

Wonderful! 223: This One's For The Real Sportos

Published April 6, 2022

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[theme music plays]

Rachel: Hello, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hey, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is *Wonderful!*

Griffin: [whiny voice] Hey, guys.

Rachel: Back on time.

Griffin: Back on it. We're doin' it, yeah, wow, this episode's coming out at the correct time! And date, I bet. I say that. I don't know.

Rachel: Potentially. [laughs]

Griffin: Potentially. Life... life finds a way.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: To delay this one specific podcast. I don't know why life conspires? The universe, you know what I mean?

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Like, there's for— there's dark forces at work here.

Rachel: Ooh, this is real heady.

Griffin: Well, no. It's, like... it's pretty conspiratorial

Rachel: Ohh.

Griffin: But if you follow the clues...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Look at this whiteboard, here. You see the lines connecting the—

Rachel: I did actually get you a whiteboard.

Griffin: You did, actually.

Rachel: So I could very easily look at a whiteboard right now.

Griffin: I use it for Ethersea notes that I need to be able to just, like, look up at and reference at my whims.

Rachel: Griffin also gets very nervous during live broadcasts that you can somehow see those notes in the reflection of his glasses—

Griffin: Yeahhh.

Rachel: —and put together the whole arc. I've, uh, yeah. Well, not the whole arc but, like, different sort of, like, beats that I wanna not forget.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: So yeah, whenever I— I think we did the live show where I wore ski goggles, and I just took the whole whiteboard down for that.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Just in case there were some eagle-eyed viewers. Hey, you have a small wonder! I'm telling you you do.

Rachel: Um, I'm gonna say just really getting a jump on the holidays.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: That's not something I typically do, but Easter's coming.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And Easter is the same day this year as Griffin's birthday.

Griffin: Mm-hmm!

Rachel: So I decided to get a jump on Easter, leaving me some time for my last minute—

Griffin: To really focus on my birthday.

Rachel: Birthday purchases.

Griffin: Henry has been inexplicably... *stoked* for Easter.

Rachel: Yes!

Griffin: Since, like, New Years.

Rachel: Well, I think he realized that that was the next sanctioned holiday in which he would receive gifts?

Griffin: Presents, yes.

Rachel: And so he is focused on Easter.

Griffin: Little did he know that Nana and Gaga were gonna give him the Griffin McElroy treatment on his brother's birthday, by giving him a sort of consolation gift so he did not feel totally left out.

Rachel: Fair.

Griffin: Which is, I would say, more egregious than when my parents did that for me, because I had two brothers who had the same birthday.

Rachel: Yeah, exactly. It wasn't, like... you know. It wasn't babying you in any way.

Griffin: Yes. Well...

Rachel: It was an acknowledgment of the extreme circumstance.

Griffin: The unfairness of it all.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: But the precedent they've set... now they're gonna have to get Gus stuff on Henry's bir— like, where does it stop, you know? Where does it stop? Presents for everyone on Rosh Hashanah? Probably not.

Rachel: Participation trophies?

Griffin: Oh, right? [fake laughter]

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: God. Can my small wonder be that Jeff Foxworthy, in the year 2022, came out with a fucking participation trophy joke on his Netflix special, and then get dragged to Hell by the demon hands of the very mean and funny people on Twitter who were like, "[demonic voice] Jeffrey! Jeff! Mr. Foxworthy! How?!"

Rachel: There should be an arena somewhere, much like stadiums will retire jerseys, where jokes are retired, and raised, and hung from the rafters.

Griffin: Yes. Yes.

Rachel: Like, we're not gonna make this joke anymore.

Griffin: Only for things like participation trophy joke, it's, like, just a big toilet. And you throw the joke in the toilet, and you flush it down, and you never have to hear it again.

Rachel: That way he has time to grieve, you know? He has time to move on, and acknowledge.

Griffin: What he has time to do is write jokes! 'Cause it's been a minute, Mr. Foxworthy, and you went into your— your cave, and you lived a hermetic life, and we didn't see you for a bit. And then you came back like, "Back in my day, to get a trophy we had to win!"

[distantly yells] Jeffrey?! Really?!

Are you sure, Jeffrey? Maybe it's like he didn't watch any stand— like, he wanted to be pure, so he came out there and he was like, "I got 'em this time. [inhales deeply] So, how come kids these days... " like...

Rachel: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Not only that but, like... you're the one who raised us, Je— like...

Rachel: Right? [laughs] Right? You raised us, Jeff! [laughs]

Griffin: We didn't give— we didn't give the participation trophies to our dad—

Rachel: Daddy Jeff.

