

Wonderful! 222: I Am Magic Claw

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hey, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is *Wonderful!*

Griffin: Hey. This is... Griffin McElroy. And I'm here with Rachel McElroy—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and this is *Wonderful!* Hey.

Rachel: Hey.

Griffin: Hey!

Rachel: Little late. Little late.

Griffin: Oops! But y'all know... y'all already know how it is.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Y'all know how it is!

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It's— it's fun, in a way, isn't it?

Rachel: It is fun.

Griffin: It's like— we're like your fun aunt who swings by, you know, 20... 20 hours late for the family, you know, holiday gathering.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And everyone left a long— 20 hours is such a long time.

Rachel: Yeah, you've put the food away, you've changed out of your party clothes. Here we are. Here we are.

Griffin: And here we are. Drunk.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: No.

Rachel: No.

Griffin: Um, yeah, sorry. It's— I mean, any number of things. There was illness, there was a COVID scare, uh—

Rachel: There was a birthday.

Griffin: There as a big, beautiful birthday.

Rachel: There was cat illness.

Griffin: There was cat illness what got in there. Not ours, we don't have one, but...

Rachel: Yeah. Our— our child's caregiver, while we work, had a cat illness.

Griffin: A cat illness. It's been a— it's been a— a really wild one when you put it down on paper like that, huh?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But, uh, we're here.

Rachel: We're here!

Griffin: And we're— we're ready. We're ready, and we're...

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It— I'm psyched out of my gourd for this one. Do you have a small wonder?

Rachel: I do, and it is not at all small, but I will say, the appropriate amount of fanfare that Griffin provided for my 40th birthday this week.

Griffin: Lordy lordy, look who's 40. And... I'm gonna say, rocking it.

Rachel: Aw, thanks.

Griffin: Absolutely smokin'. O—over there. [laughs]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And yeah, it was fun. I also had a good time on the 40th birthday celebration.

Rachel: Yeah, that is true, that is true. I was whisked away on an adventure with many components, and Griffin participated with me all along the way. Uh, and I feel like you have figured out the thing that nobody else has figured out, which is when celebrating or purchasing gifts for me, just do things that I wouldn't do for myself.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: That's, like, 100% the right call.

Griffin: Which, fortunately for me, as your partner, encompasses... a great deal of things.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, you have a very— you have a spartan lifestyle, I would say.

Rachel: Yeah. If you cannot purchase it at a discount, it is likely that I have not consumed it. [laughs]

Griffin: Right. Uh, no, we had a very— we had a very good time. I'm gonna say... what am I gonna say? Oh, there's a new Kirby game out I've been playing with

Henry. I'm gonna say just in general, Henry's been playing games with me more lately. Uh, and it's cool. It's very cool. He gets very frustrated. I feel like we're still trying to find, like, that right game.

Rachel: Yeah, I mean, 'cause—

Griffin: Uh, we tried dipping into *Minecraft*, but that's, like... anything in, like, first or third person where you have to look with one stick and move with another is, like, out of the question.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: So *Minecraft* is a little bit too— too heavy. But that new Kirby game is— hits the sweet spot.

Rachel: And that's the thing, right? Like, most games aren't designed for his age group, and if they are they're blatantly educational, which is just not gonna work for him.

Griffin: Snoozefest!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah. Or, sadly, he does enjoy a certain category of, like, iPad or iOS game that I could just sort of call a "If you don't wanna wait, pay me ten dollars" game. And that sucks, because, uh, it's— having to explain to him, like, "No, son. We can't buy that robot dragon, because that costs 30 fucking real world dollars."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, and the disappointment on his face every time is, uh, is a tough pill to swallow.

Rachel: Oh, you made me think of another small wonder.

Griffin: Oh boy!

Rachel: Can I just drop it?

Griffin: Yeah!

Rachel: Uh, when Griffin talked about graphic novels, our friends at First Second sent us a *huge* box.

