

Wonderful! 206: Big City Boil

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[theme song plays]

Rachel:

Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin:

Hello, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel:

And this is *Wonderful!*

Griffin:

I just had, seconds before we started recording...

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

... the most disappointing like, false start sneeze that I can remember...

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... like in, in recent memory. It was like right there, and I was like, my elbow was cocked, and ready to like vampire cover it up.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And I was already thinking about like what my day was gonna be like after this one—

Rachel:

[laughs] After the sneeze?

Griffin:

... After this one, it was going to be a pretty, pretty righteous sneeze came out. But now, you know, it sucks, it's like right, it's right behind the nostril now.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's like, it could jump out at any second.

Rachel:

Oh, we're gonna leave it in just so the listeners know?

Griffin:

Uh, yeah, yeah, I'll be pretty happy and excited when it finally comes out.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And I want our listeners to like, share that with me.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

You can't share COVID over a podcast application.

Rachel:

Not that you have COVID, Griffin.

Griffin:

No, but it's better to be safe, you know?

Rachel:

Yeah, okay.

Griffin:

Yeah, this is a show where we talk about... It's gonna kill me. This is a show where we talk about things that we like, and things that we're into. I might go and neti pot just to like—

Rachel:

Get that sneeze out?

Griffin:

... Just to push the sneeze back in for 30 minutes.

Rachel:

Oh [laughs].

Griffin:

So we can record our loving podcast together. Um, so it's a show where we talk about things we like, things that we're into, getting into that holiday season.

Rachel:

Yeah!

Griffin:

A lot of stuff back-to-back for us, we got Henry's birthday, and Thanksgiving, and then Hanukkah starts pretty soon.

Rachel:

Yeah, and Hanukkah.

Griffin:

Yeah. It's, uh, things are—

Rachel:

Then our anniversary.

Griffin:

... Then our anni— ... Whoof.

Rachel:

I hadn't thought about that either, it's okay.

Griffin:

Nor me, thank God.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

It's only a problem if one of us forgets it's coming up.

Rachel:

Yes, true, we have to be on the same page.

Griffin:

Yeah. Um, yeah, special, special days. Do you have a small, uh, one of the small wonders?

Rachel:

Um, I am gonna say Old Bay.

Griffin:

Old Bay.

Rachel:

Did we talk about Old Bay?

Griffin:

Uh, I think so.

Rachel:

I was at the grocery store, and I realized how brand loyal I was when I looked at the shelves, and saw a lot of creole and Cajun seasoning, but did not see Old Bay.

Griffin:

Huh.

Rachel:

And thought, "Well, forget it."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

"I guess I'm not gonna buy anything." Uh, we have some in, in the pantry, don't worry, it's just, it's not entirely full, and I don't know how much of that bad boy I'm gonna use. But I—

Griffin:

But you're planning on a low country boil, yes?

Rachel:

... Well I don't wanna call it that because it's gonna be real DIY, you know?

Griffin:

Yeah. Okay.

Rachel:

Uh, 'cause I'm just gonna kind of back into it and see if what comes out is defined as little country boy.

Griffin:

Maybe you could call it a big city boil.

Rachel:

Well, I like that.

Griffin:

I do like that also.

Rachel:

All the little potatoes have like little earbuds in.

Griffin:

Yeah. Yeah.

Rachel:

Ear spuds, ear spuds?

Griffin:

Ear spuds, oh honey, that's so good.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Um, I'm gonna, this may be confusing to you 'cause I, I, uh, decried the television program when it first came out, but I'm gonna say *Cowboy Bebop*, the live action version of it that's on Netflix.

Rachel:

Really?

Griffin:

I'm about, well I'm about four or five episodes into it now, and I've reached like the acceptance stage of, uh, sort of grief with it, because it is not as good as the, as the anime was, but also, I'm now convinced that there wasn't gonna be a good way to like live action adaptate that particular like thing.

