

Wonderful! 187: I'll Be In The Cry Room

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[theme music plays]

Rachel:

Hello, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin:

Hello, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel:

And this is Wonderful!

Griffin:

An eg- a bold experiment, a bold social experiment-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... about what happens when you put two strangers-

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... but then they fall in love and they get married in a room with two microphones and say, "Do your worst."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

What happened? What dark depths would we—

Rachel:

It's one of- one of those experiments where a lot of it starts before the experiment.

Griffin:

It's one of those, yes-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's an experiment within an experiment within an experiment within this great experiment we call America.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Griffin:

Thanks for listening to Wonderful! It's a show we talk about things we like, things that we're into, things that are good.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative]. Yes.

Griffin:

And uh, I mean, in this long summer, there's a lot of good stuff in there.

Rachel:

Oh. It's almost July, huh?

Griffin:

It's almost freaking July. The hot dogs month.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

This is the month for hot dogs-

Rachel:

I'd like to say, hot dogs month occurs more than one month a year.

Griffin:

But if it's gonna be one month of the year...

Rachel:

Yeah, that's fair.

Griffin:

It's gonna be July, huh?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah. Do you have any small wonders, Rachel?

Rachel:

Yes, I was anxious to start.

Griffin:

Okay, please.

Rachel:

Um, I'm going to say, uh, eating at a restaurant.

Griffin:

Eating at a restaurant.

Rachel:

This is something that we have done lately and it is novel.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

Uh, and enjoyable.

Griffin:

It is enjoyable. I'm glad to be able to get back out there. I- I yeah. Eating nice food that hasn't been, uh, that- that has been cooked to order is- is an exciting experience.

Rachel:

Having someone come up and talk to you and ask you what you're interested in-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And to provide you details on the food, uh-

Griffin:

They say, "You had water in your cup, but because of your actions, it's almost empty. Let me fix that for you." And it's like, "What?"

Rachel:

I feel so pampered [laughs].

Griffin:

They're like, "Do you want bread?" And you're like, "Uh, how much does it cost?" And they're like, "It's free." And you're like, "What?"

Rachel:

Griffin and I went out to lunch last week and we were curious as to when the last time we had been in a restaurant was and so, we checked, uh, the email to see what confirmation we might have. It appears that January 2020 may have been-

Griffin:

Was the last time.

Rachel:

[laughs] was the last time.

Griffin:

Which was a bit of time ago.

Rachel:

Yeah [laughs].

Griffin:

Um, I'm gonna say, what am I gonna say? We've talked about Tic-Tacs on the show before, right?

Rachel:

Probably.

Griffin:

Fuck.

Rachel:

You love those Tic-Tacs.

Griffin:

Shoot.

Rachel:

I mean, you could just say generally, uh, car candy.

Griffin:

Car candy's pretty great. Um, you know, I'm driving a lot more now because we're taking the kids to- to daycare now, uh, or summer camp-

Rachel:

And when-

Griffin:

... as we tell our oldest.

Rachel:

And when you say, driving a lot more, you mean approximately 10 minutes a day [laughs].

Griffin:

Maybe closer to 15 minutes a day.

Rachel:

Okay, okay.

Griffin:

But I have reason to have car candy again.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it's exciting. You get in the car, you're thirsty, you're like, "I wish I had a sweet little treat, a little pick me up," a couple ticky tackies. Yum, yum, yum, yum, yum, yum.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, who goes first thing week? I believe I do.

Rachel:

[laughs] yes.

Griffin:

Okay. I apologize. I'm even more out of it than normal, I feel like. Uh, I- I feel- I feel sick for the first time in like, a year and a half or so, because as it turns out, wearing masks and not leaving your house and washing your hands a million times a day, pretty good way to not get sick.

Rachel:

Yeah, turns out.

Griffin:

But now, I got like a sinus thing for the first time, and I'm like, what's going on with my body? I don't even remember this feeling. I've been the picture of health for so long.

Rachel:

Well, as much as you can be.