Griffin: A *big* box.

Rachel: Of all of the various graphic novels they have published for a younger audience, and it was incredible.

Griffin: Been reading *Mighty Jack*. That series gets a little intense for our five-year-old. We might have to circle back on that, but I liked it. *Investigators* has been very, very funny.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: There's a character in there that is a neurosurgeon who turns into a news helicopter whenever newsworthy stuff happens, and it makes me laugh every time. Uh, yes. Thank you, thank you for those many books, First Second. Um, hey, you go first this week.

Rachel: I do.

Griffin: Let's hear what you got.

Rachel: Okay. [scatting]

Griffin: No kidding!

Rachel: [scatting]

Griffin: Whoa.

Rachel: [scatting] [laughs]

Griffin: No, keep going.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: No, finish the song!

Rachel: [scatting] [laughs] See, it keeps going to the 76 trombones. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, that *is* what that— I was trying to tell what it was. You're not even, like, a musical theater fan!

Rachel: No.

Griffin: [scatting]

Rachel: [laughs] It's not really the jazzy Poetry Corner vibe I wanted, but yes, we are going to The Poetry Corner.

Griffin: Yeah. I, uh, can't wait. It feels like it's been ages.

Rachel: I don't think it has.

Griffin: No, it hasn't. It's been, like, two weeks.

Rachel: I feel like I've really been hitting that corner a lot more lately.

Griffin: Maybe it's just 'cause this episode's late.

Rachel: That's possible. Uh, the poet I wanted to talk about is Denise Duhamel.

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Rachel: You heard of her? Oh, dang. She's— she's been in the game for a while, so I thought there was a chance.

Griffin: I've heard of Josh Duhamel. Is that...

Rachel: It's spelled similarly, so maybe that's how she pronounces her last name. Unfortunately, I did not look into that.

Griffin: Okay. It's tough. Names are tricky.

Rachel: Names— you know... [laughs quietly] they are. Okay. Uh, born in Rhode Island, 1961. Has been publishing books of poetry pretty much nonstop. Her most recent one came out in 2021, called *Second Story*. Uh, and she's the best! She's just the best. Um...

Griffin: In what metric— using what metric?

Rachel: She— she's another one of those poets who intentionally makes her poems accessible, and about, like, real life circumstances. Um, and I just— I feel like she's a great point of entry for people who maybe have poetic inclinations, but are a little intimidated.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Um, she did this great interview in 2021, uh, with *The Adroit Journal*. Uh, and she talked about just kind of this desire to be published when you are younger, um, and just trying to write poems for particular magazines. So, like, looking at the magazine, seeing what kind of stuff they publish, and then just trying to, like, ape that in your own submission.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: And so she said in this interview, there was a joke in the early 1990's that if you wanted to be published in *The New Yorker* that your poem needed to contain a dead father, a birdbath, and something else I can't remember. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Rachel: Which I thought was great. Um, and then she goes on to say, uh, "One of the things I really tried to focus on was clarity in voice. I was always committed to being accessible, so when my poems were a muddled, abstract mess, I translated them into Frank O'Hara speak. I always tried to say something that a general audience, not only poetry nerds like myself, would get."

Uh, Frank O'Hara is actually a poet that I had mentioned on *Wonderful!* before.

Griffin: Yeah, I was gonna say, don't understand that reference, but...

Rachel: There was a dismissive way I think I mentioned it on the show of talking about his poetry as "I do this, I do that" poems. [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, right, yeah, okay.

Rachel: Uh, and I just— I think it— to me it's very similar to the way that comic actors talk about comedy and how kind of underappreciated it is by the, like, awards community. Of just suggesting, like, sometimes it is harder to do the thing that looks easy.

Griffin: Yeah, of course.

Rachel: And I feel like Denise Duhamel is another one of those poets who makes it look easy, and so I wanted to read one of her poems.

Griffin: Please.