Rachel:

Adapt. [laughs].

Griffin:

Adapt, yeah, it's another version of saying that. There wasn't a version, a live-action version of it that like was truly faithful to the anime and good at the same time.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

So instead, they made a show that is not super faithful to the anime in tone, and in certain cases like character stuff. But it is, if you turn off that part of your brain, it's pretty, it's a pretty fun show.

Rachel:

That's what I was wondering like, if somebody like me who is not especially familiar with the animated version like rolled up, would I think it was perfectly fine?

Griffin:

[sighs] It, that's tough too right? Because the show has some like flaws, like it, it, uh, the fight choreography is like, like kind of clunky and slow, which—

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... And, and the anime was like fucking rad at, at that specifically.

Rachel:

Well.

Griffin:

Well, I know, but there's ways of doing it better than, than—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... It happens in the show. There's like little stuff like that, that I think if you came into it fresh without that nostalgia like entirely, it would still be kind of hit or miss. But I think if you are reminiscing about the show, and you're willing to put up with something that is not exactly like on, on point with it, uh, it's a fun ride, I've been enjoying it, because Gus has been waking up many times a night over the last week, and so that's when I've been, uh, diving in. So yeah, if you wanna watch something with a baby on your lap at 2:00 in the morning, this is the show for you.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Do you wanna do your first thing?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

By which I mean your only thing?

Rachel:

We're always gonna say that, huh?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, it is a trip to the poetry corner.

Griffin:

[singing away from microphone] Come on and take a free ride!

Rachel:

Well, I like that.

Griffin:

Yeah, me too.

Rachel:

Getting, uh, getting a rebrand on this corner.

Griffin:

Edgar Winter Group had so many fucking slappers. I don't know how I haven't done that on the show, but he did "Free Ride," he did "Frankenstein," that [imitates rock guitar], and "Living to Die," a lot of jams. Anyway, poets.

Rachel:

Poets [laughs]. Uh, this is a poet that is, is new to me, uh, and I'm guessing will be new to you, it is—

Griffin:

Wouldn't it be fucked up if it wasn't new to me?

Rachel:

... I know right, and you were like, you did my whole segment for me.

Griffin:

Uh-huh [affirmative].

Rachel:

Nick Flynn.

Griffin:

Oh yeah.

Rachel:

Yeah?

Griffin:

Oh yeah. The antagonist hero from—

Rachel:

Okay, okay.

Griffin:

... From ta— ... From *Tangled*.

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

Yeah. Or the fox, the, the silly fox from *Zootopia*.

Rachel:

You know, I will tell you that he has written a memoir that turned into a film called *Being Flynn* that I have not seen, but stars, uh, Robert De Niro, Paul Dano, and Julianne Moore.

Griffin:

Huh.

Rachel:

Doesn't that sound like, like Oscar bait if you've ever heard it?

Griffin:

[crosstalk], yeah.

Rachel:

Um—

Griffin:

Did you say, "In like Flint?"

Rachel:

No, being Flynn.

Griffin:

Okay, that's a different one, go ahead.

Rachel:

[laughs]. So Nick Flynn, born in Massachusetts, uh, debuted his first poetry collection in 2000.

Griffin:

2000. I was gonna say 2000, wow, pretty, uh, hot off the press's stuff, and then I realized that that was 21 fucking years ago.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah, yeah for sure. He has had like a very... I mean, you can understand perhaps why he has written multiple memoirs [laughs], uh, because he has had a very challenging life. And, and the whole story of *Being Flynn* is that he was working in a Boston shelter as a social worker, and a man came in that was in fact his dad, uh, that he had not had a relationship with.

Griffin:

What?

Rachel:

Yeah, yeah. Uh, and then when he—

Griffin:

Do you think when people heard about that, when he was like, "How was your day Nick?" And they told, he was like, "Yeah my, my dad came in." And, you know. Somebody was like, "I would like to option the film rights right now."