Griffin: To ourself, Jeff.

Rachel: Daddy Jeff.

Griffin: You did, Daddy Jeff.

Rachel: You were the one that made this choice, Daddy Jeff.

Griffin: You made this choice, Jeff. Who goes first this week? Is it me? That feels right, and I feel like I've been really on top of this lately.

Rachel: It does, it's you!

Griffin: It is. It's good. It's me.

Rachel: It's the you!

Griffin: Uh, I talked about this last night with Rachel, and I'm excited to talk about it here. It is— I'll warn everyone up top, it is a hockey thing, but it's a good one, 'cause I wanna talk about goalie goals.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You know what? This could be a soccer thing, too. I did not look this up. It's probably—

Rachel: Ohh, I bet it is! Although—

Griffin: God, soccer fields are so long, though, aren't they?

Rachel: Ohh... it seems less likely with soccer, 'cause ice—

Griffin: Yeah, because they use their hands.

Rachel: —ice really gives you the advantage, too.

Griffin: Yes, that's fair.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay. What I am talking about is when goalies score goals, and it's a crime against sports and God and humanity, and I love it so much. 'Cause I was wondering last night, like, has this happened? And you would think, like, the odds of that happening must be quite low, because a hockey rink is, I think, 200 feet wide? Uh, 180 feet from goal to goal. And that's a pretty long ways to shoot a— a puck.

Rachel: Yeah. Well, and also there's a lot of conditions, right? Because usually there is a goalie in the other goal.

Griffin: Right, who will—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —who, if they do not stop a puck that they see coming at them from 180 feet away, should not be working in professional sports, I would wager.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Uh, so it has happened. In the history of the NHL, 12 goalies have scored 15 goals. Uh, that's not many, right? When you consider how many games there are in a season across all the different teams and all the different sort of, like, divisions. Uh, you know, probably tens of thousands of games. Uh, it's happened 15 times, and each time it's just, like, a miracle and a fluke. Because in hockey, like, scoring a goal as a non-goalie is super hard.

Rachel: Yes, yes, yes.

Griffin: It is a— it is a low-scoring game, hockey is. Uh, and, you know, each goal is, like, a very exciting, precious gift.

Rachel: You should talk about the empty net, just in case we haven't addressed it.

Griffin: Yeah. So, typically at the end of the game, uh, in the last few minutes, typically around, like, two to three minutes left in the game, the team that is trailing, the team that is behind can pull their goalie to get an extra attacker on the ice, essentially.

Rachel: And by pull, it means that you take 'em out of the net.

Griffin: You take 'em out of the net. So your net is empty, but the other team has five players on the ice. You have six, right? Which is oftentimes, surprisingly often, enough to work, right? Like, you're essentially giving yourself a power play. But if the other team gets possession of the puck and can handle it for even a second, it can be an empty net goal, and that's— that's pretty much game over at that point.

Rachel: Well, and here's the thing, too. So, I don't know if this is necessary, but I think it's worth mentioning. Uh, so you've got your extra attacker on. Um, and if you shoot down towards the net, and it doesn't make it, it will be considered icing.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: And that will be a situation where the puck comes back to your end and there's a face off, and face offs can be really dangerous.

Griffin: Right, if you ice the puck, which means you hit it way too far down the ice in a way that could not be conceivably considered a pass, they put the puck right next to your goal, essentially, and it's very—

Rachel: So people usually don't take that shot. They don't take the shot from the other end of the net, unless they're pretty sure they can make it.

Griffin: And there are a handful of mad lads who have done this exact thing from the opposing net. And if— like, I am not one to watch classic sports clips or anything on YouTube—

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah.

Griffin: —but last night I watched all of the goalie goals that have happened in the history of the NHL, and it's so good, because it's always the hardest I've ever seen anyone celebrate.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, being a goalie is so stressful. It's so stressful. You are the linchpin for your team. Like, if you have a amazing game, your team will win, because they can't score on you.

Rachel: Yeah, and if you have a bad night, that's it.

Griffin: That's it.

Rachel: Like, there are so many players out there who, like, maybe don't have a great night, and they don't see a lot of ice time because the coach is like, "Get out of there, you're doing terrible." But you can't do that often with the goalie.

Griffin: Jordan Binnington has been, like, the star boy of the St. Louis Blues, because he was the goaltender in the 2019 season when they won the Stanley Cup, and he was a fucking demon. But he's been a little bit off his game this season, and so they've been putting in Ville Husso in there, who has now become sort of the star boy, and it's been really kind of, like, wild to see that happen.

