76% off UPS.

Whether you're in office sending invoices or a side hustle Etsy shop or whatever, Stamps.com is here to make your life easier. Save time and money this year with Stamps.com. Sign up with promo code MYBROTHER for

a special offer that includes a four-week trial, free postage, and a digital scale that you can weigh anything with. No long-term commitments or contracts.

Just go to Stamps.com, click the microphone at the top of the page and enter code MYBROTHER.

Travis: I wonder which one of us will talk about Stitch Fix. Oh, it's me! Okay. Great. I want to talk about Stitch Fix because I love it. I'm wearing Stitch Fix pants right now and I love them. I'm wearing a Stitch Fix shirt and I love it because Stitch Fix has you covered. Say goodbye to endless browsing and hello to fresh pics. That's the beauty of Stitch Fix, my friends.

Griffin: Wow that did— that did not feel comfortable.

Travis: No, I was half burping when I said it, which was—

Justin: Aw, no!

Travis: But I mean, I wasn't going to highlight it, but you did. And then I'm not going to lie to my friends. So Stitch Fix Freestyle is your trusted style destination. You pick things that work for you, that fit your likes and lifestyle.

It's not like your aunt bought you that ugly sweater and you don't like it. This is like your cool aunt bought you that cool sweater and you love it because you went to your cool aunt and said, "Hey, this is the sweater I want. Give me that sweater." And your cool aunt said, "I'm so busy being cool, I forgot it was your birthday. You got it."

So whether you're looking for a brand you love or to try a new one, try Stitch Fix Freestyle. You can shop over 1,000 brands, that's more brands than I even knew existed, and styles personalized to your size and fit. Plus, no subscription required and free shipping, returns, and exchanges. Get started today by filling out your style quiz at StitchFix.com/mybrother. That's StitchFix.com/mybrother to try Stitch Fix Freestyle. StitchFix.com/mybrother.

[MaxFun Ad]

Ellen: Hey there. I'm Ellen Weatherford.

Christian: And I'm Christian Weatherford.

Ellen: And we've got big feelings about animals that we just got to share.

Christian: On *Just the Zoo of Us*, your new favorite animal review podcast, we're here to critically evaluate how each animal excels and how it doesn't, rating them out of ten on their effectiveness, ingenuity, and aesthetics.

Ellen: Guest experts give you their takes, informed by actual real-life experiences, studying and working with very cool animals like sharks, cheetahs and sea turtles.

Christian: It's a field trip to the zoo for your ears.

Ellen: So if you or your kids have ever wondered if a pigeon can count, why sloths move so slow, or how a spider sees the world, find out with us every Wednesday on *Just the Zoo of Us* in its natural habitat on MaximumFun.org.

Christian: Listen and subscribe wherever you get your podcasts.

[ad one ends, second begins; suspenseful music]

Speaker 1: Somewhere between science and superstition, there is a podcast.

Speaker 2: Look, your daughter doesn't say she's a demon. She says she's the devil himself.

Speaker 3: That thing is not my daughter! And I want you to tell me there's a show where the hosts don't just report on fringe science and spirituality, but take part themselves!

Ross: Well, there is. And it's *Oh No, Ross and Carrie* on Maximum Fun.

Carrie: This year, we actually became certified exorcists.

Ross: So, yes, Carrie and I can help your daughter.

[miscellaneous monster noises]

Carrie: Or we can just talk about it on the show.

Speaker 1: *Oh No, Ross and Carrie* on MaximumFun.org.

[MaxFun Ad ends]

Justin: You got really moved at the end of that, Travis.

Travis: Yeah, I'm still getting over being sick, but it just gave me a lot of emotion.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's so beautiful, man.

Griffin: I love that I'm the only one that's not sick right now. And y'all are making fun of my medieval immune system, so...

Travis: I mean, I'm sick and I was still doing, like, free weight exercises, so...

Griffin: I do those everyday anyway.

Travis: Oh, yeah? What are you benching? What are you doing? What's your— Are you doing curls? Are you doing— What are you doing?

Griffin: I mostly just lift them up off the ground for as long as I can.

Travis: Oh, that's very good.

Griffin: I'm holding onto them right now.

Travis: Oh, really?