Rachel: Uh, so this is Ego. Uh, it was in her book, *Queen for a Day*, which came out in 2001.

"I just didn't get it—
even with the teacher holding an orange (the earth) in one hand
and a lemon (the moon) in the other,
her favorite student (the sun) standing behind her with a flashlight.
I just couldn't grasp it—
this whole citrus universe, these bumpy planets revolving so slowly
no one could even see themselves moving.
I used to think if I could only concentrate hard enough
I could be the one person to feel what no one else could,
sense a small tug from the ground, a sky shift, the earth changing gears.
Even though I was only one mini-speck on a speck,
even though I was merely a pinprick in one goosebump on the orange,
I was sure then I was the most specially perceptive, perceptively sensitive.
I was sure then my mother was the only mother to snap,
"The world doesn't revolve around you!"
The earth was fragile and mostly water,
just the way the orange was mostly water if you peeled it,
just the way I was mostly water if you peeled me.
Looking back on that third grade science demonstration,
I can understand why some people gave up on fame or religion or cures—
especially people who have an understanding
of the excruciating crawl of the world,
who have a well-developed sense of spatial reasoning
and the tininess that it is to be one of us.
But not me—even now I wouldn't mind being god, the force

who spins the planets the way I spin a globe, a basketball, a yoyo.
I wouldn't mind being that teacher who chooses the fruit,
or that favorite kid who gives the moon its glow."

Griffin: That's goo—[snaps]

Rachel: [laughs] Thank you.

Griffin: We never... [continues snapping] very rarely on The Poetry Corner does something earn snaps, but that was a good— that was a good poem.

Rachel: I'm glad you stuck with me. I realized as I was reading, I was like, "Oh, this one's kind of long for The Poetry Corner.

Griffin: Oh, I liked it, though!

Rachel: I'm glad.

Griffin: I liked it so much. There was so— I don't know if this speaks to the accessibility of it, but there was, like, a— a— almost a pattern to it that I felt like I could almost predict what the next line was going to be?

Rachel: Yeah, mm-hmm.

Griffin: Uh, like, the playfulness of it. I was like, "Well, humans are also mostly made of water. I wonder if she— yeah!"

Rachel: [laughs] She did it! Yeah, I love— I mean, it's such a great way to construct a poem, right? Like, you root somebody, or the reader, in this very strong image of, like, somebody standing in a classroom holding up fruit, you know? And, like, moving it around and trying to explain how the solar system works. And it's like you're in that image, and then you're just, like, taken somewhere else, and then you're taken back to where you were before at the end of the poem.

Griffin: And it's so relatable. Like, learning about the scale of existence is, like, a tough thing to kind of wrap your mind around, especially when you're a kid. Uh, and to sort of, I don't know, reminisce about that is very powerful.

Rachel: Yeah. Yeah, and this idea, like, when you find out that the planets are rotating, and that the Earth is moving, and this sense of like, "How do I not... like, how does everything feel completely still, but that is true?" [laughs] Uh, yeah. So, I— anyway, Denise Duhamel. I really think she's incredible. She's still teaching an MFA program in Florida at Florida International University. Uh, which is always crazy to me, too. Like, to me that would be the biggest reason to pursue an MFA is that these, like, famous poets whose poems you've read, like, you can just go, like, sit in a room with them.

Griffin: [simultaneously] Learn from them, yeah.

Rachel: Like, multiple days a week for, like, a semester. Um... yeah. Very cool.

Griffin: Yeah!

Rachel: Just a very cool one. And she has written just tons of books, and if you like that poem, you'll probably like all of her poems.

Griffin: I bet I would.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Can I steal you away?

Rachel: Yes.

[ad break]

Griffin: Gotta couple [through laughter] Stromboliboy here—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —and the first one is for Alex TJ, and it is from Katie, who says:

"Hi, sunshine! I'm so lucky to love someone as kind, funny, and handsome as you for the past three years. Thank you for being the Griffin to my Rachel, and making my life wonderful. I can't wait until long distance is behind us and to make a life together full of cute pets. I love *you* mostest. It's immortalized in a podcast now, so ha! Love, your angel."