Griffin:

As much as you can be.

Rachel:

As Griffin McElroy.

Griffin:

As me, which is not, yeah. My best picture of health is, a toddler drew it.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Anyway, I wanna talk about a firework that I love.

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

That's very near and dear to my heart.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

And because of that, I feel like I should put like, a legal disclaimer to say, don't, "Maybe you shouldn't play with this firework or any fireworks," and now that I've legally covered myself, I wanna talk about Roman candles, the most badass firework there is in the world.

Rachel:

Oh, gosh. Those are scary to me.

Griffin:

Yeah, they can have a, and- and I don't wanna get sued for fireworks liable, but there have been some oopsies, that Roman candles have been responsible for.

Rachel:

[laughs] I- I will say, as someone who didn't really grow up with the home-home brewed fireworks the way that some people did-

Griffin:

They're not home brewed. I'm not like making my own black powder charges.

Rachel:

Well, I'm saying like, my exposure to firework was like, professional firework show.

Griffin:

Which is the, probably the safest and best way that you can enjoy fireworks.

Rachel:

But I would say when I got to college, all of a sudden it was like, oh, let's- let's set off the- the kinds that you can do at the home.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

And they are scary to me.

Griffin:

Yeah, particularly Roman candles, but if you can harness that fear, you're gonna have yourself, uh, a real fun time. Uh, Roman candles are, in my mind, sort of the quintessential home firework. It's a long tube and you light the fuse and then a series of multicolored explosives come launching out the end of it.

Rachel:

And to be clear, this is the one that you were supposed to set on the ground and then walk to a safe distance away.

Griffin:

Oh really?

Rachel:

Is that true?

Griffin:

I, probably.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Well, there's fountain fireworks that you are-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... explicitly supposed to-

Rachel:

Does this one have like, a long stem on the bottom?

Griffin:

Uh, no. You're thinking of the bot- the humble bottle rocket.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Uh, the bottle rocket, I would say, is probably the second most quintessential home firework experience.

Rachel:

So, what is the Roman candle's set up?

Griffin:

It's just a long tube and it's like a magic wand, and explosives come firing out the end.

Rachel:

And so, your impression is that you're not supposed to set that on the ground and walk away?

Griffin:

Yeah, I don't think it has a base. You're just supposed to hold it up and point it at the sky-

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

... and not point it at a- a friend, but we'll get there.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, yes, but like, I- I enjoy a sparkler. I enjoy a fountain, but like-

Rachel:

Ooh, a snap and pop.

Griffin:

A sn- uh, don't get me-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Snap and pops are not nearly as exciting as you always remember them to be.

Rachel:

Yeah. Ah.

Griffin:

That's the ones, you just throw at your friend's feet.

Rachel:

I think, actually, I think our small child would love a snap and pop.

Griffin:

Probably. He, no, our small child would be scared of any of these options-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... if we're being honest. It's just that, Roman candles put the power and stupidity of fireworks in the palm of your hand.

Rachel:

Ah, it's beautiful.

Griffin:

And that's exciting for me. Don't, but don't play with Roman candles. Don't get silly with them-

Rachel:

Mm.

Griffin:

... because they're extremely dangerous. That said-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

One 4th of July in college, my friends and I were at, uh, one of- one of our houses, fairly rural part of town, out- out in the middle of nowhere where you could really do what you want, and um, it did turn into, because we had an unbelievable amount of Roman candles, just a game of wizard duel, which looking back on it, was a, we could've gotten very seriously injured.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Because wizard duel was, instead of pointing at the sky, you, you know, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, paces fire. And then, you do the whole slow-mo monologue, but those fireballs don't come at you slow, do they? They come at you quite fast.

Rachel:

This is unbelievable to me that this happened.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um-

Griffin:

Who do you think was responsible for beginning this game of wizard duel. Nobody was injured, by the way, which is probably an, a statistical anomaly.

Rachel:

I mean, it- it seems like Justin McElroy.