Griffin: I'm building a lot of passive muscle.

Travis: Oh, yeah. Background muscle is what they call it.

Justin: [starts Munch Squad jingle]

Griffin: It's been so long—

Justin: Really?

Travis: I really didn't think Justin would do this because he was sick and, like...

Justin: [Munch Squad jingle]

Travis: I think that kind of shows a little bit...

Justin: [extended Munch Squad jingle, imitating guitar and instruments] I wanna munch!

Travis: Squad.

Justin: I wanna munch!

Travis: Squad?

Justin: [quickly imitating guitar riff] Yeah, baby. Hi. Welcome to Munch Squad.

Travis: Thank you. It's good to be here.

Justin: It's a podcast within a— Shut up.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: [laughs] It's a podcast within a podcast which profiles the latest and greatest in brand eating. Rather than set up today's thing with a, you know, a spiel, I wanted to play the commercial for it first.

Griffin: Great.

Justin: And then talk about it. Is that okay?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Now, I warn you, this is two minutes and 20 seconds long.

Griffin: Oh, man.

Travis: Wow.

Justin: But listen, you're going to be in such a fucking tizzy when you hear what this is. This ad from the year of our Lord, 2020 CE. 2022 CE. You're going to trip. Are you ready? Are you ready?

Griffin: Yes.

[commercial country music plays]

Commercial Speaker: [singing] One day the guy on the buffalo wing was riding around in a forest, smell to smell. He's thinking, "Where's that smell coming from? Feels like maybe over there." So he moseyed on over, pulled back on the reins, that's how you stop a buffalo wing. And he hopped on off and he looked in a bush and he saw the warm, golden glow of a buffalo golly glazed meal from Zaxby's. Ooh, I'm gonna take this with me to go.

Griffin: That's great.

Commercial Speaker: [sings] Wouldn't it be good with some ranch? Go! Aw, thanks eagle! Oh, no, you don't want to ask too many questions, but it's a guy on a buffalo wing, yeah, on a buffalo wing!

One day, the guy on the buffalo wing saw a fox in the weeds. He thinking that fox seems shady! No, he's probably harmless enough, I'll just let him go. See you, little fella!

Travis: Uh-huh.

Commercial Speaker: And then he found a hedgehog jammed down in a log and pulled him out and they became best friends. They went back to the buffalo wing to snack down on those snacks, but the food was gone. That stinkin' fox stole our meal!

Griffin: What?

Commercial Speaker: Oh, but, you know? "I got an idea," said the hedgehog. "I got something stashed in an old stump!"

Travis: What the fuck?

Commercial Speaker: Ooh! It's a buffalo garlic glazed meal, that's what I was just eating! Ooh, it's tantalizing, let's sit down and eat it. [with a mouthful of food] Mm, that's pretty good. On a buffalo wing! Well, if it isn't the chicken wing thief.

Commercial Fox: Sorry, man. I'm a fox, it's kind of my thing. Truce?

Commercial Speaker: Ah, come here, man, we're cool. [singing] Oh, it's a guy on a buffalo wing!

[music cuts]

Commercial Speaker 2: Hey, uh, guy? I don't remember it happening like that.

Commercial Speaker 3: Yeah, I don't either.

Commercial Speaker 2: Every time he eats Zaxby's, that's all he wants to talk about.

Justin: He's been replaced by an old man.

Commercial Speaker 3: ...yeah I saw the original and it was definitely a buffalo you were riding, not a buffalo wing.

Justin: Then it's—

Commercial Speaker: [singing] Guy on a buffalo wing!

Justin: And then it's the original old guy from Guy on a Buffalo.

Griffin: I can't believe—

Justin: Can you believe that—

Travis: That bones are their money?

Griffin: There's— [laughs] There's been— Justin, I don't—

Justin: Go on, Griff.

Griffin: I don't think—

Justin: I've been dealing with this. Now you got to deal with it.

Griffin: Well, I'm mostly dealing with the fact that now it's on our show. Now it's on our show. So now it's all our problems. There's no fucking way that I would say more than 30% of our audience understands the reference.

Justin: That's— Okay.

Travis: Wait, there's a reference?

Justin: You're probably—

Griffin: Travis?