That is delightful. I love the idea of there being a Griffin to a Rachel. You know?

Rachel: Yeah, what does that mean to you? [laughs]

Griffin: Um... hmm. Just somebody who always will order chips and guacamole—

Rachel: Yeahhh.

Griffin: —if it is available on the menu.

Rachel: That's true.

Griffin: Even when it's not requested by your partner. Just, like, knowing that chips and guac are gonna be there when you need it, it's so helpful. Don't you think?

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: You've never said that about me, but I know you think it.

Rachel: No, I like that. I don't— I don't have to say "Hey, Griff, will you order an appetizer with this meal?" Like, Griffin will always order an appetizer, so, yeah.

Griffin: Always gonna get you there.

Rachel: You wanna hear the next one?

Griffin: Oh yeah.

Rachel: This message is for Molly. It is from Alfredo.

"To my wonderful fiance, Molly. I am lucky to have you as a loving partner, and I'm so proud of us achieving the millennial dream of buying a friggin' house. I look forward to making memories with you and our grumblebug of a cat in a place we can call our own. To many more years of happiness and surviving the stress of wedding planning! Love, Fredo."

Griffin: Oh, the joys of home ownership. Yeah.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: You're very— you're obviously very fortunate in this climate, but one day that shower gets fucked up and it's like, "Oh no! What do we do!"

Rachel: Do you remember— do you remember that feeling, though, of buying the house, and you're like, "This thing is mine. This is the biggest thing I have ever bought, and it is mine."

Griffin: And it's all good. Lemme go take a shower.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [makes squeaky noise] What the fuck?!

[music plays]

Biz: Hi, I'm Biz, host of *One Bad Mother*. Whether you're a parent, or just know kids exist in the world, join us each week as we honestly share what it's like to be a parent.

Speaker Two: I signed my stepson up for a camp that is actually in another state. I feel really stupid, and I don't think we're gonna get the money back!

Speaker Three: And then he found out that the car manual is a book about cars! So now he's reading our car manual.

Speaker Four: [stammering] [frustrated groan].

Biz: So join us each week as we judge less, laugh more, and remind you that you are doing a great job. Download *One Bad Mother* on Maximumfun.org, and yes, there will be swears.

[music and ad end]

[music plays]

Tre'vell: Hey there, beautiful people! I'm Tre'vell Anderson.

Jarrett: And I'm Jarrett Hill. We are the hosts of *FANTI*, the show where we have complex and complicado conversations about the grey areas in our lives; the things that we really, really love sometimes, but also have some problematic feelings about.

Tre'vell: Yes. We get into it all! You wanna know our thoughts about Nicki Minaj and all her foolishness? We got you. You wanna know our thoughts about gentrification? Perhaps some positive, question mark?

Jarrett: Uh-oh.

Tre'vell: Aspects of gentrification? We get into that too. Every single Thursday, you can check us out at Maximumfun.org. Listen, you know you want it honey, so come on and get it!

Jarrett: [laughs]

Tre'vell: Period.

[music and ad end]

Griffin: I can't wait to talk about my thing with you.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: 'Cause I just know you're gonna have a lot to say about it as well. My thing this week is *Bluey*.

Rachel: Ohhh.

Griffin: I'm talkin' about *Bluey*. This show's a miracle. I can't believe I get to be alive at the same time that *Bluey* is being aired on television.

Rachel: I feel like it's— to me, I forget that there are people that probably don't know about that show, because—

Griffin: There's probably *many* people who don't know about that show.

Rachel: Because we have a lot of people in our lives that have children, are the age of our children. And so we just assume kind of, like, *Bluey* is— *Bluey* is something that everybody knows, but that's probably not true.