Griffin:

No, it was Travis McElroy. I'm surprised that-

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

... you thought that, that was more of a Justin thing.

Rachel:

Well, uh, I mean, Justin is the leader.

Griffin:

Justin is the oldest.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

He does make a lot of the decisions for us.

Rachel:

And you have told me about some exploits that Justin has gotten into that were a little dangerous.

Griffin:

Or a little goofy, for sure. Uh, yeah, no, it was a bad idea, but you know, target practice with Roman candles, I guess that's a bit of a better, as long as it's not like, a flammable thing.

Rachel:

Can I ask-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... where you purchased these because in most places that I grew up, they were not allowed in the city limits. And so, you had to kind of like, drive outside of town to get them.

Griffin:

Sure, different states have different laws. Uh, the year I lived in Cincinnati, we had to drive to Kentucky to get them.

Rachel:

Oh my gosh.

Griffin:

Um, and then, but in West Virginia, like it was, are you kidding? It's, there's, no-

Rachel:

So, you can just-

Griffin:

There ain't no laws while you're-

Rachel:

Really?

Griffin:

Yeah, for sure. Uh, so you could go to like, the mall parking lot-

Rachel:

[laughs] oh my gosh.

Griffin:

... would just have this huge tent set up.

Rachel:

And you were allowed to set them off like, at your house?

Griffin:

Sure, yeah.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Yeah, no, the- things may have changed.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And there may have been laws.

Rachel:

It may have not been legal and you just didn't know.

Griffin:

It may have not been legal, but we, yeah, I mean, we always went pretty hard-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... on- on 4th of July.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Not because we're a particularly patriotic sort, but the, we like grilling food and using fireworks. I don't know how else to put it.

Rachel:

Yeah, yeah.

Griffin:

Roman candles are some of the most dangerous fireworks that you can own. That is why they are illegal to own in Delaware, Oregon, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Rhode Island, and maybe other- other territories here in The States.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

There's entire countries, I don't think you can own Roman candles in The Netherlands. Like, there's entire countries that are like, "Fuck no, are you kidding me? Look at that."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"That's a bad idea." Um, but I don't know, when you use them responsibly, which is I suppose, a relative term when you're discussing fireworks. It's just, it's kinda neat.

Rachel:

Does it say on the package, like, it would be nice to know how many projectiles you're gonna get with a Roman candle, right?

Griffin:

I think it tells you. I think it tells you.

Rachel:

So you can like, count, and be like, "Okay, now I know it's dead."

Griffin:

"Now I can set this down." Yeah, we definitely had a couple at- at that 4th of July party where we're like, "Okay, it's finished," and we set it down, and then ...

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, they are a marvel of fireworks engineering when you think about it because there's a bunch of different charges in there. You light the fuse, the fuse goes down, ignites the first, you know, star, which ignites the lift charge underneath it, and that's what propels the explosive out, and that lift charge ignites a delay, uh, fuse, like underneath that, which lights the next star, which lights the next lift charge, which lights the next delay fuse. When you look at how they're all kind of stuffed in there, which don't cut a Roman candle open. Look at diagrams on the internet. It's fascinating. It's fascinating how, uh, how they make those-

Rachel:

Yeah, how it doesn't-

Griffin:

... work.

Rachel:

Yeah, it doesn't like go all at once.

Griffin:

How it doesn't just explode in your hand.

Rachel:

Yeah [laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah, that would be absolutely terrible, and then there's different chemical compounds in- in f- in the fireworks that make them turn different colors, but if I had a month to prepare this segment, and three hours to explain it on the show, I do not think I could do a good job-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... discussing the chemistry in any kind of way that would be accessible to our listeners or myself, um, but I just- I- I like a Roman candle. I do like a bot- bottle rockets scare me in a way that Roman candles don't because if you light a Roman candle and point it, you can pretty much imagine where those little 'sploders are gonna go.