Justin: Travis, are you for real?

Travis: I am not fucking with you at all. I have no idea what this was.

Justin: Okay, stop the show. [laughs] Okay.

Griffin: This is what I'm saying, Justin—

Justin: Okay, Griffin, actually, your math was right. I got a 30%. I guess 66.6 repeating...

Griffin: But that's not a good hit rate— Okay, so, okay back in 2011, there was a series of YouTube videos called Guy on a Buffalo that took clips from an old show from the 70s, I think, called *Buffalo Jones* of just a guy riding around on a buffalo and mainly just fighting off animals that try to get at him.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: But now Zaxby's has taken that 11-year-old meme and, well, you know, I don't know— Justin got fucking berries and cream started again. So I guess anything's possible.

Justin: I guess anything is definitely possible.

Griffin: Damn Zaxby's, that's a deep fucking cut.

Justin: It's like 30% of our audience and approximately 0.03 repeating percent of the TV watching audience.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So Zaxby's launched an ad campaign to introduce its Buffalo Garlic Blaze signature sauce. The new campaign features the quirky Guy on a Buffalo Wing national spot, which premiered during Monday's College Football playoff and will run during the Big Game on February 13th.

Travis: Oh, they're still doing that?

Justin: Yeah, they're still going for it.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: The pandemic numbers are so bad. Are you sure they're not going to cancel it?

Travis: They're definitely gonna cancel it.

Justin: They're gonna Zoom it. "Now I'm tackling you! Hey, I tackled that guy!"

Travis: Oh, my God. Can I just say a bunch of iPads on robotic bases? I'd fucking watch the shit out that.

Justin: Sounds better than football. No concussions.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: It's just a bunch of, like, tricked out robots.

Travis: You do have to be careful dumping the Gatorade because you're going to ruin a lot of technology, though.

Justin: Tens of thousands of dollars. All these Segways are ruined.

Griffin: It's just—

Justin: It's just—

Griffin: It's not— It's just wild, y'all. It would be like if, fucking, I don't know, Cheerios were like, "All your Cheerios are belong to us!"

Justin: "The new Guy on a Buffalo Wing commercial follows a lone cowboy riding a Zaxby's style Buffalo wing who discovers a boneless wings meal from Zaxby's that features the new buffalo garlic blaze sauce. The spot is narrated to a folk song," pretty sure that's not how that works grammatically, "composed by the band Jomo and the Possum Posse,

featuring quirky characters such as the Bobcat, the Squirrel, the Fox, and the Hedgehog."

Travis: Why are you describing it like this? Like...

Griffin: I mean, that's what it is, Trav, I don't know what you want...

Travis: I know, but it's not, like, it's just saying the parts of it without explaining it at all.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: It's just like, yeah, this is what happens in it. Okay. But, like, why? Why is that what happens in it?

Justin: He says, with Dooley Tombras, the President at Zaxby's Creative Agency of record, Tombras says, "Guy on a Buffalo Wing is impossible to look away from, the kind of campaign that will make diners wonder what they're missing and have to try it for themselves."

Travis: Do you guys think that the mindset of, "But you're talking about it," has gone too fucking far in this year for our Lord 2022, where people are like, "yeah, but you're talking about it." I'm like, "Yeah, but ask me in ten minutes what the food was, I couldn't tell you. But I'll talk about this wild video forever."

Griffin: The last time that worked is when they fucking murdered Mr. Peanut. And I was like, "I can't look away from that ad because my good friend Mr. Peanut has passed away." And I...

Travis: No, but even then made me not want to eat peanuts because I felt like I was eating his corpse where I'd much rather feel like I was eating alive Mr. Peanut over and over again and killing him myself.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I would say, Travis, once you see this man riding a buffalo wing, you will not soon forget what this is about.

Travis: But is it—

Justin: There are some shots where he is eating a plate of boneless garlic wings. Buffalo garlic blaze boneless wings on a plate that is on top of his steed.

Griffin: Yeah, fucked up.

Justin: Which is itself a buffalo— a giant buffalo wing.

Travis: But is it a boneless wing he's riding?

Justin: That is up for interpretation.