Rachel:

... By the way, the, the memoir that *Being Flynn* is based on, the title it, it sounds familiar to me, but probably because the first time I heard it it was so incredible. The memoir is titled, *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*.

Griffin:

That's good.

Rachel:

Isn't that great?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, so, so Nick Flynn I feel like has kind of a like a Dave Edgar's quality.

Griffin:

Hey now, ooh.

Rachel:

Uh, which made me think that you might like him. Um, because he kind of ping-pongs back and forth between like real, like deep like kind of sadness, and then like really, really funny. So I wanted to read two poems, one that kind of swings on the sad side, and one that swings on the funny side.

Griffin:

All right, as long as it swings, you know me.

Rachel:

[laughs] do you have a preference as to which one I read first?

Griffin:

Uh, the swingiest one you got, cool cat.

Rachel:

[laughs] Okay. I'll read the funny one then.

Griffin:

Do you like jazz, Rachel?

Rachel:

[laughs] Are you gonna tell me about jazz?

Griffin:

[laughs] No this is just my new character, it's a character I've been doing a lot lately. It's called—

Rachel:

Do you like jazz?

Griffin:

Do you like jazz?

Rachel:

[laughs] Do you have anything to follow that, or is that the whole character?

Griffin:

Uh, that's pretty much it.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Yeah. Nobody ever really wants to know more about that guy, you know?

Rachel:

[laughs]. Uh, so before I read this poem, just some background on Nick Flynn, uh, he splits his time between Houston and Brooklyn, New York, and he teaches creative writing at the University of Houston. So this poem is called "47 Minutes."

"Years later I'm standing before a room full of young writers in a high school in Texas. I've asked them to locate an image in a poem we just read. Their heads at this moment are bowed to the page. After some back and forth about the grass and Styrofoam cup, a girl raises her hand and asks, 'Does it matter?' I smile. It is if the universe balanced on those three words, and we've landed in the unanswerable. I have to admit that no, it doesn't, not really matter, if rain is an image, or rain is an idea, or rain is a sound in our heads. But I whisper, leaning in close, 'To get through the next 47 minutes, we might have to pretend it does.'" [laughing]. So, so charming.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

I imagine it hits even harder if you went and did a lot of poetry school thing.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah. I mean, I don't, I don't actually know if the student's intent was to kind of draw into question like, the whole lesson.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Rachel:

Uh, but, uh, that's so easy to do [laughs]—

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... When you, when you are in any kind of literature class to be like, "Hey, why does this matter?"

Griffin:

[laughs].

Rachel:

It's like, well, I may not, really not actually know.

Griffin:

"Guys, we should be learning like math and engineering, don't you think?"

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"Let's get out of here."

Rachel:

Uh, okay so now the sad poem.

Griffin:

Oh, man.

Rachel:

Uh, so just a content warning, this is about kind of a, a sudden tragic loss of somebody you care about.

Griffin:

[fake enthusiasm] Okay!

Rachel:

Uh, and it, the poem is in fact called "Sudden."

"If it had been a heart attack, the newspaper might have used the word massive. As if a mountain range had opened inside her. But instead, it used the word 'suddenly,' a light coming on in an empty room. The telephone fell from my shoulder, a black parrot repeating, 'something happened, something awful.' a Sunday dusky. If it had been terminal, we could have cradled her as she grew smaller, wiped her mouth, said goodbye, but it was sudden. How overnight we could be orphaned, and the world become a bell we'd crawl inside, and the ringing all we'd eat."

Griffin:

Fuck.

Rachel:

Right? I can't read that last part without just like feeling it in my whole body [laughs].

Griffin:

I know.

Rachel:

It's devastating.

Griffin:

Yeah!