Griffin: It's probably not true. I would imagine that a lot of people know about it just through osmosis. Like, there's lots of *Bluey* toys, and clothes, and stuff like that. Uh, but if you're not aware, *Bluey* is an Australian animated series about a family of dogs who love each other very much, and in every episode participates in some sort of, like, wild, imaginative play.

Rachel: And episodes are super short, too.

Griffin: Right. So, episodes are only seven minutes long, and there's 52 episodes in each season that's been ordered. There have been two seasons so far, and they're working on a third one. So right now, there's over 100 episodes of— of *Bluey*. And so it's very easy to just turn *Bluey* on and then watch 30 episodes of *Bluey*.

Rachel: Yeah, I always treat it as this kind of, like, sneaky thing. I try and get it on early in the morning, and then I hope that I can keep it on as long as possible. Um, because it's— it's maybe my favorite children's program right now?

Griffin: Oh, for sure.

Rachel: And... and I feel like Henry knows that we like it, maybe more than he does, and at some point he usually realizes, like, "Hey, wait a minute!" [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah. "Spider-Man's not in this one!" Um, so it's a family of four dogs that is mum and dad, there's the six-year-old Bluey, and her four-year-old sister, Bingo. And they play. Usually just, like, roleplaying... mundane, like, interactions that adults go through, like, every day. Like, uh—

Rachel: Yeah. Sometimes though, they're, like, pirates or mermaids, you know.

Griffin: Sometimes they're pirates or mermaids. Sometimes they're adventurers exploring their dad's big blue stomach, uh, and going on adventures in the— have you seen that one? Where they're, like, hand puppets, and they're just exploring the world of...

Rachel: Ohh, I don't think so.

Griffin: Oh, man. It's so good. Uh, and all the characters in this world are dogs of some sort. Uh, the show takes place in basically this... subtropical utopia, loosely based on Brisbane, uh, and the show is, like, very Australian, through and through. There's a lot of sort of, like, you know, sheepdog breeds and things like that. But then, you know, in one episode they'll go to a billabong, or have a wombat encounter.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, and it's— it's—[sighs] there are so many, like, very special things about the show that are kind of difficult to summarize. In fact, the creator of the show is a guy named Joe Brumm, who has two daughters. And so the show is loosely based on his experience, like, raising them. Uh, and the kind of thing that they resonate with, which is this, like, super imaginative play. Uh, which is true of, you know, all kids.

And he has talked about how it was a difficult show to kind of pitch, not because it's a particularly, like, you know, high concept television program, but rather, like, the opposite.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Because it's just about a family who plays games together.

Rachel: Yeah. Well, and the thing I think... that I talk about with Griffin sometimes, is this concept of, like, playing with your children on their level is relatively new.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: I feel like our parents' generation was maybe the first generation that kind of dipped their toe in that. Uh, and then I feel like that's, like, a tremendous pressure I feel like people in our generation kind of put on themselves. Uh, and so I have, like, interacted with people who, uh... are made uncomfortable by *Bluey*, because it sets this expectation that you are, like, always gonna be down to, like, go on a— on a big, long fantasy with your children.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: So I feel like every parent kind of puts that pressure on themselves of, like, "I have to create this incredible world with them at all times." [laughs quietly]

Griffin: But at the same time... the show is genuinely instructive in how the parents, who are admittedly, like, hyper-idealized parental units, give the kids space to, like, do their imaginative play, even when it makes, like, no sense whatsoever. And more importantly, like, gives them space to feel their feelings.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And, like, uh, legitimizes those feelings, and helps them name them and work through them, right?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And it's not, like, uh... there's not, like, an enemy in the episodes. It's just, like, uh, "I feel jealous of my sister." Like, "I feel jealous that she got to play this thing and I didn't get to play this thing," or, uh, "I regret what I spent my, you know, allowance on."

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It's— or "I feel like I was kind of bullied into making this decision."