Griffin: I don't believe so. It looks like it does have a bone in it.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: It's just— There's so many things. One, the big buffalo wing does look like I would fuck that up in a major way.

Travis: Yeah, but you wouldn't have anything to ride on.

Griffin: But I wouldn't want to sit astride a buffalo wing in the first place because some of my top five places that I don't want to get buffalo sauce on, the goocher is way up there.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Especially if you've been riding that saddle all day and you're getting a little chafed because your parents wouldn't let you buy a thong and then you're sitting there and like, it's just seeping through your slacks. Forget about it, my man.

Griffin: Forget about it, dude. I don't want a spicy goocher in the middle of the forest. Where am I going to go? What am I going to do about it?

Travis: Don't get me started on ants.

Griffin: If this kicks off a trend of doing parodies of ancient, ancient, ancient memes, I would actually be super into that. I would actually like that quite a bit because...

Justin: You can have any meal you want at combo.com.

Griffin: Oh, that's good.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: They can be like, [percussive] "burger, burger, burger, burger, mushroom, mushroom!"

Justin: "Yeah, that was me, Star Wars kid. But now I'm—"

Griffin: [cackles]

Justin: "Now my male pattern baldness has made me into more of a *Star Wars* man."

Griffin: Oh, man.

Justin: Oh, boy. Boy, howdy. All right, so that's Munch Squad.

Travis: Give me that next question. Justin.

Justin: You got it, buddy. "I work at a hospital." Thank you for your service. "And on the patient food trays, they have milk cartons with little jokes. One of the jokes— I read one of the jokes to my coworker, smiling excitedly, only for him to nod and politely stare at me. The joke: What happens when a cow doesn't shave? She grows a moo-stache."

[silence]

Griffin: I feel like I'm in a tomb right now.

Justin: "Brothers, was there a problem with my delivery?"

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Couldn't matter. Unanswerable. "Can I show my face again at work after this? And most importantly, how do I up my milk-based joke game?" That's from Cow-ardly Comic in Greenville.

Travis: So I figured with this one, we're three professional top tier comedians, and I figured that we could maybe do, I don't know, some punch ups, some coaching here. Justin, I do like, whether intentional or not, how absolutely flat and soulless you delivered that joke.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: So that we have just solid, flat ground to build off of.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Yeah, that was about as worse as anybody could deliver...

Justin: If the joke is good, it doesn't need the help. Just saying.

Travis: It is a good joke! This is a good joke.

Justin: Okay. You deliver it in a way that makes me laugh.

Travis: Hey, Justin.

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: Justin?

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: What—[chuckles] What happens when a cow doesn't shave?

Justin: ... What?

Travis: She grows a [moos]-stache!

Griffin: See, that wasn't funny still and it wasted more of my time.

Travis: Well, fuck, dude, I—

Griffin: I would hit it like this. Hey, Juice, why doesn't a cow shave?

Justin: I don't know, why?

Griffin: It gets a moo-stache. It sucked still, but it, like...

Justin: Yeah, it sucked.

Travis: Yeah, but you're thinking about this as like, people who have been free to make jokes and have fun for the last 45 minutes. You're on break at a hospital where the weight of responsibility can feel crushing. And now here is a brief moment of respite where you're able to goof without feeling like a monster, and you deliver this banger, moo-stache joke?

Griffin: No— [sighs] The joke sucks shit from the ground up. There's no good delivery of it that's going to make this person who's dying bust up and forget about it, you know what I mean? So you may as well like, I don't want to rob them of the precious life seconds they've got.

"Hey, why doesn't a cow shave? It has a moo-stache." That's two and a half seconds and then they're able to go do more stuff. I've only seized their attention for like, a really, really minimal amount of time.

Travis: Is there a punch up you can do to it, Griffin...

Justin: Okay, alright...

Travis: ...take this joke and make it work?

Griffin: Sure, let me try. Hey, what happens if a cow doesn't shave?

Travis: What?

Griffin: [high energy] It gets a fucking moo-stache, baby!

Justin: [giggling]

Travis: That was pretty good. Oh, you know what I like? I like the jokes where it seems like it really— So you could start off reading the paper. Everybody loves the paper. And you go like, "Oh, did you see this? Do you hear about this?"