Rachel:

Uh-huh [laughs]

Griffin:

A bottle rocket is like, I've had bottle rocket injuries before, and they're so small, that they're not terrible. They're just like little burns, but you light a bottle rocket and it's just like, good luck, everybody, 'cause this guy could go really silly if it wanted to.

Rachel:

Oh man.

Griffin:

We used to tuck them into our chain link fence and then just light a bunch of them all at once and then just kind of, scurry away.

Rachel:

Oh God [laughs]. This is, this segment is difficult for me 'cause I-

Griffin:

Don't do any of this.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

This is- this is what I'm saying. I'm 34 years old now.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I'm pretty sure these, there's a lot of restrictions in Texas, as to what you can do because, uh-

Rachel:

The-

Griffin:

It's a- it's a dry place-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... that has been prone to fires.

Rachel:

Yeah. I mean, not- not lately as of this recording, but yes, for sure.

Griffin:

Uh, the year I moved here, there was like a horrible fire-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... in the wake of 4th of July festivities.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so yeah, joking aside-

Rachel:

So, be safe if you're listening.

Griffin:

Take- take this stuff very, very seriously.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Griffin:

But if we are gonna talk about the premium firework-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

The ultimate firework.

Rachel:

Of course.

Griffin:

In my mind, it's- it is the Roman candle.

Rachel:

Of course, and- and who are we to stand in the way of July 4th and it's great power?

Griffin:

Yes, but do it responsibly, and think about the puppies. There's doggies that get scared of fireworks-

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

... very, very, easily.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

And there is of course, people who, you know, for whom, the sound of loud explosions may trigger a, uh, a- a- a post traumatic sort of, response.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Griffin:

So be thoughtful about that as well.

Rachel:

But I- I will tell you, the- the childhood memory of a firework is a powerful one.

Griffin:

It's classic. It's classic.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

But perhaps it is best saved for the professionals-

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Uh, who- who do amazing work. Hey, can I steal you away?

[ad break]

Griffin:

Got a couple brumpobrams! You wanna do the first one?

Rachel:

Uh, yes. So, this is a message for Deidre. It is from Jameson. Deidre, I love you and our pet family. Even though our lives currently revolve around our elderly cats and their various issues, I know we'll get through it together. You are my everything and I look forward to the years ahead as much as I've loved the years behind. Love, Jameson.

Griffin:

The way you put emphasis on words in pet family made it sound, not like they had a family full of pets-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But that they had a pet family.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Like, they had a family, an entire nuclear family-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That was like, these are, this is our pet.

Rachel:

[laughs] Who rescued who?

Griffin:

Who rescued Hugh?

Rachel:

This tiny family [laughs].

Griffin:

I feel like the Stevens family rescued me, if you think about it. Um, I'll do the other one here because it for Tine. And it's from Justin who says, Hey, Tink. It's me, your baby. Surprise. I'm so thankful to have you and our wonderful dog, Zoey, in my life. You have made the past 12 years the absolute best that I could've asked for. Thank you for marrying me, loving me, and always being there for me. I love you always, my tiny-saurus Rex.

Rachel:

Aw, that's cute.

Griffin:

Got an anniversary coming up on July 6th. Got that 13 year anniversary.

Rachel:

Woo!

Griffin:

Woo! Coming up real soon. Tine, Justin, that's a long stretch. That's a long haul.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's longer than we've been together.

Rachel:

You think we'll make it?

Griffin:

To 13?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Lucky number 13? Probably, yeah.

Rachel:

I mean, I'd hope so.

Griffin:

I'm not planning on doing anything to fuck this up in a major way. Are you?

Rachel:

No.

Griffin:

Excellent. Sounds like, you'll see... see you then.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

In a few years [laughs]

[MaxFun ad plays]

Griffin:

Hey, what topic have you prepared for us, for this uh, episode of Wonderful! the podcast on the Maximum Fun network?

Rachel:

That's some good framing, thank you.

Griffin:

Yeah, you're welcome.

Rachel:

It is, the matinee.

Griffin:

[laughs] oh, yes.

Rachel:

It's the matinee performance.

