

Still Buffering 303: No Doubt

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[theme music plays]

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Teylor Smirl.

Sydnee: So, Raleigh, you had an exciting... weekend, spring break time?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Week?

Raleigh: Spring break. Sure.

Taylor: You go party on a... a shore? A... what?

Raleigh: [wheeze-laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah. That's what you do, right?

Raleigh: [laughs] Party on a shore?

Taylor: A shore!

Sydnee: Some sort of shore of a body of water.

Raleigh: Uh-huh.

Taylor: Yes.

Raleigh: Um... well... no. [laughs] No. Um, I went to—

Sydnee: [laughs] Sort of— does the reflecting pool count?

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: That's what I was gonna say. I guess technically I was near a body of water.

Taylor: Okay. Were you partying, though?

Raleigh: Not necessarily. Not— I wouldn't— I was just with mom and dad, so.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Hey, that can be a party.

Sydnee: I was gonna say, are you trying to insinuate mom and dad don't know how to party?

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: No, they know how to party. Um, they also know how to get in bed by 9:30, so.

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: Yeah, they sure do.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: That's the best kind of party. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah. To be fair, I was getting in bed by about the same time, though. Yeah.

Sydnee: What's up with you all?

Raleigh: I went to DC, 'cause that's where I'm going to law school, so we went to go look for apartments, 'cause I realized I graduate at the end of April. We do, uh— I'm booked all June for community theater, and then hopefully I'll be studying abroad by July, if things continue going the way they're going, and then

I'll start school two weeks later. So I was like, "Well, it's either now or never I find an apartment, I guess."

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. Well, you gotta live somewhere.

Rileigh: I gotta live somewhere. Um, yeah. So... that's what we went to do.

Taylor: That's exciting.

Rileigh: Obviously, we also had fun in DC besides just looking at apartments. Um... a bit of a— a bit of a party.

Sydnee: You were there for St. Patrick's Day.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm. We went to, um, just a... we tried to get in to, like, some sort of Irish restaurant or pub, but then we realized, like, well, it's the day of St. Patrick's Day and we're trying to make a reservation at an Irish pub in DC.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: This is not— this isn't gonna work.

Taylor: I feel like even if you could've gotten in, you probably wouldn't wanna be there. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Yeah, yeah, everything was super crowded. I mean, the place we went wasn't, just because it wasn't, like, an Irish place. So it wasn't necessarily, like, a hot spot for St. Patrick's Day. There was a good amount of people, like, at their bar. Um, but back where we were sitting, just having some drinks, having some apps, it was pretty chill.

Taylor: Did you get a green beverage of some kind?

Rileigh: I didn't!

Taylor: Aww.

Rileigh: I didn't. You know, I almost did and then, uh, I realized that the green beer was just, like, a basic, like, Bud Light or something like that with just, like,

green dye in it. And I was like, "[sighs] I don't really know if I wanna do that to myself." [wheeze-laughs]

Sydnee: Tey, you would know. Do they ever dye the good stuff green? Or do they just stick with— okay. [laughs] The look on your face instantly. "No. No. No, no."

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: No, because I think, like... you know, the kind of people that wanna drink green beer, uh, and then the kind of people that don't really care what that beer is, I think those are all the same— the same people. I think if you have discerning beer taste, you're also gonna be offended if it's been dyed green.

Raleigh: Yeah. I gotta say, though, I was so intrigued. The same restaurant, they brought— um, it looked like a big blender. Like, it was about that size but it had, like, a tap on it. It was plastic, and it said Bud Light on it. But it was full of beer, and they brought it to the table for two guys, and they just gave 'em two glasses, the guys could just, you know, go back and forth. Like, if they finish a glass, just fill it back up with their big blender tub they have sitting at the their table.

And in my head I was like, "Well, I don't like that beer. But I do want that."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I do want—

Sydnee: I like the convenience.

Raleigh: Yeah, I do want a big pitcher of something that I could use a little spout to continue to fill up in my own glass.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: It seemed fun.

Sydnee: Do you think that's worth it, as the server? Like... obviously that's a lot fewer trips back and forth to a table, but, like, do you think those people will tip well?

Raleigh: Hmm.

Taylor: I mean, that's the question. That's like if you get a— if you get a bottle of wine, it's the same amount of work, really, as... well, in a lot of ways it's less work. If I'm gonna give you a full bottle of wine versus opening and pouring it for you, it's less work. But I still expect you to tip me on the cost of that full bottle of wine. [laughs]

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Yeah. I mean, that's the thing is, like, you gotta do that math in your head. Like, how much would I have been tipping per drink, you know, in that situation? And then this isn't one—[laughs quietly] a bottle of wine is not one drink. Ho— hopefully... [laughs]

Taylor: Well, I think at that point you just tip on the percentage, you know?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: 20, 25% of whatever your bill is. If you are ordering anything other than, like— a dollar for a beer is fine, but anything other than that, I think you just go percentage.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Even, like, a dollar for, like, a \$16 cocktail, I'm always like, "Ehh, is that... I did a lot of work there."

Raleigh: [laughs] Yeah, that's what I pretty much did. I just worked my way through the fancy cocktail menus at every restaurant. Not, like, entirely through, obviously.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I had, like, you know, maybe two. But... I had something different every time.

Taylor: That sounds like a lovely weekend. You got a home, and you got some cocktails. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Yeah. It was very nice. And, you know, I ate so much, but we were walking so much I was able to just keep eating all of the food, because I just stayed hungry, 'cause we were walking all over the place. It was great. We don't usually get that in Huntington. You don't walk anywhere, here.

Taylor: That's the magic of city living. You just— that's why we have such a good food scene in New York is just you're hungry all the time, 'cause you're walking everywhere, so you just stop and eat, keep walking. Stop and eat, keep walking. [laughs]

Rileigh: There were just so many food places I wanted to eat, and so many different things on the menu I wanted to try. I was like, "Well, you know what? We've walked 17 miles over the last three days. I'm just going to keep eating, because I am always hungry now."

Sydnee: Yeah, that mall is bigger than you remember every time.

Rileigh: It's a big mall.

Sydnee: Yeah. Every time I remember, like, this place— this— this is a big mall. I forget how big it is until I'm walking in, and then I'm like, "Oh yeah, that's right. My feet hurt."

Rileigh: And then, like, you try to look up, like, how far is this little restaurant from the mall? And then you realize you accidentally looked up how far it was from one end and not the other end, and then you're on the other end. It's like, oh, that's a full other, like, 25 minutes to get from this end to that end, and then it's a 15 minute walk from there to there. Okay, well, guess we're just walking for the next 45 minutes.

Sydnee: But at least it was lovely weather.

Rileigh: It was.

Sydnee: Spring is here.