Griffin: "You hear about one of these things?"

Travis: "Did you hear about one of these?"

Justin: "Did you hear about this now?"

Travis: "Did you hear about this? It looks like this cow, their razor broke. She wasn't able to shave."
"Oh, yeah? What happened?"
"She grew a moo-stache."

Griffin: That's dope. Here, let me try this— Let me try it this way.

Travis: They bought into it at that point.

Griffin: The cow didn't shave. Guess what?

Travis: What?

Griffin: It grew a mustache.

Travis: Huh. That's a thinker.

Griffin: Yeah, that one is good. That's a good way of doing it, actually.

Justin: Do you know a cow's favorite disgraced Prime Minister of Italy?

Griffin: What's that?

Travis: Who?

Justin: [softly] Moo-ssolini.

Travis: That's good. I like calling Mussolini a disgraced, um... I think that's kind of underselling it, but sure.

Griffin: Yeah. [laughs] "Oh, he's so embarrassed."

Justin: Well, he's not graced.

Travis: That's for damn sure! Yeah, yeah, yeah. He's not holding his head up high for a lot of reasons. Yeah, I like that. That's pretty good. Okay. Oh, here's a tough one. Now, it's a riddle. You ready?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Which of the Mario brothers is a cow's favorite?

Justin: What?

Travis: Which of the Mario brothers is a cow's favorite?

Griffin: What are the— Who's that?

Travis: The Mario brothers— Oh, it's two plumber bros—

Griffin: This isn't me. Obviously I know who the Mario brothers is because I'm an original gamer, but—

Travis: They're friends with Toad. You know, Toad's friends?

Griffin: I don't know anything.

Travis: Toad!

Griffin: Yeah, I don't—

Travis: You know fucking toad, dude! Look at my tattoo. This isn't me either. This is the person telling the joke. It's Toad's friends!

Griffin: Of course, of course. I love the person you've invented who doesn't know who Mario or Luigi is, but fucking is just wild about the little perfect Toad.

Travis: It's on my— Look at my face! I have a Toad tattoo, like, in the corner of my eye, like a tear drop. Only it's Toad.

Griffin: That's the mushroom boy?

Travis: I got one for everybody I've killed.

Griffin: Okay, there's only one.

Travis: I got six of them.

Justin: What's the punchline?

Travis: Oh, it's— You could say either Moo-igi or Moo-rio.

Justin: That sucks.

Griffin: They— That sucks.

Justin: You somehow wrote a worse joke. What's a cow's favorite former President of the European Central Bank?

Travis: Now, there's a lot of politics here, Justin.

Justin: Moo-rio Draghi!

Travis: Now, hold on.

Griffin: Oh, you did just kind of use Moo-rio again.

Justin: Yeah, but mine was like, you didn't see— Travis— Okay, I don't want to be like, whatever, Travis, but you can't have the punchline part in the setup.

Travis: Okay, where does the cow go to learn about art and history?

Justin: The Moo-seum.

Travis: Exactly.

Justin: That sucks.

Travis: But do it different!

Griffin: And I just want to remind the two of you on this call that we can't just deliver purposefully shitty jokes for 15 minutes and then say, "Ah, put it in the can, that one's done."

Travis and Justin: [cackling]

Griffin: "Hey guys, what if we did opposite of jokes today for this show? This is a special episode where we do opposite of jokes that suck shit—"

Travis: What's a cow's favorite cereal?

Griffin: Moo-sley?

Justin: Moo-sley?

Travis: No, it's fucking grass! It's a cow, you idiot!

Justin: See, that's got some ADC energy that I really like.

Travis: Well, see, yeah, I was trying to do, like, edgy. I was doing edgy comedy.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: We don't do that enough here.

Justin: That's the future. Yes.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: 2022, Fancy Takes Flight. 20-Rendezvous. We're having a rendezvous with, like, some edgy, challenging, push-the-envelope, doesn't-have-to-be-funny kind of comedy.

Travis: Yeah, edgy, where if it's not funny to use it's because there's something wrong with you, not me. I made a solid joke.

Griffin: What happens when a cow doesn't shave for too long?

Travis: What?

Griffin: Their— [pauses] Their bush goes fucking crazy.