Rachel:

It's a, it's a devastating poem, and I mean, as I mentioned, you know, the poet is somebody who has suffered a lot of, a lot of loss that I won't necessarily get into. But, uh, I think to swing from "47 Minutes," which is kind of like a lighthearted poem—

Griffin:

Or cheeky, so and so.

Rachel:

... About like teaching a creative writing class to like this poem about like extreme loss, uh, just kind of speaks to the, the, like the range and ability of this poet.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh—

Griffin:

But he made me sad, so I will never forgive him.

Rachel:

[laughs] Sorry about that.

Griffin:

Or you I guess by extension, yeah.

Rachel:

[laughs]. Um, yeah, this, this is a guy that has not just written poets and memoirs, as I have mentioned, he is also a playwright. Uh, so he, I mean it's, it's, it's pretty, I don't know, it's pretty incredible. His first poetry collection came out when he was 40 years old.

Griffin:

Wow.

Rachel:

Uh, so I, it's, again it's just kind of a reminder of like you are only limited by, by your own ambition, I guess.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, and maybe talent [laughs].

Griffin:

And grit. Gotta be tough as nails to be a poet in this economy.

Rachel:

So yeah, check out Nick Flynn.

Griffin:

Hey, can I steal you away?

Rachel:

Yeah.

[Max Fun ad plays]

Griffin:

Oh, we have a couple bubble boys here, and—

Rachel:

Yeah, can I read this one? It'll be confusing.

Griffin:

... Yes, yes, yes.

Rachel:

This message is for Brian, it is from Rachel?

Griffin:

[dumbfounded] What the hell?

Rachel:

[laughs]. "Hi booboo, my heart can't contain how much I love you, and our whole penguin family." This isn't for me.

Griffin:

No, no.

Rachel:

"Coming home to you is my favorite part of the day, and you make me laugh and smile like no one else can. Thank you for being an absolute joy and the light of my life. Also, I love your butt. Love Rachie, Benny, Bailey, Sheepy, and the Pengus."

Griffin:

It's still, it still cuts deep. If your name is Rachel, please no longer send Jumbotrons in. And if you do, make them very platonic.

Rachel:

[laughs]. Baby, you know, you know your butt is—

Griffin:

Is the only one.

Rachel:

... It's the only butt I love.

Griffin:

And also we don't have penguins, so to speak. So I, I think, I think, I think we're in the clear here. Uh, here's another message, this one is for Sarah, from Zeus, who says, "Happy birthday Sarah, I'm so glad we became friends, and that I finally listened to your advice to add *Wonderful!* to my

McElroy rotation. You're just like the pod: positive, delightful, funny, and a joy to be around. I can't wait for you to call me crying, because your two favorite people, not including me, wish you a happy B-day. I love you so much, Julia."

Rachel:

Wow!

Griffin:

Wow.

Rachel:

This was supposed to be close to October 12th, so sorry about that.

Griffin:

Oh we, we did not do that good, huh?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Dang it.

Rachel:

But I'm sure they've been listening anxiously this whole time, and, and now they're just exploding with, with joy.

Griffin:

I don't know, this podcast more, has more of like a spring, summer energy, and so—

Rachel:

Oh, yeah? [laughs].

Griffin:

... The audience falls right off in the fall, early winter, so.

Rachel:

I feel like you, you'd need some joy in the winter though. You know?

Griffin:

Yeah, but it's, you know, we have more party energy.

Rachel:

That's true [laughs].

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

That's true, people always say that about us.

[relaxed music plays]

Jesse Thorn:

Hi, it's Jesse Thorn, the founder of Maximum Fun. It's the Thanksgiving season, and I wanna take this opportunity to thank you, the members of Maximum Fun. This Max Fun Drive, your generosity, and your love of pins helped us raise over \$90,000 to help bridge the digital divide.