Griffin:

Oh, I love a matinee. Holy crap.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative]. We have been talking a lot about this because uh, now that our children are both in responsible care facilities, uh, we are able to do things during the day, and we have been desperate to find a matinee performance of a film, and it is difficult to find, because you know, obviously, that's not, uh, a high seller on a Monday through Friday-

Griffin:

Correct.

Rachel:

... but uh, I love it.

Griffin:

I love, yeah. I love a matinee movie, especially on the weekends because then, you get out, and it's like, "I still got my full day ahead of me."

Rachel:

Exactly. Exactly. Usually, they are- are, uh, a little bit cheaper-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... than an evening performance, uh, at a- an establishment like the Alamo Drafthouse. They will have a- a separate menu, uh, sometimes for the- the daytime, which is exciting.

Griffin:

That is exciting.

Rachel:

They've got like a brunch kind of feel to it. Um, and I don't know, yeah, it's- it's just like, leaving the theater when it is bright outside is kind of like a fun time travel.

Griffin:

It is.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

If you've also, if you've never done like, live theater stuff, a matinee performance is kind of a trip.

Rachel:

Yeah, so that, when I did my research, that was mostly what I could find, is what- what matinee really means in the theater.

Griffin:

Yeah, I mean, it just means a early show. Usually, we would do it on Sundays.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Griffin:

Like at- at two o' clock or so, we would knock out a performance of Charlotte's Web or whatever.

Rachel:

Well yeah, and I think in a- in a medium where the audience is such a big part, you know, it- it- it's interesting to talk about the makeup of a matinee.

Griffin:

Right, sure.

Rachel:

Uh, which is a lot of what I found is that, uh, there was kind of a funny phrasing for it. Uh, the matinee audience is those who don't wanna stay up at night and those who aren't allowed to stay up at night [laughs].

Griffin:

Yeah, that's a fair way of putting it.

Rachel:

Uh, and that it is, typically, um, you know, your older- your older crowd, uh, and your very young crowd.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, and, usually like, the matinee kind of gets a bad rap, I think, 'cause it's difficult on performers to do like, a matinee show and an evening show.

Griffin:

Oh yeah, for sure.

Rachel:

Um, and also, you know, like it doesn't have the, potentially the electricity of the evening performance, you know, but-

Griffin:

Oh, the- the theater comes alive at night.

Rachel:

[laughs] But uh, there's also an argument for the fact that, you know, you're getting people, especially like, very young children, who are like, this may be their first exposure and they're excited-

Griffin:

Yeah, absolutely.

Rachel:

... and curious, and uh, you get some school groups maybe, and- and it's- it's a cool-

Griffin:

Oh, that was always fun.

Rachel:

A cool thing.

Griffin:

That was always a fun- a fun show.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Was when you would do them for school groups who came in.

Rachel:

Why- why are you- why are you saying that?

Griffin:

'Cause a lot of the times, maybe like a group of middle schoolers are not the most captive audience or respectful audience or-

Rachel:

Yeah, that's fair.

Griffin:

... like, cool about it. Sometimes it was great. We definitely did shows for, we did performances of Seussical, uh, which was like-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... the last show that I did for like, elementary and middle schoolers that was like, awesome, because every- all- all of them were enraptured. And then, also we did a show for my cohorts in high school-

Rachel:

Oh [laughs]

Griffin:

... that was a fucking nightmare. A fucking, like, the most unpleasant performance experience I've ever had in my life.

Rachel:

Oh, were they just like, shouting stuff?

Griffin:

Shouting stuff. Uh, it's so, God. Okay, this is a total sidetrack, but yeah. They would, they were shout- like, literally talking, shouting stuff.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

And then, uh, they were also, there were parts where like, the performers would go down the aisles like, from back of house onto stage-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And there were kids that were like, grabbing at the performers-

Rachel:

Wow, gosh.