Rileigh: I did get sunburnt.

Sydnee: Is this spring today? Tomorrow.

Raleigh: I think tomorrow, the 21st, right?

Sydnee: Tomorrow is spring. It is still winter.

Raleigh: Well, my skin—

Taylor: Until tomorrow? [laughs]

Raleigh: —my skin would beg to differ.

Sydnee: Until tomorrow. [laughs] It— I like how there's that exact moment we can— we humans like to—

Raleigh: It's spring.

Sydnee: Yeah. Now it is— now it will be spring tomorrow. Um... well, that's exciting.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uh, I don't have a good transition for this week.

Raleigh: I have... hold on, wait. I have no doubt...

Taylor: Ahh.

Raleigh: ... that it's just gonna be a great time that we're gonna have.

Sydnee: Ohh.

Raleigh: To continue talking to each other this week.

Taylor: Love that.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: 'Cause I had a great time this week... end... weeke— I have no doubt that it's gonna be a great time the rest of the day today.

Taylor: Well, we got it the first time you did that.

Rileigh: No doubt.

Taylor: No doubt.

Sydnee: No Doubt is what we're talking about.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: The band No Doubt.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Specifically I thought it would be best to focus in on the album that I feel like was a huge— I mean, not just I feel like. It was a huge deal. Um, when it came out in 1995. I had to double check. Yes.

Rileigh: Well, you didn't—

Sydnee: October of '95.

Rileigh: You didn't tell me that there was a song on this album that was, like, the— the... key song of every, like, romcom, like, teen movie of, like, the late 90's, early 2000's. "Just A Girl" was in, like, every movie I watched from that time period. As soon as it came on I was like, "Well, hold on! This movie's— er, this song's in, like, every movie! No one told me this."

Sydnee: And you didn't know it was No Doubt?

Rileigh: No! I had no idea!

Sydnee: Wow.

Taylor: That's wild.

Raleigh: But, like, I can just imagine every, like, opening sequence of every late 90's, early 2000's, like, teen, young adult, whatever, romcom movie. Just playing with that song in the background. Like, getting ready for school, you know?

Sydnee: Well, and I mean, you can imagine, this album came out, I was 12 going on 13. And it was like, "Yes."

Raleigh: [laughs quietly] "Yes!"

Sydnee: "Yes! This music is for me!" Uh, we're talking about *Tragic Kingdom*. I should've clarified that.

Raleigh: Yes

Sydnee: That is the album that— that I feel like defined a big part of my personal teenage experience was this album and my adoration of Gwen Stefani. Um, everything about the music and the lyrics, and then her style, I was— I mean— and, I mean, a lot of people were obsessed with that.

Taylor: Um, it's funny. I remember you loving this al— I mean, I enjoy this album, too. But I was young when it came out. And I remember thinking that it was so, like, controversial and, uh, because it was— it was against Disney. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yep.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: I listened to the song "Tragic Kingdom" so many times, 'cause I was like, "I cannot believe she is taking shots... at Walt Disney."

Taylor: She's singing about his cryogenically frozen head. This is— this is heavy. [laughs]

Sydnee: Did you realize—

Raleigh: I did not know that, actually.

Taylor: His tears are frozen stiff, icicles drip from his eyes! [laughs]

Raleigh: Oh my God.

Sydnee: It's about the cryogenically frozen head of Walt Disney.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: Oh my gosh! I didn't realize that!

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: This is, like, confirmed? This is canon?

Taylor: Oh yeah.

Sydnee: Uhh... do we—[wheezes]

Raleigh: Or are we just—[crosstalk]

Taylor: There is no way that's not— it's called— the song is about Disney. It's called "*Tragic Kingdom*," and, I mean, what else would that be about?

Sydnee: Umm... well...

Raleigh: [snorts]

Sydnee: You know... I think that it is. I mean, I always thought that it was. I always thought it was a reference directly to the fact that— while we have no evidence that his head is cryogenically frozen, a lot of people think that.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I am not saying that I necessarily believe that. [laughs] I am just saying that other people do, and that was the reference I assumed she was making.

Raleigh: Um, by the way, the movie I couldn't think of that I was trying to figure out was *Clueless*. Which came out the same year this song came out.

Sydnee: Hmm.

Rileigh: "Just A Girl" was in the opening sequence of that movie, which makes so much sense.

Sydnee: Uh, it also includes the line "The parade that's electrical serves no real purpose, just takes up a lot of juice just to impress us." [laughs]

Rileigh: Now that does sound like Disney. Right?

Taylor: Well, it's definitely singing about Disney.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] What— no, it is.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah, it's all about Disney.

Rileigh: Well, that's what I'm saying, is it's canon. This is confirmed. 'Cause I asked, and then you started laughing, and said, "Well, are we just making this up?" [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, no, the frozen head of Disney, we did not confirm that part.

Rileigh: Okay. Okay.

Sydnee: But—

Taylor: I mean, I don't know what else would it— why else would that be the way that they describe Walt Disney?

Sydnee: I— I mean, I think it is.

Rileigh: [mumbling] I guess— well, yeah, it makes sense.

Taylor: I think it's— I don't think it is a... this is up for interpretation. [through laughter] I think that it's pretty clear!

Sydnee: Yeah, and I—

Rileigh: I did not think this is where the conversation of this album was going to be going.

Taylor: Sorry.

Raleigh: I'm enjoying it.

Taylor: I went straight to cryogenically frozen head. Ah, man. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: And I think it's interesting, 'cause it's such a different, um... like, our view of Disney now especially among, like, if you think about teenagers and young adults, the way that they feel about Disney World and Disney is, like, 180 degrees from where this was.

Taylor: Yeah. Oh, man. How many— how many, like, teenage millennials that dug "Tragic Kingdom" are now Disney adults, do you think?

Raleigh: Ohh...

Sydnee: I mean...

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: What's that Venn diagram look like?

Sydnee: It'd be interesting to know, 'cause it really— at the time it was like, "I'm not part of that corporate sellout, fake magic... BS. I wouldn't go to Disney World! Nuh-uh! That's fake! That's not real. That's not real."

I mean, it really was. Like, "No way. I would never be part of that." And that is not— I mean, that's not where we are anymore.

Raleigh: No. I do think it's funny, though, that now— maybe the same people that were big into this album, I don't know— will critique Disney in terms of, like, Disney media. Like, you know, profiting off young kids or, like, you know, the careers they make for all of these young teens that sign on to do, like, Disney TV shows and original movies and stuff. But they go hard for Disney World and Disneyland.

Sydnee: Oh yeah.