Families without internet access struggle to do things that the rest of us might take for granted, especially during COVID. Going to school, applying for jobs, finding medical care. Your donations help the nonprofit, EveryoneOn. They provide equipment, services, and training to get people online so they can access opportunity. You can find out more about the great work EveryoneOn does at everyoneon.org. Thanks for supporting Maximum Fun, thanks for supporting EveryoneOn, and thanks for being awesome people who wanna do good in the world.

Griffin:

Sorry, mentioning tough as nails wants me to like pivot from the segment I was going to do to talk about the new CBS reality show, *Tough as Nails*.

Rachel:

Oh, [breaks into laughter].

Griffin:

That we see commercials for while we're watching Survivor.

Rachel:

Anytime we see a preview for that we're like, "Who is this for?" And Griffin universally says, "Dads."

Griffin:

It's the host of amazing race whose name is—

Rachel:

Phil.

Griffin:

... Phil. Kee— Keegan?

Rachel:

Something like that.

Griffin:

And the contest as far as I can tell is just a lot of like—

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... Manual, manual labor, which is, which is certainly, y— you know, a, an incredibly noble and necessary thing, but it's like, "For this challenge, you're gonna carry these chairs up 10 flights of stairs." And it's like, uh...

Rachel:

Yeah, it's not even like, they haven't gamified it; they're just doing errands.

Griffin:

We're, we're guessing this from the commercials—

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... 'cause we haven't watched the show, but like every time we watch it, he's like, "Drive a hundred nails into this boat." And it's like...

Rachel:

I think uh, the thing that is alarming to me is that the tasks are more practical than that, and so it just makes me think that they have invited people to be on a reality show to do like TaskRabbit projects.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

'Cause it's just like, "Hey get all this stuff from the first floor up to the fifth floor."

Griffin:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Rachel:

And, "Thanks." [laughs].

Griffin:

And some like, you know, big-bearded business owner walks up to Flynn, he's like, "All right, here's your \$200." He's like, "I'm going to divvy this up amongst the winners."

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Okay anyway, no, my thing this week, and it's gonna sound like one of those things that like I ran out of time to come up with something, and so I just made up some bullshit, but I promise it's not. It's going to the optometrist.

Rachel:

Oh. Yeah, see, you know, we talked about this recently because Griffin and I are both overdue for the dentist, and the other day Griffin was like, "I'm gonna go to the optometrist." And I was like, "Huh, I never think of doing that." I go like once every three years.

Griffin:

Now, optometrists gave me a hard time because it's been like two and a half years since I went, um, because of COVID, and I wasn't really prioritizing that.

Rachel:

Right.

Griffin:

And she was like, "Yeah, we've, we've heard that a lot." I was like, "It's also true of the dentist." And she was like, [understandingly] "Oh yeah."

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

I have not been to the dentist in a while. Okay so, um, yeah, go into the optometrist rules for so many reasons. I've oh, I've been wearing glasses since like, maybe junior year of high school, uh, because like I noticed that I couldn't see the whiteboard as well anymore, uh, and so I went to the optometrist, and got my first pair of glasses, and was like, "Oh yeah, I like, I like these. I like how these look on me."

Rachel:

Griffin made the point, and it's true, like his face was almost missing glasses.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Rachel:

And then once they connected those two pieces, it was like, "Oh!"

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

"Oh, this is how I'm supposed to look."

Griffin:

So I wanna break down what it is I like about the optometrist.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

'Cause I went last week, and I felt like I had just gotten back from a day at the spa. It was—

Rachel:

I'm curious about this because I don't particularly enjoy it. I mean like I enjoy like getting the right answers on like, you know, which way an E is facing, but like—

Griffin:

Exactly, that's a huge one for me. That's a huge one for me.

Rachel:

[laughs] Okay.

Griffin:

This time I went in, and you keep your glasses on if you already have glasses, they're like, "All right, read the letter chart, and see which row you can read." And I just read off that bottom line like I was—

Rachel:

Ooh.

Griffin:

... Like I was reading a fucking billboard.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And they're like, "Wow, amazing."