Griffin:

Or like, trying to trip them, and at half- at half time. During intermission, my dad, who was the director of Seussical came out and fucking yelled at everyone.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Which was cool for me, and then after the show, the principal got on the speaker and said that, I think it was for the sophomore and junior classes, like, that's what that performance was for, everybody at that show was like, banned from like-

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

... events, like uh, pep rallies, and-

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Uh, other stuff.

Rachel:

How would they enforce that? [laughs]

Griffin:

Well, they enforced it by just saying, like, the sophomore and junior classes are not taking part in uh, these- these-

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

These other events in school for like, the rest of the year. So, that show, and my dad... Brought the hammer out.

Rachel:

When your dad yelled at the audience, was your dad like, "Hi, I'm Clint McElroy, I'm Griffin McElroy's father..."

Griffin:

Yeah, exactly.

Rachel:

"And he is the star of the show and I'm very proud of him."

Griffin:

It was cool and mortifying and so frustrating, and the second act of that was the most like-

Rachel:

Ooh, chilly I bet.

Griffin:

Chilly as shit, both from the people in the audience and also, the performers, who were like, [singing] Fuck you, guys. Anyway, sorry. That was a huge tangent, but also one of the most-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

One of the most sort of, wild days of my life-

Rachel:

I bet.

Griffin:

Was that matinee performance.

Rachel:

I bet, and I bet you are not the only one that has had an experience like that.

Griffin:

No, for sure not. Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, so, the matinee, from what I can tell, history all the way back to 1843 at New York's Olympic Theater-

Griffin:

Mm.

Rachel:

Uh, in New York, kind of, the big thing that I could find is that Wednesday is kind of the big matinee day.

Griffin:

Hm.

Rachel:

Uh, they were actually, uh, often called like, ladies days.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Because back in the- the early 20th century, women, you know, you didn't see a lot of women out by themselves in the evening.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

So, if they wanted to go see a show, daytime was kind of their time.

Griffin:

That's weird.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's why, I mean, it's- it's- it's not great, but it's- it's strange.

Rachel:

Uh, the- the scheduling, um, is a little tricky. So, shows are typically scheduled 2:00 or 2:30 uh, because the actor's union requires actors have at least two hours between shows, so if there's an evening show at 8:00, then usually, 2:30 or 3:00 is kind of the furthest you can push it-

Griffin:

Right, sure.

Rachel:

... to give them an actual break. Um, here's something that I wish they still had. So, back when- when movies were first hitting and they were like, they were movie palaces.

Griffin:

Ooh, yeah.

Rachel:

You know, like- like, very fancy, like this is an experience kind of place. Uh, neighborhood theaters would have cry rooms.

Griffin:

What?

Rachel:

And a cry room was a soundproof elevated room in the back of the theater with a large glass window, so the mom could still watch the movie with her child.

Griffin:

While the baby was crying?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's sick.

Rachel:

Can you imagine how great that would be?

Griffin:

That's so sick. That would be amazing.

Rachel:

Uh, many theaters that provided cry rooms also came equipped with electric bottle warmers, complimentary formula, and a nurse on duty.

Griffin:

What the fuck?

Rachel:

Right? Wouldn't that be so rad?

Griffin:

I mean, it'd be rad if any- any sort of, uh, preparation or concerns were taken for, you know, families with young children.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, I love that.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

I wish that, that was a thing. I know like, Alamo Drafthouse will do, uh, like-like baby days, where they will like, have the lights up a little bit and uh,

they'll show basically like, [laughs] rated R movies for adults, but you can bring your baby and not worry about inconveniencing somebody else.

Griffin:

Yeah, yeah.

Rachel:

Which would be awesome. I- I do not think that would be successful, uh, necessarily for us, but if you have the kind of child that will chill-

Griffin:

Be chill about it.

Rachel:

... for two hours. Yeah, that would be incredible. Uh, the other thing I will say about matinee performances, um, movie theaters back in the day would have, what they called actual Mickey Mouse clubs.

Griffin:

Oh.