Rileigh: It's like they treat them as, like, two separate entities. Which, like, I mean, they are the same, but I guess in the sense that, like, the— the way in which we consume them is very different, but... it is very interesting to me how hard a lot of those millennials go for the parks. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Well, and it is— I mean, like, Justin, I don't wanna say he's obsessed with Disney World. He does sometimes—

Rileigh: He's pretty into Disney World.

Sydnee: He does sometimes call himself Mr. Disney.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Whoaaa.

Sydnee: But, uh—

Rileigh: *The* Mr. Disney?

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: He's gonna—[laughs] I— I— I think I know a very specific frozen head that's gonna have a problem with that, Justin.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs] But, uh— but he does not feel that way about, like— I mean, like, he— not that he doesn't enjoy some Disney films. Of course he does. But, like, it is not about the whole Disney...

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: ... thing. It's about the place, Disney World, in Orlando, Florida. Like, that is the thing that he is... specifically Epcot, but Disney World in general— [wheezes] he really likes Epcot?

Rileigh: He really likes Epcot. I'm looking at a plastic spaceship Earth right behind your head in his recording office.

Sydnee: He's fascinated by the fact that Epcot was supposed to be an experimental city. Like, that's what Walt Disney wanted was, like, some sort of futuristic city where people would live, and then you could go visit to see this, like, idealized form of human existence.

Taylor: Well, and we're— we're coming full circle on that, because they're opening those Disney neighborhoods, right?

Raleigh: Yeah!

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: Do you think that's where Justin wants to move?

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: No.

Raleigh: Do you think one day Justin's gonna come home like, "Syd. It's time."
[laughs]

Sydnee: He doesn't wanna move there because he knows he'd be moving without me. He would miss me too much.

[all laugh]

Taylor: He has weighed giving up his entire family.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Your kids would love that. Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs] I think even Charlie and Cooper would be like, "I don't know, Dad." [laughs]

Taylor: That's a lot of Disney.

Sydnee: I don't know. That's a lot. That seems— we like some other stuff, too.

[all laugh]

Sydnee: Um, other than "*Tragic Kingdom*," what was cool about this album—and, like, it felt very much like Gwen Stefani's voice at the time to me, which made sense, 'cause I was reading about it, and she wrote the lyrics. Like, it is her voice, which was a big departure, and No Doubt got a lot of criticism for selling out, 'cause they said this album was so different than previous albums they'd released, but it was because this was the first time she had taken the lead on that, because their keyboardist quit after this.

Raleigh: Interesting.

Sydnee: And he was the one who wrote all the songs previously, so it was just a different voice behind it, which is why it sounds so different. And they were like, "See? We're not selling."

'Cause that was a big deal back then.

Raleigh: Didn't wanna be a poser. Didn't wanna be a sellout.

Sydnee: Right. If you change your music to make it more digestible to, you know, lowest common denominator, then you're a sellout.

Raleigh: Josie and the Pussycats.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: There you go.

Sydnee: So they weren't sellouts. It was just Gwen Stefani's voice. Which says something, because they switched to her taking the lead on that and it— I mean, it was huge.

Raleigh: Well, how long after this did she sort of, like, Beyonce?

Sydnee: Hmm...

Raleigh: Like, become Gwen Stefani?

Sydnee: That's a good question. I don't— I mean—

Rileigh: I feel like that's just the term— like, the verb we use now, is like, "to Beyonce" is to, like, be a part of a group, and then you're the one that has a successful solo career.

Taylor: I feel like it was a while, because they released a couple albums after that that didn't hit quite as big. And her— I mean, I might be mistaken, but her breakout was that, uh— that, uh, "What You Waiting For?" song, right? Like, that was her first kind of big solo hit.

Sydnee: Was it?

Rileigh: 'Cause it was fairly early 2000's that I remember listening to Gwen Stefani as Gwen Stefani. I mean, obviously not super early 2000's, but probably... I don't know. Well, I guess later, early into the 2010's I guess is probably what I'm thinking. Like, 2008, 2009.

Sydnee: 2004.

Rileigh: Okay.

Sydnee: That was when she released her first solo album, *Love. Angel. Music. Baby.*

Taylor: Oh, right.

Rileigh: Right.

Taylor: *LAMB.* [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: They're all with a period.

Rileigh: *LAMB!*

Sydnee: They're all with a period. Love, period, Angel, period... [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yes, we...

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: *LAMB.*

Taylor: [crosstalk]

Sydnee: And they had—

Taylor: There was, like, a perfume, and there was a clothing line, I think.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. It had "What You Waiting For?" "Rich Girl" and, of course...

Rileigh: Rich Girl.

Sydnee: "Holla Back Girl."

Taylor: Right.

Rileigh: Oh, yes. Okay.

Sydnee: B-A-N-A-N-A-S.

Taylor: Which was—

Rileigh: Taught everyone how to spell bananas.

Taylor: Maybe written as a response to Courtney Love. Maybe.

Rileigh: Oh?

Sydnee: Ooh, really?

Taylor: Yeah, Courtney Love made some comment comparing Gwen Stefani to a cheerleader. Like, oh, like, one of the cool kids in high school and, like, you know... Courtney Love's, I don't know, a cool punk that's an outsider. The "Holla Back Girl" is referring to a cheerleader, you know? Call and response. And so that's why she wrote "Holla Back Girl" as kind of an... an eff you to Courtney Love. You could make an entire album of songs that are maybe, like, send-ups of Courtney Love, actually, aside.

Rileigh: Yeah, how long has she been, like, coming at young female artists? Because, like—

Taylor: Not just young women. It's lots of people, but yeah.

Rileigh: Well, yeah.

Sydnee: Just anybody.

Rileigh: 'Cause Olivia Rodrigo just, like, literally last year, in 2021, was being attacked by Courtney Love in the media.

Sydnee: That was Courtney Love's kind of brand.

Taylor: Yeah... you haven't made it in the music world [through laughter] if Courtney Love hasn't said anything disparaging about you.

Sydnee: You know she had a band. Hole.

Rileigh: Yes.

Taylor: Okay, alright.

Rileigh: I did know that, yes.

Taylor: Where we at? Where we at, here? [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah. Okay, well—

Taylor: There's this other band, Nirvana.

Rileigh: I knew Nirvana, yes.

Taylor: Okay. [laughs]

Sydnee: And Kurt Cobain.

Rileigh: Kurt Cobain.

Sydnee: And Courtney Love were together.

Rileigh: Were together, yes.

Sydnee: Yes. Okay.

Rileigh: Okay.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: No, I have this knowledge!

Sydnee: Well, no, it's okay.

Rileigh: The only— I was not alive. Um—

Sydnee: Right.

Taylor: Right.

Sydnee: It was before you.