Rachel: Oh my gosh, the dance episode is one of my favorites.

Griffin: Yeah. So, there's an episode where they're supposed to do something with Bingo, the youngest daughter. Uh, and they don't end up doing it, and she's very hurt. And so they give her three dance... like...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I forget what they were called. [laughs quietly] But basically, it is a thing that she can do that will then make one of the family members dance anywhere in public, no matter where they are. But then the other family members make Bingo use the dance tokens—

Rachel: Yeah, in particular circumstances.

Griffin: —in particular circumstances, when Bingo doesn't wanna use them then, and then Bingo gets very hurt, because Bingo feels like, "Well, I didn't get to use them the way I did, and everybody else got to make these decisions for me and I didn't."

Uh, and that's, like, such a ridiculous episode, with a ridiculous premise, that explores something that is *huge*!

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah, exactly.

Griffin: A huge concept for children. Uh, and this is— like, when I say it's genuinely instructive, like, this is something that we, like, have to work on all the time. Is to, like... fight off our instinct to swoop in and try to solve away, like, every little problem that Henry or Gus has, when giving those problems just a— giving, you know, our kids a little bit of space to kind of, like, feel that stuff and figure out on their own, like, how to handle it, and just helping them with that process... like, that's what the show's about. That's fully what the show's about, and that's incre— that is an incredibly nuanced thing.

Rachel: Yeah. I will also say, in the tradition of great shows about kids, like, there's a lot that goes on with the parent dynamic that you get to watch, and then there's a lot that goes on with kind of the sibling dynamic. Like Griffin was saying, like, being the younger sibling or the older sibling, and what that means.

Um... yeah. It's just— it's so good.

Griffin: It's so good. So, there are episodes that, like, the parents aren't in at all that is just about, like, hyper-elaborate imaginative play. There's a great episode called Calypso that takes place inside of Bluey's preschool. And the whole premise for the episode is, like, these different groups of kids in Bluey's preschool are all having pretend play in different ways. So, like, one of them has a fish and chips shop, but they don't have any fish for sale. And then another one are, like, Roman centurions, and then another one is, like, building a very tiny town, and all of these kind of disparate stories come together to, like, thread into, like, one narrative.

And then there's an episode where, like, Bluey's in the woods with her friends and trying to play pretend that they own a pet shop, or a pet supply store, and that's it. And then they argue about who gets to be the clerk, and who's the assistant clerk, and who's the pet owner, and who's the pet, and what's the money—

Rachel: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: —and, uh... it's—

Rachel: In seven minutes.

Griffin: In seven minutes they tell these, like, pretty delightful stories. Uh, it's always a very charming show. It is occasionally an incredibly funny show, uh, particularly the dad has received a lot of praise for being, you know, not the stereotypical TV dad. Which is, like, not the first time that that mold has been broken on television before. But, like, he's always... ready, and available, and supportive for the whole family. And ready to just, frankly, debase himself.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Um, there's one where, like, he kind of gets curt with Bingo because he's, like, on a work call and Bingo is, like, trying to get him to come see these dominos that she set up. And then they all make pretend that fairies have invaded their house and are, like, braiding everyone's tails, and doing all these pranks on them, and the only way to make them go away is for the dad to, like, strap roller skates onto his hands and do a fairy dance around the mailbox outside?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, in front of, like, tons of people, and he does it, because he wants to make things up to Bingo. Um, but he is so fucking funny. Like, that character is hysterical, and says great, like, almost defeated stuff all the time.

Rachel: Yeah. I would say it is one of those kid's shows that does not feel specifically for kids. I mean, it clearly is for kids, but I feel like if it were on, like, on a Friday night on network television, like, everybody would still watch it.