Rachel:

So, not the show, but like, opportunities to bring your kids in to see cartoons and stuff. Uh, this is like, back in like, 1929. They would have blocks of Disney animation, and uh, people could get door prizes and bring their kids-

Griffin:

Hm.

Rachel:

It was a whole big thing.

Griffin:

That's fun.

Rachel:

Um, and this- this was true with like, Warners Brothers as well. Like, let's have a- let's have a big performance for kids during the day, uh, which I love.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, and- and I personally, as I mentioned, like the matinee, too, because uh, I don't know, there's something, especially if you can go on a work day.

Griffin:

Ooh.

Rachel:

You sneak out.

Griffin:

Sh, sh, sh. Don't tell.

Rachel:

Uh, or, you know, like, respectfully request time off [laughs].

Griffin:

So you can go see Fast and the Furious 9.

Rachel:

Yeah, exactly. [laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah. What always, what matinees make me think of, we, whenever you did a show, like a community theater show, in Huntington, and I imagine, this is probably the norm for a lot of sort of, community theater companies, you would end the run on a matinee, so that you would have time for strike, for striking the set.

Rachel:

Oh yeah.

Griffin:

Immediately after the last show, and you would have time for a kick ass cast party.

Rachel:

Shh.

Griffin:

So, matinees always make me think of- of strike and a kick ass cast party.

Rachel:

Ohh.

Griffin:

Which I'm very- very nostalgic for.

Rachel:

That's nice.

Griffin:

Yeah. Is that-

Rachel:

That's it.

Griffin:

That's it.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Oh, okay. I love a matinee.

Rachel:

I- I as- as our listeners know, I am not a theater performer, so I don't have a lot of personal anecdotes, but as an audience member, I really- I really enjoy them.

Griffin:

Yeah. Uh, hey, thanks for Bo En and Augustus for use to our theme song, Money Won't Pay. You'll find a link to that in the episode description. Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can go to maximumfun.org, check out all the great shows there. You know, shows out the- out the wazoo, I would say.

Rachel:

Yeah, hey, uh, if you haven't listened to Bullseye...

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, really, really, really recommend it.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Incredible show.

Griffin:

Uh, we have a new graphic novel, uh, from Taz coming out on July 14th. We're gonna be doing a live event, uh, with some special guests, gonna be doing some reading, gonna be talking about the book. Uh, it's a virtual live event. We're not gonna be in- in person. Not yet. Uh, but yeah, you can find links to that and details in how to secure a ticket, and we have partner book sellers who are gonna be, uh, selling copies that have signed, uh, book plates in them. So, uh, you can find details at mcelroy.family. Uh, you can also find our merch and stuff there, too. Uh, but that's it. That's the end of- that's the end of this one. Uh, let's, and now let's do, just a- an quick evaluation. Usually once we finish recording, Rachel and I will sit in a room silently-

Rachel:

Mm. Uh-huh, uh-huh.

Griffin:

... for about 15 minutes, just like, really thoroughly critiquing-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... each other's singing, and then we give each other a score out of 1,000 points, so...

Rachel:

Mm-hmm [affirmative]. Uh, I will say I enjoyed your topic.

Griffin:

Thanks.

Rachel:

Uh, your sitting pose was a little distracting to me.

Griffin:

I'm very spread.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Not in like, a man spread kind of way, to use that-

Rachel:

No.

Griffin:

To use that term, but it's more of like a, butterflyed, liked clam shell.

Rachel:

Yeah, with the camp counselor kind of like, "Let me show you, uh, this dandelion."

Griffin:

Yeah. Right, yeah. So, points, how many out of a thousand?

Rachel:

Out of a thousand?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Do we usually do a thousand?

Griffin:

Always. Every time.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, I'm gonna say, 876.

Griffin:

Jesus.

Rachel:

I'm really deducting for that spread.

Griffin:

I was gonna say, you get a thousand, because you're perfect in every way. But now I'm gonna drop that punitively-

Rachel:

Whoa.

Griffin:

... to 612.

Rachel:

Oh no.

Griffin:

Deal with it.

[theme music plays]

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