Rileigh: I really just— I had no idea that Gwen Stefani was in a band before she was Gwen Stefani. This was not something I was like, "Oh, I guess I knew that, like, but I just hadn't really—" I had no idea. I'd heard these songs, didn't know it was Gwen Stefani singing them.

Sydnee: The Gwen Stefani I loved was the No Doubt Gwen Stefani. Like, I enjoyed some of her solo career. Like, I could— it's totally listenable, but what defined some of my worldview was— especially "*Tragic Kingdom*."

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Um, and a lot of the album is written about another member of the band that had just broken up with her after, like, a seven-year relationship.

Rileigh: Ohh.

Sydnee: So that's the tension in the album is her writing these songs at her ex, who's standing there playing the songs with her. [laughs]

Rileigh: The ex was still in the band?

Sydnee: Yeah!

Rileigh: Ohh.

Sydnee: Tony... what was his last name? Kanal?

Taylor: I don't know if that's, like, really...

Sydnee: He's the bassist.

Rileigh: Oh, okay.

Taylor: Is it, like, deeply messed up, or is it like, you must have a really healthy breakup if you can stay in a band together and sing these songs? I know to my teenage brain that was just, like, the most scandalous idea. Like, how could you— how could you?

Rileigh: Yeah. I guess as an adult I'm thinking, like, well, they probably both, you know, like, liked this job, and wanted to keep making music and making money, so maybe they both just came to some sort of, like, mutual agreement. Like, "We'll keep doing this. It's fine."

Sydnee: I mean, if Fleetwood Mac figured it out.

Taylor: That's true.

Rileigh: [laughs] That's true.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: —philosophy.

Taylor: And the guy kind of, like, weighed, like, "Well... it sucks that I'm gonna have to play all these songs that are angry at me, but they also really rule, so alright. As long as they're good songs about how much I suck, that's fine."
[laughs quietly]

Sydnee: But like a lot— so, like, "Don't Speak" was the one everybody knew.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: Like, everybody knew this was like, oh my gosh, she is singing— which is an amazing song. It's an excellent song. I'm assuming you'd probably heard it before.

Raleigh: Yes. "Don't Speak" and "Just A Girl" were the two songs off this album that I had heard before. Some of the others maybe sounded familiar but those two I, like, knew the words. Had heard them before.

Sydnee: And that one was, you know, obviously... about him. But other ones were— like, uh, "Sunday Morning" was about when he broke up with her. "Happy Now." That's an intense one. I was listening to it and I was thinking about, like... that is an intense, angry breakup [wheezes] song! [laughs] That you're singing standing two feet from him! [laughs]

Raleigh: Oh, man. See, I didn't know that. Gives me a whole new perspective, now. Thinking about these songs. I really like Sunday Morning, though.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: That one was one of the ones I listened to and wanted to go back and listen to again. I really enjoyed that one.

Sydnee: It was a single. So, there were a ton of singles. "Just A Girl" was a single. "Spiderwebs." "Spiderwebs" was huge.

Raleigh: "Spiderwebs" was great.

Sydnee: "Don't Speak," of course. "Excuse Me Mister." Uh, "Sunday Morning," "Happy Now," and "Hey, You."

Raleigh: Mm-hmm. Man, albums used to have a lot more singles than they do now. I mean, I guess it was a bigger deal 'cause you needed to sell, like, the physical album.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: So... I guess that makes sense. Uh, wow. That's a lot. That's, like, half the songs on the album.

Sydnee: And they were being released as music videos and as, um, radio. Like, you were releasing them as singles on the radio too periodically, to...

Rileigh: Boost, yeah.

Sydnee: ... boost sales of the album. Which is— it's a different way of consuming the— you know? Than it would've been, than it is now where you can just listen to the whole thing streaming. So, like, the idea of pushing a song on the radio wouldn't matter.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: You know, as much now.

Rileigh: Yeah. Interesting.

Sydnee: Um, I want to talk about some of the other songs and about some of the visuals with those, too. But before we do that...

Rileigh: Let's check the group message.

Sydnee: I'm hungry.

Rileigh: Oh, me too.

Sydnee: Uh, I'm— I'm very hungry, and I do not feel like making anything. [sighs] I'm just not up to it right now. I'm tired. It's been a long spring break week. I've had both the kids home. And I want some yummy food from my favorite local place delivered to me without having to leave! And I don't wanna cook. So who do I call? Well, I don't call anybody. I pick up my phone and I open an app.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Called DoorDash. That's the best part! You don't have to call anybody. [laughs]

Raleigh: You don't call DoorDash.

Sydnee: No, don't call DoorDash. I mean, you could, like, but you don't need to. You can just click on the app. You can look for wherever your favorite local place is, uh, choose what you want to eat, you know? Pass it around. Let the whole family pick their favorite food. Uh, your treats, whatever you need, and they will drop it off safely, contactless delivery, right outside your door. Um, it's so quick, convenient, it's easy. Uh, a lot of your favorite local places, even if it's crowded or busy or you just don't feel like putting on pants today, you can order food through the DoorDash app straight from them, so you can eat at home whatever your favorite thing is. And even if it's not, like, a food thing, if you need something from a convenience store or something, DoorDash has you covered there, too. Um, we use DoorDash frequently, frequently, frequently in this house. Um, it's also a go-to when we're traveling. Uh, you can try great local places on DoorDash even when you're out of town. So, uh, Tey, if our listeners want to check out DoorDash, what should they do?

Taylor: Well, right now our listeners can get \$5 off their first order of \$15 or more and zero delivery fees for their first month when you download the DoorDash app and enter code "buffering". That's \$5 off your first order and zero delivery fees for a month when you download the DoorDash app in the app store and enter code "buffering". Don't forget! That's code "buffering" for \$5 off your first order with DoorDash.

Raleigh: So, I live with three other people, and we all share a shower. And the other day one of my roommates came downstairs and said, "I don't know whose shampoo that is up there, but I borrowed it, and my hair smells great."

And I said, "Well, did the bottle have my name on it?"

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: And she laughed and thought I was kidding. Like, "Ha ha, yeah, had your name on it."

And I was like, "No, literally, did it have my name on it?"

And that's because I use Function of Beauty. And Function of Beauty is the world's first fully customizable hair care, creating individually filled shampoos,

conditioners, styling, and treatment formulas based on your hair now, and where you want it to go.