Rachel:

"You have the right glasses."

Griffin:

Yeah, more or less. Yeah, my prescription did not change that much despite the fact that it is a two-and-a-half-year-old prescription, which is kind of wild because my eyesight has been, I would say degenerating, uh, pretty reliably year over year, but—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... It's holding steady now, which I appreciate. Um, all the tests that they run on those peepers to make sure they're doing okay, I kind of enjoy because they are so, um, novel. It's kind of like a, when you work out, and it hurts, but you know like, "I'm gonna come out strong." That satisfaction of like, "Yeah, I'm stronger now." I get that from optometrist's tests.

Rachel:

[laughs] um, do you have like a particularly chill optometrist?

Griffin:

I have an incredibly chill optometrist.

Rachel:

That may help too. For me it feels very high stakes, like I feel like kind of like nervous and edgy.

Griffin:

The, uh, tests are usually administered by like, you know, an assistant, or something like that.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, but yeah, the, the one where they shine like this super, super, super bright light in your eyes, it makes your eyes water, like, "Ah, ah." This is gonna make me sound like I'm a—

Rachel:

Yeah, this is like—

Griffin:

... Masochist.

Rachel:

Your weird thing.

Griffin:

Maybe, uh, but don't yuck my yums.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Uh, the one where you have to like look into the little like viewfinder, little virtual boy looking thing.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

To like, and you see like a barn in the background, and it like focuses, oh that's good shit.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Uh, the one where they do the tiny little puff of air right in your eyes.

Rachel:

Oh. Gosh, this is weird.

Griffin:

I kind of like it 'cause it's like scary. I don't, like my, my eyes water a little bit, but then when it's done, I'm like, "Whoo, okay, that one's over, [laughs]." It's kind of like fun, like a roller coaster.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

You get off the roller coaster and you're like, "Hoo, that was scary, but it's done now."

Rachel:

Next time, next time you and I are, uh, intimate...

Griffin:

Oh you're gonna just blow in my eye really fast?

Rachel:

I'm gonna blow in your eye and take a big flashlight.

Griffin:

[laughing].

Rachel:

And just hold it like an inch from your face.

Griffin:

Um, yeah, let's talk about that after the recording.

Rachel:

Okay, okay.

Griffin:

Um, the one I don't care for as much is the field of vision test, because I am partially—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... Partially blind in my left eye, and so I always say something to the person answering the test like, "Hey, just so you know..."

Rachel:

[laughs] I know about this.

Griffin:

"I don't want you to be alarmed, and think that you've discovered some thing that you're gonna have to break news to me."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"Uh, I'm going to fuck up the left eye part, so just, just so you know that."

Rachel:

I always do that when I get a massage, I'm like, "Hey, my back is real messed up, and I know that it is."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

"Just so you don't get confused when you're in there."

Griffin:

Yeah, you don't want them to be rubbing your back and be like, "Holy shit, did you know about this?"

Rachel:

"Jeff, get in here."

Griffin:

"Get in here."

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Uh, the field of vision test, I, 'cause I do it with my right eye, and when you do it a, you know, perfectly, you know, healthy eye, then it's like, "I'm looking for these little blips, these little blips of light—"

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"... Oh, there's one. There's one, yeah, blip, yeah got it, I'm crushing it, I'm crushing it." But then when you do it with your cool, partially blind eye, and you don't catch a blip, you're like, "Wait a minute, was that in my blind spot, or did I just not see it? Oh no, oh no, oh no." Um, also that test sort of reveals whether or not your blind spot is getting worse, so the stakes—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... are about as high as they can be. That said, it is because of a field of vision test that I discovered I was partially blind in my left eye in the first place—

Rachel:

Exactly, yeah.

Griffin:

... That test can, I, I guess it can hang, um, the next thing. Sometimes they dilate your eyes, and that kind of—

Rachel:

I've, I've never had that done.