Anyway, okay. So, uh, there's actually two ways that goalies earn goals. I know that there were 15 goalie goals that have happened. The two ways that it can happen are equally unlikely. The first is a goalie shoots a shot 180 feet across the ice into a six foot wide aperture—

Rachel: Nobody stops it.

Griffin: —without touching another play— any of the other 10 players on the— or 11 players on the ice, and getting it in the goal. Right? The other way is if the opposing team scores an own goal, which is, you know, pretty easy to figure out.

They hit the puck into their own goal. If your goalie was the last of your players to touch it, that goalie is awarded the goal.

Rachel: Goalies get a fair amount of assists.

Griffin: That's true.

Rachel: Like, you know, if the goalie hands it off to a player and that player makes it to the other end and scores, he gets an assist.

Griffin: He gets an assist, right.

Rachel: Which is a lot more likely than actually scoring the goal themselves.

Griffin: Then those two things, right? A goalie scoring a shot on goal, or an own goal happening where your team's goalie was the last one to touch it, are so equally unlikely. In fact, so equal that out of all 15 goalie goals, 8 have been shots on goal and 7 have been due to own goals, right? And it's always fun to see them get the own goal goals. Like, oh, how novel.

The 8, like, goals, shots on goal that goalies have scored, are so fucking dope. The first one to do it was Ron Hextall for the Philadelphia Flyers. He was the goalie for the Flyers. On December 8th, 1987, the Flyers were up by two goals. They had the game in the bag, essentially, so Ron Hextall was like, "I'm gonna have some fun with it." And so he sent this shot sailing well over everyone's heads, which is typically how goalies do score, because how do you dodge 11 players? You shoot it over them. And still somehow managed to get it right in the center of the net, and Ron Hextall popped the fuck off. Then this absolute beast did that shit again the following season, in a game against the Washington Capitals, and it ended up being an eight to five game, which is a bonkers hockey score. And it was a playoff game!

Rachel: Wow. [laughs]

Griffin: Ron Hextall did it in the playoffs! He's one of two goalies to score multiple goals. The other leader in the field is New Jersey Devils goaltender Martin Brodeur, who has three goals—

Rachel: [French accent] Martin.

Griffin: [attempts a French accent] Montan.

Rachel: [French accent] Martin.

Griffin: [attempts a French accent] Martin Brodeur.

Rachel: *C'est francais.*

Griffin: *C'est francais.*

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, my apologies. So, he had two pretty humiliating, like, own goals from the other team that he got to chalk up. But the one that he did score... the man— I've never seen a goalie jump.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But he scores this shot on— this miracle shot on goal and gets, like, four feet off the ground in celebration.

Rachel: He is, like, a real happy goaltender in general. Like, he just seems to be having a great time. And so to see him celebrate scoring a goal is just such a treat.

Griffin: And it, like— since then, like, it never happens. There was I think one in the 2013 season, and then one didn't happen for seven years. I forget who did, in the 2020 season a goalie scored with a shot on goal. But it's, like, so...

Rachel: Well, and it's— as the aforementioned icing thing, you're really kind of potentially putting yourself in a bad situation.

Griffin: [through laughter] Right?

Rachel: 'Cause if you miss, you just brought a face off back to your end, and you could potentially lose the lead. [laughs]

Griffin: It's so dumb, right?

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah.

Griffin: Like, it shouldn't ever, ever, ever happen.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: So, like, you might wonder, why— do goalies ever just, like, charge, right? There's this thing called a delayed penalty, right? Where if the opposing team does a penalty, you know, by hooking or tripping another player or doing anything, uh, but the team that was fouled has possession of the puck, they don't stop play right away. They let you keep going until the other team gets a hold of it, and then they stop play and do the power play and all that jazz.

So, like, you might think, like, can't a goalie just charge with the puck and, like, try to score on, like, a d— actually...

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: ... uh, the answer to that is no, because in 1967 the goalie for the Toronto Maple Leafs, a guy named Gary Smith, attempted that, and he got knocked the fuck out by a defenseman.

Rachel: Oh. [laughs]

Griffin: Which, like, goalie injuries are bad news bears. It's a reason why, like, if an opposing player, like, comes after your goalie a little bit too hard, you will usually see a fight. Because teams are very, very, very defensive of their goalies.

Rachel: Well, 'cause usually, yeah, usually your team, you've only got, like, a goalie and a backup goalie.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And there's maybe a third guy there, but he never sees the ice.
[laughs]

Griffin: Well, the Blues— well, during the COVID times...

Rachel: Yeah, that's fair.