So, I have a fully customized shampoo and conditioner set from Function of Beauty, and when I ordered it and they send me the bottles, it says "Function of Raleigh" on them. So my name is literally on my shampoo and conditioner. Uh, and even my roommates that are secretly stealing my products are loving them. But, the beauty of it is, they're not made for them. They're made for me. Because they offer over 54 trillion possible formulations, and every single one of them is vegan and cruelty free, and they never use sulfates or parabens. It's super simple to get your own personalized Function of Beauty products. All you have to do is head over to Function of Beauty. You take their quick hair quiz to build your hair profile and select five hair goals. Some ones I use are ones like lengthen, volumize, oil control, but there are lots of options. Uh, next you choose your color and fragrance, or you can go dye and fragrance free. So, mine are both purple, and I use a lavender scent. I like, you know, coordinating my colors with my scents. So that makes sense to me. Um, but if you're someone who doesn't like fragrances or dyes or anything like that in your products, you also can just go without both. So Tey, if our listeners want to check out Function of Beauty, what should they do?

Taylor: Well, say goodbye to generic hair care for good today. Go to functionofbeauty.com/buffering to take your hair goals quiz, and you'll save 25% on your first order. Once again, go to functionofbeauty.com/buffering to let them know you heard it from our show, and get 25% off your first order. That's functionofbeauty.com/buffering to take your hair quiz and save 25% on your first order.

Sydnee: So, um, one of the things that was, I think, iconic about this album, was, like, some of the imagery. Even, like, the— the cover of the album with the oranges, that was always a big thing. I guess 'cause they're from Orange County?

Raleigh: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: But oranges were, like, a big part of it. [laughs] And that, uh— and that red dress that she's wearing, that was, like, later donated to the Rock & Roll— er, to the Hard Rock Cafe or something. Like, it was, like, iconic. But, um, the video that accompanied— did you watch the music video for "Don't Speak"? Have you ever seen that?

Rileigh: I did not. I've not seen it.

Sydnee: Yeah, I didn't figure. Why would you?

Rileigh: Well, I—

Sydnee: I guess. [laughs]

Rileigh: My issue is that I forget music— this is gonna sound so awful, and I promise I'm not exaggerating, I really mean this— I forget music videos are a thing. Just because they're so rare when artists will come out with them now it's like, just for a few songs off the album, and it's usually after the fact. It's not, like, as soon as they've come out. Um, or it's like, you know, some time after they've come out. So I just forget to look for music videos, 'cause most of the time I assume they don't exist, for current music.

Sydnee: So, the "Don't Speak" music video... it is not about their relationship. Like, the two— like, Gwen Stefani and— and Tony Kanal. Whatever. Ka—a—Kanal. Kanal. Anyway.

Rileigh: [snorts]

Sydnee: It's not— I don't know how you say his last name It— it is not about them. They make it more— it looks like it's about the band. Like, the theme of it is she's posing for all these pictures. Like— like she is on the cover, basically. Like, holding an orange, looking gorgeous, and she's with the band, and then the photographers are sort of like, pushing the band to the side and just taking pictures of her. And, like, she's the star, and the rest of them are sort of looking at her, like, all ticked off. And so they make it about tension between her and the rest of the band as opposed to tension between the two of them.

Rileigh: Okay.

Sydnee: Which was this whole other— I remember watching that and thinking, like, "[gasps] Is that what's going on?" [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: But, I mean, I feel like there was a certain amount of truth to that, though. Because that was— I was surprised, looking at reviews for the album

when it came out, how many, I mean— well, I guess that's not surprising, 'cause it was just some good ol' misogyny. But it's like, "Yeah, this is— people like this because there's a hot blonde at the lead. Like, that's just the power of having a hot chick in the front of your band. That's why people like this."

You know, very reductive of their entire performance.

Rileigh: Right.

Sydnee: She was referred to in several reviews as Blondie-esque. Which I assume they are referring to the artist, Blondie.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I—is it 'cause they're both blonde?

Rileigh: Yeah!

Sydnee: Well, that's what I'm wondering. Like, would you connect her to Blondie otherwise?

Taylor: I don't even see how, like— like— like, Blondie was... I don't know. Like, punk and glamour, and Gwen Stefani is, like, ska.

Sydnee: Ska. [laughs]

Taylor: And sporty.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I know. But, like, I think it's 'cause they're both...

Rileigh: Blonde.

Sydnee: Blonde. [laughs]

Taylor: Blonde. They're blonde. That's it!

Sydnee: They're blonde. They're women.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: They sing.

Raleigh: They're musical performers.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Conventionally attractive.

Sydnee: So, there we go. No, but the, um— this was— this was sort of like a— was this, like, the start of ska coming back in the 90's? Was this when ska became a thing?

Taylor: Um, this is when ska became a mainstream thing. This caused a lot of, like, record labels to seek out ska bands and sign them. Um, 'cause... you know, it was sort of a commercial, like, shiny ska. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah. Um, I was curious. I was looking at their info, and it showed they were active from, like, the 90's to 2004, but then again it showed they were active from 2009 to 2015. So they did they have, like, a— did they have a comeback? They have, like, a moment again?

Sydnee: You know, they very well could've, and I just didn't know because by then I was an old person. [through laughter] I don't know!

Raleigh: Well, it seems to be the trend for a lot of these bands we've talked about, though, that you all listened to in your youth, or your teen years, your young adulthood, is that they were— you know, at their peak popularity, original popularity in the late 90's, early 2000's, and then they weren't together anymore, weren't making music, and then at some point, like, five to ten years later, they started making music again.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Uhh...

Taylor: I think bands just plan for it now. Like, their second wave where, you know, you— you have the young fans that are like, you're— you're the moment, you're the big thing. And then you just plan on, "Well, okay. In about 15 years,

our audience is gonna be old and, like, sad and nostalgic. And then we can come back." [laughs]

Rileigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: I mean, that's what it looks like. They just did the one. Like, they... from 1992 to 2001, with '95 being the release of *Tragic Kingdom*, and that was their big, you know, their big moment. And then in 2012 they released "Push And Shove".

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: And that was it.

Rileigh: Wow.

Sydnee: Which I do not remember "Push And Shove".

Rileigh: So they just came back for a second.

Sydnee: They had "Settle Down" as their big single. Do not remember that.

Rileigh: See, I just assumed that Gwen Stefani had just kept being Gwen Stefani. You know?

Sydnee: Well, I mean, I think she does continue to be Gwen Stefani. [laughs]

Rileigh: Well, yeah.

Taylor: To this day!

Rileigh: I mean, like, yeah. Right now, currently. But— but—

Sydnee: [through laughter] To this— to this very day.

Rileigh: —did not revert back to band.

Sydnee: Um... by the way, the person who, um... the— who was the keyboardist who quit— I should've mentioned this— was Eric Stefani.

Taylor: Her...

Raleigh: [hesitantly] Brother?

Taylor: ... brother?

Sydnee: Her brother.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Ohh.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Sibling rivalry.

Sydnee: I don't know if it was as much that. From what I read, he was just the sort of person who, like— he wanted to write songs, and then, like, go back to his room. He didn't wanna go on tour.

Raleigh: Yeah, he didn't wanna be famous.