Travis: Oh, I like that.

Justin: [claps] That's a good— That joke is funny.

Griffin: Yeah, that's a great joke because it's like, now you're imagining, like, where does the bush go? Where is the bush at?

Travis: Because I think it's all boob down there. I'm not sure.

Griffin: It's mostly boob down there. So where's the bush? Oh, that's funny. It could be like, where's the beef? But it's like, "Where's the bush?"

Travis: I have one—

Griffin: And that's, like, a second— That's like a joke on top of the first. That's a joke topping.

Travis: I got a joke here and it really makes a statement.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: Ready?

Justin: Yeah, bud.

Griffin: Does it kick ass?

Travis: Yeah. What happens when a cow doesn't shave?

Griffin: What?

Travis: Society applies their concept of what beauty is to that cow and judges it for growing a moo-stache.

Griffin: That ain't it, chief.

Travis: But then it has something to say. But I also still got moo-stache in there.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: This has been an hour, right?

Travis: I don't know, man.

Justin: Write better jokes.

Griffin: What happened when the cow didn't shave?

Travis: What?

Griffin: Who fucking gives a shit?

Travis: Oh, I like that.

Griffin: It's a cow. Don't you have better things to worry about?

Justin: Cows don't fucking shave.

Griffin: Cows don't even shave, dumbass.

Travis: That's a good one, man. Oh, edgy, see? You got it in there.

Griffin: Yeah. Um... we got to do something else. We have to do anything else right now.

Justin: Okay. I got you. Don't worry about it.

Griffin: Is it a cow? Is it a fucking shitty cow joke that we can be ironic on?

Justin: Um. No?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: But is that a problem?

Travis: Wait, but is it, Justin?

Griffin: Why are you asking if it's a problem if it's not—

Justin: Does it need to be that, or...?

[Bob the Builder Mambo Number 5 parody plays]

Lyrics: "One, two, three, four, five..."

Travis: Moo Bega!

Lyrics: "Everybody's outside, so come on let's ride to the builder's yard around the corner. The gang's all here and it's time for us to do what we

wanna. There's a house with a roof that leaks; it's an urgent job and it could take us weeks!"

Travis: Stop.

Lyrics: "There's Dizzy, Lofty, and Roley too. Wendy always knows just what to do. There's no job too big or small with Scoop and Muck we can do it all. Metal, brick, or wood - it's all good and we can always send in the tractor!

"A little bit of timber and a saw. A little bit of fixing, that's for sure. A little bit of digging up the roads. A little bit of moving heavy loads..."

[music fades away]

Griffin: What are we listening to?

Travis: You have to stop.

Justin: I did.

Travis: No, but here's the problem, Justin. When you play things through your computer, if we talk, it echoes. So...

Justin: I know, I love that.

Travis: You are holding us hostage!

Justin: I like the power play, so you just got to hear Bob the Builder's take on Lou Bega's Mambo Number 5. Can I— This is a great idea, and I'm assuming the show is over by now...

Travis: Was that just like a palate cleanser you were playing?

Justin: That was just, like, a— I found Mambo the Trumpet, and it was just like six minutes of trumpet. Like, that's another joke. And then related to that was Bob the Builder's take on Mambo Number 5. I thought maybe this is something. So then I played that...

Travis: But you just played it.

Justin: Yeah. I don't have anything to say about it. Its existence is funnier than jokes.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I was just thinking about how it would be cool to make a song called Mambo Number 2,340. And the year is 32,000. Like Warhammer, kind of.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: It's like— It's so far in the future, it would continue to have new Mambos, and it's like, "This is the 2037th Mambo that we're writing in the year 32,000." That would be awesome.

Griffin: And it's, like, filled with jokes about how the year 32,000 nutrient slurry that everybody eats doesn't taste very good.

Travis: Aw, yeah, yeah. And it's like listing the names, and it's like, "A little bit of Bleep-blop in my life, a little bit of Foo-flab in my—" And it's just like, even then, people are listening to it going, "Those aren't names." It's like, "Yeah, I know, but I've used all of them."

Griffin: "There's no more names."