Griffin: ... uh, the Blues had to put in a few, like, beer league players who actually did pretty good. Uh, so yeah, the NHL instituted a rule that goalies can't cross the center line with the puck.

Rachel: I have a dream— uh, and get ready guys. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah?

Rachel: That in the all star break where they bring all the best players together, they would do just a game with just a bunch of goalies, in full goalie uniform—

Griffin: Oh boy.

Rachel: —playing all positions, and it would just be the best thing to watch!

Griffin: It would be the best thing to watch. It would never happen in a million years!

Rachel: [through laughter] I know.

Griffin: There's so much pressure— so many beautiful Faberge eggs just slip-sliding around. Um, that's all I've got. It's, like, seriously watch some clips. Watch the [French accent] Martin Brodeur clip—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —of him scoring that goal. Because, like, it's always fun to watch somebody, like, pop off, I feel like, in sports. When it's like, uh, I don't know, pure and wholesome. And goalie goals celebrations are so wholesome, because they should not happen ever.

Rachel: Well, and they probably haven't prepared a celebration.

Griffin: No!

Rachel: You know? I have to imagine some hockey players have, like, signature celebrations, and I don't imagine a goalie has one.

Griffin: [through laughter] No— Martin Brodeur just kind of, like... "[high pitched] Yay! Yippee!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It is so good. Hey, can I steal you away?

Rachel: Yes.

[ad break]

Griffin: Got a couple dumbopops here, and this first one's for Amy, and it *is* from Jay, who says:

"Amy! If you hear this message, it means I wanted the world of podcasting to know how excited I am about our upcoming baby boy. We may be a little anxious, but I think we're gonna kick butt at raising this kid. I love ya, I love our new family, and I love this show too, even if they like the Blues too much. Go Stars. From your soulmate and BFF, Jay."

[loudly and distantly] Boooo!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You like different sports guys than us.

Rachel: Yeah...

Griffin: [sarcastically] So that means we hate you.

Rachel: Aww.

Griffin: That's right! Thanks for the sweet message.

Rachel: [laughs] Can I read the next one?

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: This message is for Chase. It is from Reagan.

"I bet you were wondering why I made you listen to this random episode. Well, it's to show how much I love you! You're my best friend, and our status as

platonic soulmates was confirmed when we reentered our *Star Wars* phases at the same time and agreed that Mando and Luke should kiss."

So, what does that mean?

Griffin: That the Mandalorian, or just—

Rachel: The Mandalorian's an individual?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Rachel: I always thought it was like a...

Griffin: A ship?

Rachel: A planet or a ship.

Griffin: Well, I mean, Mandalore is the planet that the Mandalorians come from.

Rachel: And I think I'm thinking of DeLorean from *Back to the Future*.

Griffin: You may be thinking of that. That's okay, though. You don't need to—here's the thing. You don't need to know any of this stuff.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It's so not useful to anything that will ever happen in your life, except for I guess this exact moment.

Rachel: Right now. Can I read the last sentence?

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: "Thanks for letting me drag you into TAZ and being the Taako to my Lup."

Griffin: You love to hear that. We always say, drag them kicking and screaming into the automobile where our podcasts are playing.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Lock the doors from the inside out.

Rachel: Yeah, we— we—

Griffin: There is— there is no escape.

Rachel: We don't say recommend it to a friend. We said, force a friend.

Griffin: Force a friend.

Rachel: To listen to a McElroy product.

Griffin: To join the— the experience.

Rachel: [laughs]

[music plays]

Speaker One: Hey. Were you a reader as a kid? Like, maybe you read a lot of fantasy novels?

Speaker Two: Or horse girl books. We know how it is.

Speaker One: But now you're an adult, and you miss reading. You're so busy, and you can't figure out how to get back into books.

Speaker Two: We are *Reading Glasses*, and we're here to help.

Speaker One: Yeah. We'll give you advice to figure out what books you love, or learn to stop reading books you don't even like.

Speaker Two: We're really big proponents of dumping that book.

Speaker One: Dump that book!

Speaker Two: But most importantly, we'll help you fall back in love with reading. *Reading Glasses*, every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[music and ad end]

Rachel: Alright. I want to give you a hint for my *Wonderful!* topic.

Griffin: Ooh! Okay, okay.

Rachel: Maybe a couple hints?

Griffin: Okay, okay?

Rachel: Depending on how fun this is.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: Okay. The first hint is... y'all ready for this?

Griffin: Is it *Jock Jams*?

Rachel: Yes! That was incredible!

Griffin: Babe— what?!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You—[sighs] you said the most iconic line from the most iconic *Jock Jams* song.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It would be like, "I wanna talk about something. You want a little hint? 'Hey, Jude.'"