Griffin:

... Um, yeah, they put drops, they put numbing drops in your eyes first, which hurt a lot, which seems funny.

Rachel:

Yeah [laughs].

Griffin:

I guess the dilating drops like hurt extra bad, and so they wanna save you from that. But then they put in the dilating drops, and then your eyes open up like the, the pupils dilate so huge that you look like you're like an oracle.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Like mid-hallucinogenic, like prophecy or something like that, uh, and then, you know, they do the test, and then you get the super, super rad like folding, black plastic, neo-futuristic like sunglasses.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Uh, and those always look so cool. I wish I was better about just holding on to those, so if I go out to on like a night on the town, I can wear them.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Like I'm in fucking craft work or something.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Um, and then of course the best thing is you get new glasses baby.

Rachel:

Yeah, I know that you like that part.

Griffin:

I, [laughs], depending on who the sponsors of our shows are at any given time.

Rachel:

[laughs], yeah.

Griffin:

I usually only have one pair of glasses at a time. So when I make that choice, it is, I agonize over it.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I don't agonize over it, I enjoy it a great deal. I just spend a lot of time at the optometrist because mine sells pretty good collection of glasses, or—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... Go to the, you know, glasses store.

Rachel:

When I was, I don't know if this happened to you this time, but the last time I went, there was a woman there who was almost like a consultant, like she followed me around, and she's like, "Oh, those look really good. Oh, you know what we should try? We should try this." And I felt like I had my own little personal shopper.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

You know? And I was just like, "Wow okay, um, what about these, woman whose name I don't know?" [laughs].

Griffin:

Yeah. It's fun, I like that. I, I usually get mine at the optometrist, but I did go to a, a shop here in Austin once, and I was followed around by, uh, by an older woman who was just like, "No, no, no, try these."

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And I was like, "Whoa, this, I've never had this sort of treatment before." But those were, those were my Randy Jackson glasses that I got.

Rachel:

Yes, oh my gosh [laughs]. What a time capsule.

Griffin:

What a time capsule. I wore Randy Jackson branded glasses for a long time.

Rachel:

They were great, they were—

Griffin:

They were fucking excellent.

Rachel:

... Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so like from a corrective standpoint, I cannot get over putting on a new pair of glasses, especially when there's like a jump in my prescription, and then I can see through time and space.

Rachel:

Yeah, that is cool.

Griffin:

It's really cool, it, like I can't, it boggles my mind for like weeks, especially if they get a little bit dirty, and then I clean them, and I'm like, "Oh shit, that's right, I'm Superman now!" Um, I really, really like that. Yeah, they say you're supposed to ease into it, like not wear them all the time—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

'Cause I'll give you a headache, but I can't, once I pop, I just can't not—

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... Not wear in those beauties. But it's mostly the style, like choosing a new style that is so thrilling, because like—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... It is such a, it's on your fucking face, like it's a huge part of your aesthetic.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, and since I only usually have one pair of glasses at a time, it's like a permanent like, "Hey, this is what you got for the next year, maybe."

Rachel:

Yeah. No, that's true.

Griffin:

If you're being good about going to the optometrist.

Rachel:

I think you and I, though, like we subscribe to having one pair of glasses when we really don't actually have to live that way.

Griffin:

That's true, that's true, yeah. I could, I could, uh, I could [unintelligible] it up.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I can get a bunch of, a bunch of bold, a bunch of bold stuff, uh, out there.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um—

Rachel:

But I know you're not like a, like a peacock necessarily, when it comes to your face.

Griffin:

... Yeah, I'm not like a hype beast for glasses.

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

As fun as that would be. I could live that life if I wanted to, but, um, I don't color coordinate my shit nearly enough to make that make sense.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Griffin:

Um, so like, I don't know, I just got a new pair of glasses, I really like 'em. I keep like catching glimpses of myself in the mirror, and I'm like, "Oh that's right, I look different now."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"Great, these are cool." Uh, so, you know, small pleasures, but—

Rachel:

Yeah!