Sydnee: He didn't wanna be famous. He was like, you know, in it for the music.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: [sarcastically] He was, like, real, man.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You know?

Raleigh: [sarcastically] He was in it for the music.

Sydnee: Not a sellout.

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Not for the money. Not for the fans.

Taylor: Well, he went on from there to work as an animator, right?

Sydnee: On *The Simpsons*.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: What?!

Taylor: So I don't know. That— you know, that little indie production that you're totally not a sellout to work at.

[all laugh]

Taylor: Super underground DIY animated show called *The Simpsons*.

Sydnee: Called *The Simpsons*. You may not have heard of it? It's really something that just— those of us who are kind of, like, in the know—

Raleigh: Yeah, I've never heard of it before.

Sydnee: —know about. Mm-hmm. Yeah, I'm sure you haven't seen it.

Raleigh: Wow!

Taylor: Whatever.

Raleigh: What a career shift.

Sydnee: I definitely saw it first. [muffled laughter] Before everyone.

Taylor: That's probably true.

Raleigh: You were born first, though.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, now this is just about me being old! That's not what I was trying to say! [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I was trying to be cool! Now I'm just old.

Rileigh: Um, I saw something funny that caught my interest about this band, and that's that they sued a video game for how they looked in the video game.

Sydnee: Oh, I didn't know that!

Taylor: [through laughter] What?

Rileigh: Um, in Band Hero, like the Activision game, like, you know, not Guitar Hero, Band Hero?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: In 2009, they sued the game for putting them in it and said they transformed No Doubt band members into a virtual karaoke circus act. Saying they had them, like, you know, animated, and they were singing songs that they didn't sing, that they didn't write, um, that the way they had appeared was not, like, accurate, and all this kind of stuff. I think that's so funny they sued Activision just 'cause they didn't like the way that they looked.

Sydnee: Oh, that's wild.

Rileigh: Um, which I also didn't—[quietly] didn't know.

Sydnee: Uh, Gwen Stefani's personal style was a big— um, I would say, probably a big fashion influence of the 90's, too.

Taylor: Absolutely.

Sydnee: Um, I so wanted to look like— I never had— Taylor, you pulled off plaid pants very well.

Taylor: [laughs] I still do! I don't know if I pull them off very well anymore, 'cause I'm in my 30's, but you can't take 'em from me. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: No, you still pull off plaid pants very well. I owned plaid pants. I don't feel like I was ever able to pull them off the way I wanted to. Like, I would look at Gwen Stefani and think, "Man. You look so cool in those plaid pants, and then you got chains, and... "

Taylor: Yeah...

Sydnee: "... all the jewelry, and... the red lipstick with the blonde hair."
[crosstalk]

Taylor: But— and then it was the combo of, like, the— the classic. Yeah, like, the red lipstick, the blonde hair, the kind of bombshell stuff. But then also she wore a lot of sporty attire, you know? Like, a lot of, like, track pants and tank tops?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: I absolutely— I remember having— you can probably remember this outfit, 'cause it was, like, a pair of, like, navy track pants with a red stripe on them. And it had, like, a matching t-shirt that had, like, a panda and some— some nonsense on it.

Sydnee: Yep!

Taylor: That was, like— that was my Gwen Stefani outfit. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I remember that very well.

Raleigh: Um, I wanted to look at pictures from this era of her fashion so I could get a sense of what you all were talking about, and I found an article titled "8 Times Gwen Stefani Was No Doubt a Style Icon," and the picture on the front of it is her on a red carpet with her hair dyed bright blue and very short with little tiny baby buns all over the top of her head. She's got some face gems going on. Um, she has a light blue, like, furry bikini top.

Sydnee: Yep, yep, yep.

Raleigh: With a leather, like, trash bag, DIY-looking skirt. Like, I'm not, like, being mean. Like, that's literally what it looks like, um, with pants underneath

and platform flip-flop sandals. What is that? What is— what— some of these outfits I'm looking at I'm like, "Yeah, that rocks." Like, plaid pants I'm seeing, like right here, this performance with some chains and a, like, cropped black tank top. Um, and her combat boots. Like, that looks great. This, uh, sporty look with this cropped, like, white sports bra with a blue and red stripe on it.

Sydnee: A lot of— a lot of little white crop tops.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: That was very much her—

Raleigh: Those all look great. But this look. I— I— what is— was that a thing?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Like, this kind of, like, very disjointed, like, barely clothes... look, with [holding back laughter] platform flip-flops?

Sydnee: Well, okay. So, tops got really small. [laughs] Um, like, they— like, there was the crop top. Everybody knew about that. Which, like—

Raleigh: I mean, this is like a bikini top.

Sydnee: Right. And then, like, they kept getting smaller into, like, bandannas, and then the natural evolution was eventually somebody was just gonna walk outside in a bikini. Like, that was obviously where we were— or a bra.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And so that was just sort of— and everything was furry for a while.

Raleigh: Right. Um, is this kind of like now they say are you, like, a tiny top big pants or tiny pants big top person? Like, the 90's was just, like, tiny tops, big— big pants?

Sydnee: Yeah. I mean, that's true, because I wore lots of big pants with baby tees. Now, I was never one to wanna show my midriff, but that was just my personal preference. But, like... like, a very tight little baby tee...

Raleigh: Mm-hmm. Big pants.

Sydnee: And big pants.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: And the edge of the tee just barely brushes the top of the pants. There's no—

Raleigh: The low-rise pants.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: Yes, of course.

Sydnee: Yes. 'cause there's no— there's no, like, question, like, do I need to tuck this in or do I need to leave it out? Because they meet exactly where they need to, so you don't have to discuss that. And you will, like, have that moment when you're, like, at school and, like, you stretch...

Raleigh: And it lifts up just a little bit.

Sydnee: Just a little bit.

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: And you're like, "Hey. Hey, everybody. Look at me." Um, and then you put your arms down real fast so the teacher doesn't see you.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, there was that.

Raleigh: You look very excited about remembering that moment. [laughs]

Sydnee: I do remember this now. [laughs]

Taylor: That's a big— that was a big moment for Syd, I think.

Sydnee: Well, nowadays you all just wear crop tops!

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: We couldn't do that back then.

Rileigh: But, I mean, we also wear high waisted pants a lot.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: So it's not like— it's like that. I mean, you show a little bit of midriff, but usually it's like you're wearing a shirt that's cropped to the point where your pants are... you know, risen up high, so there's not a lot of, you know, in between either.

Taylor: It's this—

Sydnee: The 90's were all about elongating the torso.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: You just wanted to look like a— just a long— like a— kind of a— a ferret, maybe? Like a—

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh-huh.

Taylor: Just a— a ferret in some plaid.