Justin: And then somebody's like, "Hey, guys, I found this weird old holovid on YouTube, and I just have some questions for you. One, what is a buffalo? Two, what is a wing? Three, what is a guy?"

Travis: "Also, where can I get this fucking meal? Because it's working!"

Justin: Can we get a pill? Get the replicator to make a pill of the Guy on a Buffalo.

Travis: Also, guys, what happens when a cow doesn't shave?

Justin: What?

Travis: It grows a Moo-stache!

Griffin: Stop the fucking show, Justin. Say the shit that you say at the end of every episode.

Justin: Thanks for listening to our show. Um... We'll feel better next week.

Travis: [laughs] And maybe we'll do better.

Justin: No, we did fine. I don't like people thinking they wasted— Because most people listen on 1.25 anyway. They're just blowing through to see what, like, how we're going to be realigning the culture. You know what I mean? It's less about the humor and more about just like keeping their finger on the pulse.

Travis: But if they listen that fast, they're going to miss all the little Easter eggs and, like, winks at stuff we have planned for the future and where the story is going and how...

Justin: You actually would miss the sheer amount of time we just let hang in the air after the first reading of that moo-stache joke.

Griffin: That is true.

Travis: Go back and listen to that at, like, .75.

Justin: I was spiraling a little bit. Um, thanks so much. Thanks to you for listening. Griffin, do your bit.

Griffin: Thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, *My Life is Better with You*. Thanks, Montaigne. It's a bopper and a showstopper, literally.

Travis: Make sure you go check out McElroyMerch.com. We got the pin of the month, Everybody Has a Knife, which benefits the Center for Reproductive Rights. We have Guppies Want Me, Blinksharks Fear Me sticker over there. I have been doing some streaming on Twitch playing, get this

guys, a little game called Fortnite and it rules. You can check that out at [Twitch.tv/TheTravisMcElroy](https://www.twitch.tv/TheTravisMcElroy).

Also, Griffin has been doing a regular stream on Wednesdays on the MacElroy Family YouTube, in which I believe I'm describing this correctly, he plays video games as Guy Fieri.

Griffin: Nope, that's not it.

Justin: Nope. Not even close.

Travis: I'm pretty sure that's it.

Griffin: It's cool that you are supporting my art, though.

Justin: I really like it, Griffin.

Griffin: Thank you.

Justin: The kids like it, too.

Griffin: Oh, that's awesome.

Justin: Yeah, man. So cool. That's going to do it for us this week. Griffin, do you have a final Yahoo to go out on?

Griffin: Yeah. Thank you to everyone. Here's a final Yahoo that was sent in by... Chimney Man. Chimney Man.

Justin: Chimney Man. Huh, it sounds so—

Travis: I'm so afraid of the chimney man. Please don't bring him into this.

Griffin: It's not that chimney man—

Justin: Alright, we've said it twice, so we have to stop there.

Griffin: So thank you, sir. So it's written by Yahoo Answers user, uh... Chrispo-pher...

Justin: Chrispo-pher.

Griffin: Who asks...

Justin: Interesting.

Griffin: Chrispo-pher asks. Uh... Chrispo-pher asks.

Justin: Chrispo-pher, you say?

Griffin: He asks... Chrispo-pher asks.

Justin: I'm just waiting, whenever you're ready.

Travis: Yeah, we're here. We can wait all day.

Justin: We're here for you. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You have our full support.

Justin: Do you remember some of the stuff you said already? Because I can try to catch you back up.

Griffin: Like some stuff I said in this segment before?

Justin: You said, "Yahoo—" Well, I guess I could do that.

Griffin: Okay, so I said Chrispo-pher and I said it was sent in by Chimney Man.

Travis: Oh, not again! Oh, no!

Justin: That's three! [yells]

Griffin: Oh, no! Shuffle, shuffle, shuffle. [roars] Shit guys, I don't have enough time to do the final Yahoo! [microphone clangs, distant yelling]

Justin: [laughing] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: [distantly] Aw, shit! I should have told my [unintelligible yelling]!

Justin: This has been *My Brother, My Brother, and Me*. [laughing uncontrollably] Kiss your dad square on the lips.

Griffin: [distantly yelling] ... my bones, my bones, my bones!

[theme music plays]

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