Griffin:

... It's something, that's something that I really look forward to.

Rachel:

Yeah. I mean I talk a lot about your pretty eyes, uh, but I feel like these glasses—

Griffin:

These are like, these are frames like for the art of my eyes.

Rachel:

Is that why they're called frames?

Griffin:

That is why they're called frames.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Yeah. Man, the world is crazy.

Rachel:

[laughs], I know right?

Griffin:

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, um, thank you, thanks Maximum Fun for having us on the network, uh, you can check out all the shows at maximumfun.org. And, uh, hey, guess what? Tomorrow is the, is American Thanksgiving, and that means—

Rachel:

Uh-oh.

Griffin:

... There's a new episode of *'Til Death Do Us Blart*, the, uh, infinite podcast that I do with my brothers, and my New Zealand brothers, uh, Tim and Guy—

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... From *The Worst Idea of All Time*, uh, and we do one episode a year on Thanksgiving, where we do discuss our recent viewing of *Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2*.

Rachel:

Yeah. I'm so excited.

Griffin:

And just the—

Rachel:

Here's the, here's a question I have as a listener of that podcast.

Griffin:

... Mm-hmm?

Rachel:

Do any of you review previous episodes before you—

Griffin:

... Uh, I don't.

Rachel:

... Okay.

Griffin:

I'm a, I'm a very busy man.

Rachel:

I'm just curious because I have to imagine you are making the same joke a lot of times.

Griffin:

And not realizing it, yeah.

Rachel:

And or noticing the same things over and over again.

Griffin:

I like to think we get a new angle on it every year.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

My angle this year was in the midst of a pretty serious depressive episode, and [laughing] at the end of the, my view was not great, and at the end of the podcast, Tim is like, "Hey Griffin, are you, are you doing okay?"

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

So there's a little sneak preview for how I approached the film. Uh, yeah, it's a good time, it's a fun time for friends, and—

Rachel:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... Yeah, I think that's it.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I think that's about it. Thank you all for listening. Thank you for sharing your life with us.

Rachel:

[laughs] Okay.

Griffin:

Thank you for being there.

Rachel:

Thank you for, uh, signing up for a Jumbotron that has now closed.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

But hopefully we'll be reading your message on the air—

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... Very soon, Jennifer.

Griffin:

Jennifer, and... Derek.

Rachel:

And Lawrence.

Griffin:

And a second, different Lawrence.

Rachel:

[laughs] Another Lawrence.

Griffin:

Oh, we did not forget about you, Damiel.

Rachel:

[laughs] Da— Damiel?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

That's, that's a tough one.

Griffin:

It's like Daniel and Samuel kind of like ran at each other really fast, and smashed, and traded parts of names. You know, Damiel?

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh-huh [affirmative].

[theme song plays and ends]

[chord plays]

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Speaker:

Do you sometimes wonder whatever happened to the kids at your school who really loved *Star Trek*?

Speaker 2:

You might remember a kid like me, the one who read the *Star Trek* novels, and built starship models. I also took music classes to avoid taking gym classes that required showering after, but I don't see what that really has to do with—

Speaker:

Or a kid like me. I introduced myself to kids at my summer camp one year as Wesley, but when the school year started, and some of those kids were in my new class, I actually had to explain to my friends that I had tried to take on the identity of my favorite *Star Trek* character. The shame haunts me to this day.

Speaker 2:

I'm sure some of those *Star Trek* fans from your childhood grew up to have interesting, and productive lives, but we ended up being podcasters.

Speaker:

On the greatest discovery, you'll hear what happens to two lifelong *Star Trek* fans who didn't grow up to be great people, we just grew up to be people who love jokes as much as they love *Trek*.

Speaker 2:

Season 4 of *Star Trek Discovery* is here, so listen to our new episodes every week on maximumfun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.