Rileigh: All torso.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Very long torso. Like, top comes just under the breasts, and then bottoms that hang off the hip bones, and everything in between is fair game.

Taylor: All of this real estate.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: That's my nightmare.

Sydnee: Look at all this torso I have.

Taylor: So much torso. That's how you— that's how you established dominance in the 90's. Whoever had the most torso available.

Rileigh: [holding back laughter] The most torso.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. It really was. [laughs]

Rileigh: Oh, man.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: But you see, like— I'm looking back through. There were a variety of shapes of tiny tops that she wore.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I mean, like, that all accomplished the same goal, which was to show off torso.

Rileigh: A few looked very sports bra-like, which I can see what y'all are saying. Like, the sporty look.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Um, they look like, you know, like a wide strap kind of, like, really short tank top look.

Taylor: Yeah. Well, and her— her sportiness was part of her stage show, too. Like, she would get down and do push-ups during, like... the, like—

Rileigh: Oh my God.

Taylor: —music break in, like, "Just A Girl" and stuff. It was very much like, "Look how— look how fit I am! I'm so tough, but I'm a girl! Wow!"

Sydnee: Yeah. 'Cause she wasn't just— like, I mean, everybody back then— like, there was a cultural prizing of thinness, but it wasn't about thinness as much for Gwen Stefani. It was fit.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: 'Cause she was muscular.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: You know. Slim, but muscular. And that was very much part of her image. And all the chains and stuff, like the baggy— like the— that was still calling to, like, that skater thing.

Taylor: Right.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Like, Gwen Stefani dressed in a way that you would assume she probably skateboarded. [laughs]

Taylor: [snorts] You would— you would make the assumption. "Hmm, that's quite a few chains. Those pants are rather large. You must skateboard!"

Raleigh: "Hmm!"

Sydnee: Now, why is that the most practical thing to wear while skateboarding? I don't know. I didn't make that rule.

Raleigh: You didn't skateboard.

Sydnee: I didn't skateboard. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I did wear those giant pants.

Rileigh: Right. But not for skateboarding.

Sydnee: I don't think I had chains. I don't think I ever took it that far.

Rileigh: Tey, did you have pant chains?

Taylor: Uh, no. I never did, no. And I never got into the baggy pants, either. I was a— the skinny jeans hit when I more, like, you know, dressed more fashionably, so I never had a big pant phase.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Even my plaid pants were skinny pants. It was the nexus of two great fashions, there.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Um, she did the little buns.

Rileigh: I like the little buns.

Sydnee: She was big into the little buns.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: And then the, um— I mean, I think what we all have to just say is, the unfortunately, like, culturally insensitive face jewelry.

Taylor: Yeah. Well, and she— she, like, had dreads a couple times. Like, there was some appropriation.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah, for sure. Um, the face— the face jewelry, though, that really took off for people. And not just like— again, she inappropriately is wearing a bindi. But, like, jewels sort of everywhere.

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: Well, yeah. This one look I had just described, she had, like, a heart shape almost that, like, started between her eyebrows and then arched up, you know, into her forehead and all the way down, like, under her eyes, into her cheeks.

Sydnee: Yeah. The face jewels went wild, for a while.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Well, and looking— looking at some of the pictures of her from back then now, there's so many things that I see just, like, on the streets, like, young people. With, like, the platforms, the face jewels, the hairstyles. I mean, a lot of this is now just on sale in, you know, stores for young adults.

Rileigh: Oh yeah. Well, I, um, direct a kids' preshow for our local theater group, and some of the oldest kids are about 16 or 17. So, I mean, a full, like, five or six years younger than me. And, uh, I noticed recently a lot of them wearing platform Chucks. Like, black and white Chuck Taylors, but with a platform. Really, really baggy jeans that are low-rise, though, which was not ever a thing for me in my generation. We always had the high-waisted. They may have been baggy, but they were high-waisted. Low-rise baggy jeans and baby tees. And they come into rehearsal and I'm just like, "Wait. Is this now?" 'Cause from what I understand, this is from, like, 20 years ago. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yep.

Sydnee: Do the baby tees say ironic things?

Rileigh: No. A lot of blank ones. A lot of ones that just have, like, a little teeny logo made out of, like, sequins or gems.

Sydnee: Oh my God! [wheeze-laughs] No, not that again!

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Do they say "Angel"?

[all laugh]

Sydnee: Oh, are they gonna bring— remember the ones, uh, Tey, that were like— the t-shirts that were, like, ribbed, and when you— when you took 'em off they looked like they were tiny, and then you would put 'em on, and they somehow got bigger?

Taylor: The pop— popcorn tees? Is that what they were called?

Sydnee: Not the popcorn. The ones that were, like, ribbed.

Raleigh: I have ribbed tees.

Sydnee: And the sleeves sort of have, like, a weird—

Raleigh: A lettuce edge?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: Oh no. But, like, the popcorn tees, too.

Taylor: That's...

Sydnee: Are those back?

Raleigh: Well, everyone loves Gwen Stefani again, apparently.

Sydnee: I had so many t-shirts that, like, you would look at in my drawer and think, "Is that for a small child?"

And then I'd put it on and be like, "No, look how much it stretches!"

[all laugh]

Taylor: It stretches so much. That was just, like— that was space age fashion. Like, you could fit so many of these in a suitcase.

Raleigh: It's magic.

Sydnee: Well, you had— the shirts have to be small, because the pants were so big! [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs] That's true. That's true.

Sydnee: You didn't have room to put any more, you know, normal-sized shirts in there.

Taylor: You could pack one pair of JNCO jeans for every 50 tiny t-shirts.

Sydnee: That was— that was the style. That was— those were my drawers for a while. Which is weird, because the 90's started with— I remember the coolest girls I knew wore stirrup pants. You know what stirrup pants are?

Raleigh: I don't think so.

Sydnee: They're— I mean, they're leggings. They're stretch pants. They're leggings, but they have a little stirrup that goes under the foot.

Raleigh: Under— okay. Then yeah, okay.

Sydnee: Yeah. To hold them in place?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: So the coolest girls I knew when I was little wore stirrup pants and giant t-shirts that you would tie up on one side with, like, either a scrunchie or a clip or something. That was, like, DJ Tanner, classic look. And then that's exactly true. As I got older, into my teen years, the shirts got smaller, the pants got bigger, until we were all wearing JNCO jeans and baby tees with ironic things on them.

Taylor: And then we— we fought back. We got normal-sized t-shirts. And, I mean, granted the jeans were skinny, but they were— you know, they weren't low-waisted. They weren't high-waisted. They were just pants, straight leg. And now— now that's no good anymore. All that work undone.

Sydnee: Y'all couldn't be happy with that.