Griffin: Absolutely. I wanted to point out my favorite line of the dad's is from an episode called "The Claw," where they go to some arcade or something, and the kids lose at a claw machine, and they're really bummed out about it. So when they get home the dad pretends to be Magic Claw, the living claw machine game. And then he starts to, like, abuse his power, and makes the kids, like, do chores in order to earn turns at the claw machine, and never actually win anything good.

Uh, and at one point the mom is looking for him and he says, "I'm not Dad. I'm Magic Claw. Magic Claw has no children. His days are free and easy."

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's just magical. It's so good. And it's, like, I don't know that I've ever seen a show about it— uh, like this, that is educational, but not in any kind of formal sense. Where it's not about, like...

Rachel: Addition, or...

Griffin: ... reading, or addition, or anything like that. It's about, like, life skills and common emotions that are important to know how to process.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And it does that so well.

Rachel: No, that's very true. It's not oversimplified. It's like a very kind of subtle show. You know, 'cause I would say, like, shows like *Sesame Street* do definitely, like, talk about emotions. It's not like this is the first show. But it's done in a way where— it does, it feels kind of sneaky. It's just like you're watching these kids play, and then all of a sudden at the end of it you're like, "Ohhh. I see what they did there."

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, it's really good. It's all on Disney+.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: I don't know the long, strange journey that it took to get there, because it was, like, commissioned by the Australian Broadcasting Network, and I think in conjunction with the BBC, I wanna say? Um, but then, like, you know, it has set the world ablaze, and for good reason.

Rachel: Ooh, I wonder if we'll ever get a *Bluey* film.

Griffin: Mmm, probably. There's a *Bluey* stage show that's in development.

Rachel: Oh, really? I can't imagine. Like, they do so much with seven minutes, [laughs] I can't imagine what they would do with a longer form.

Griffin: Yeah. Um, so that's *Bluey*. I'm sure there's lots of parents listening to this who are just like, hoopin' and hollerin' right now, because I don't know many... I don't know many parents who have watched this show and not fallen deeply, deeply in love with it, but.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Keep it comin', Australia. Doin' great work.

Rachel: [laughs] Just in general.

Griffin: Just in general. Y'all know what you're doing down there.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That's it. Thank you so much for listening. 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, thanks to Maximum Fun for having us on the Maximum Fun Network.

Rachel: I had Griffin listen to an episode of *Stop Podcasting Yourself* so that he would understand my devotion.

Griffin: I've listened to *Stop Po*— I don't listen to podcasts really at all these days, just because I don't have particularly long drives to make, and when I do Henry makes me listen to Pokemon rap battles and shit in the car.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: And the stuff I wanna listen to. Uh, but yeah. I mean, it's a— it's a phenomenal show.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's a ve— it's the— it's the *Bluey* of, uh—[laughs]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's— it's Canadian podcasting *Bluey*, is what it is. Um, yeah. It's— it's a great one. Hey, we're gonna be on tour, uh, and we're coming to St. Louis, Kansas City, and Minneapolis very soon, yes.

Rachel: This month.

Griffin: This month, uh, when you're hearing this, 'cause it's April 1st today, 'cause we're very late. So, please come see us. Go to, uh, mcelroy.family and click on the tour link, and just— just come check it out, please! It would be so great to see you. Uh, it's in, like, a couple weeks that we're gonna be doing this Midwest tour, so if you live in the Midwest, it would mean a lot if you would come watch us do our show.

Rachel: Griffin, it starts on 4/20.

Griffin: Does it?

Rachel: How could you not remember that? Yes!

Griffin: Uh, well, okay. Well, that show's gonna be weird then, 'cause I'm gonna be totally toked out on the—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —good wild green... stuff. Wait, that'll be in St. Louis. I don't— your parents'll be there.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: That'll be weird. I truly believe that your parents know how to party, though. And they're just not... you know. My dad does the same thing where he's like, "Party? *Me?*" But you know Clint McElroy...

Rachel: You know Clint, yeah.

Griffin: With his softball buddies. [snorts]

Rachel: [laughs]

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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