Rileigh: I love my high-waisted pants. Give me the highest waist possible. All the way up to my ribs.

Taylor: That's just a jumpsuit.

Rileigh: Exactly.

Sydnee: Yeah, I just can't get on board. I've tried. I can't get on board. I mean, I'm, you know, I'm a mom in my 30's. Like, I'm not doin' any low-rise. [laughs] Um...

Rileigh: I'm not gonna do low-rise, I see people wearing 'em now, I'm like, "What are you— we moved past this as a society! You don't have to do this."

Sydnee: I showed my butt crack to everybody when I was a teenager. [laughs] I don't need to do it now. Um, but mid-rise is as high as I will go. I will go no higher. [laughs]

Rileigh: Well.

Taylor: Well.

Rileigh: I'm a big fan.

Sydnee: Well, anyway.

Rileigh: Of the high waist.

Sydnee: What'd you think of No Doubt, before we wrap up here?

Rileigh: I really liked it. I really enjoyed it. Um, it's definitely different. A lot of these bands I'll listen to that are, you know, from you all, um, have very, like, reminiscent sounds of current music, but obviously, like, not as modernized. Um, this was very different than a lot of modern music that I listen to, and also a lot of the other music that I've listened to with you all, which I wasn't exactly expecting, 'cause I know Gwen Stefani, so I guess I was just expecting, like, what I knew from her. Um, like "Holla Back Girl."

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: But, uh, yeah. I really enjoyed it.

Taylor: Syd, what was— I mean, this was your choice. What was your— well, I'm— what's your favorite song off this album?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Um, I mean... it's hard. I guess when I was younger, um, "Just A Girl" was the one that I blasted the most often. Um, in retrospect, like, songs like "Sunday Morning" I enjoy more.

Raleigh: I really like "Sunday Morning".

Sydnee: Um, but I think, like— you know, at the time, on a loop for me were "Don't Speak", "Just A Girl", and "Spiderwebs". What about you, Tey?

Taylor: Uh... yeah, definitely "Don't Speak" and "Spiderwebs". Um... I don't know. I mean, the whole album is good, but I think the— I mean, I was a little bit below the demographic, so the— the radio hits were the ones that I really enjoyed. I still— and I think I've told this story before, but I still remember getting an angry note passed to me in class from one of my friends, just with the lyrics of "Don't Speak" inscribed on it. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: Oh my gosh.

Sydnee: That's so 90's. I love it. The note passed in class. No Doubt lyrics.

Taylor: Oh no, she sent me No Doubt lyrics! [laughs] I'm in trouble! [laughs]

Sydnee: What was your favorite song?

Raleigh: Um, I liked "Just A Girl" because it makes me feel like I'm in, like, the opening montage of my own movie. Um, but I did like "Sunday Morning" a lot. I think that one was maybe my favorite.

Sydnee: Well—

Taylor: Raleigh's lawyering on Capitol Hill with "Just A Girl" in the background.

Rileigh: Exactly.

Taylor: That's the image, right? Yeah.

Rileigh: Like, that's the kind of song that, like, if I'm walking to an exam or something right now, like, I think, like, walking across campus I'll usually try to turn on a song that, like, hypes me up before I take a test or, like, I don't know, before I give a presentation. Like, that's the kind of song I'd listen to. It's going in the playlist.

Sydnee: Yep. It definitely gets you— gets you pumped.

Rileigh: Oh yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. Ready to take on the patriarchy.

Rileigh: Exactly.

Sydnee: Uh, well, thank you both. I enjoyed listening to— I won't say that that album isn't in my regular rotation.

Taylor: Oh, it's great.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah. [laughs]

Taylor: That's like— I usually have to set aside time to listen to whatever we're listening to. And for me it was like, I just listen to these songs a lot, so I'll...

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Same, yeah. Well, uh, thank you both. What's next, Tey?

Taylor: Uh, we're doing a very different direction. Um, I'm gonna bring a psychological anime movie to the table, *Perfect Blue*. It came out in '97. It was directed by Satoshi Kon, and it is a... it— warning, it's disturbing. But, um, it's one of my favorites. It's really kind of a— I think a critically acclaimed anime, so. Check it out.

Sydnee: Awesome.

Raleigh: Nice.

Sydnee: Well, then we will check it out.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Alright. Well, thank you both. Uh, if you have not heard of [laughs quietly] No Doubt— if you are young like Raleigh—

Raleigh: Yeah, I was gonna say.

Sydnee: —and you didn't know that Gwen Stefani was originally in a band called No Doubt that made a lot of great songs, like "Just A Girl" and "Don't Speak", um, you should check out the album *Tragic Kingdom* by No Doubt. Um, and thank you to Maximum Fun. You should go to Maximumfun.org, check out all the great podcasts there. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org, uh, or you can tweet at us @stillbuff. And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, "Baby You Change Your Mind."

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Raleigh: I am still buffering...

Sydnee and Taylor: And I... am... too.

[theme music plays]

Raleigh: Oh my God. It's like Magic Kingdom, but Tragic.

Sydnee: [splutters]

Raleigh: Oh, I just got that!

Taylor: [squeaky] What?!

Raleigh: Oh my God.

Sydnee: Just now?!

Raleigh: Just now. I really, as you said— closing out, like, "Listen to *Tragic Kingdom*," I was like, "[gasps loudly] Magic Kingdom! Oh my God! [wheeze-laugh]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Um... I don't know if you wanted that to go on the public record.

Raleigh: Hmmm... [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I can't believe you just got it!

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Oh...

Taylor: Oh, no.

[music plays]

Ross: Carrie, is it?

Carrie: Oh yes, hi, I'm Carrie.

Ross: I am psychic Ross, and I will be reading you this evening.

Carrie: Oh, interesting! Well, okay. I cohost a podcast. It's called *Oh No Ross and Carrie*, 'cause it—

Ross: Yes, I'm sensing that.

Carrie: Oh.

Ross: The spirits are telling me. It is a show about poodles—

Carrie: Well, it's about, like, fringe science—

Ross: Yes.

Carrie: —and spirituality—

Ross: That's correct.

Carrie: —and claims of the paranormal. Oh, you knew that!

Ross: And you do research online, you—

Carrie: But more importantly, like, we do in-person investigation—

Ross: [slightly after Carrie] In... person... investigate as well.

Carrie: Yeah. Oh my God, that's amazing!

Ross: See?

Carrie: Me and my friend— this is so weird. My friend Ross, same name as you—

Ross: Weird.

Carrie: —he and I just go and try them all out. And actually, we've gone to a number of psychics, and to be honest with you, it's a lot like this.

It's called *Oh No Ross and Carrie*. They can find it at Maximumfun.org.

Ross: I could've told you that.

[music and ad end]

[chord]

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