Rachel: [laughs] I could've been talking about the band that sang that song.

Griffin: Tell me the name of that band?

Rachel: [chuckles] Hmm...

Griffin: Is that C&C Music Factory? "Y'all Ready For This?" Or Quad City DJs?

Rachel: [humming]

Griffin: That's Quad City DJs. You don't have to look it up. It's Quad City DJs.

Rachel: It is not.

Griffin: [gasps loudly]

Rachel: 2 Unlimited.

Griffin: 2 Unlimited! So what did Quad City— Quad City DJs did the *Space Jam* theme?

Rachel: And they did the— and the "Ride The Train".

Griffin: Yes! Man, what a good era. What a good era for music.

Rachel: [laughs] What a great time in our lives.

Griffin: Damn! Quite a sporty episode we've woven together here.

Rachel: Yeah, I know! This one's for the real sportos. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Yeah. Alright, tell me about *Jock Jams*.

Rachel: *Jock Jams*. Okay, so... if you were a 90's kid...

Griffin: [high pitched mumbling]

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, you probably have, like, an intimate connection to *Jock Jams*. For me, it was at my dance classes we would do, like, a little warm up stretch, and we would always listen to the *Jock Jams*.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Uh, cheerleaders did a lot of the *Jock Jams*. I would imagine if you were an athlete, I was not, maybe you listened to the *Jock Jams* as, like, a pump up.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Do you have a *Jock Jams*—

Griffin: Lost my virginity to *Jock Jams*.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: It was actually the *Mortal Kombat* film theme song? I don't know if that is— if you would call that a Jock Jam?

Rachel: Uh-huh?

Griffin: I feel like you could. 'Cause it had that, like, [humming]. You know that one? No, I'm sorry, it was Darude's "Sandstorm" is what it—

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: —[holding back laughter] what a special engagement that was. You remember, babe! It was, uh, ten years ago. Uh, very special, my year in Austin.

Rachel: Ohh, and we were listening to that because you saved yourself.

Griffin: I saved myself.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: For... pre-marriage.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Anyway, *Jock Jams*.

Rachel: Do you have a connection to *Jock Jams*, though? Seriously?

Griffin: I mean, yeah, duh! Yeah, of course!

Rachel: [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Yes, of course! Like, we went roller skating on a sort of biweekly basis, uh, for, like, different birthday parties and middle school events. And, like, the lazy ass DJ would just put on the *Jock Jams* CD and, like, go smoke a bowl out in the parking lot.

Rachel: [laughs] Yeah, let me tell you. *Jock Jams* Vol. 1 came out in 1995. It included "Whoomp! (There It Is)"...

Griffin: Oh-ho.

Rachel: "Tootsie Roll."

Griffin: Yes!

Rachel: "Come Baby Come."

Griffin: Oh!

Rachel: "Gonna Make You Sweat."

Griffin: Yes you are!

Rachel: [laughs] Uh, "Hip Hop Hooray" by Naughty By Nature.

Griffin: Yes!

Rachel: Uh, "Pump Up The Jam" by Technotronic.

Griffin: Oh my God!

Rachel: Right? Aren't these all, uh—

Griffin: They're all— all of them are great.

Rachel: "Unbelievable" by EMF.

Griffin: Oh my God!

Rachel: Right? So I mentioned Naughty By Nature, and that is actually not a coincidence. So, this idea for *Jock Jams* came from the president, Monica Lynch, at Tommy Boy Records, which was a label that worked with De La Soul, Coolio, Afrika Bambaataa, Queen Latifah, Ru Paul, Digital Underground, House of Pain, and Naughty by Nature.

Griffin: Fuck Yes! I don't think I ever realized those were all on the same label.

Rachel: So, Monica Lynch was attending Knicks games at Madison Square Garden and noticed, like, they're playing the same songs over and over again.

Griffin: Bette Midler, um...

Rachel: [laughs] Celine Dion.

Griffin: Celine Dion, the Guess Who.

Rachel: Uh, and thought, like, wouldn't it be great if we put an album together, a lot of these artists. Uh, 'cause it's... pretty profitable. Like, you don't have to, like, launch a new artist. You don't have to sign or develop or record. You just got, you know. And her thought was, if they're playing these at sporting events they must not be too difficult to license, you know?

Griffin: This is not an exaggeration. This may be the greatest idea of all time.

Rachel: [laughs] I know. Well, it was a new concept. So, if you read about it, the idea of listening to pump up jams was not really a thing people were doing, because at the time, if you wanted an artist's song you would buy the single, or you would have to buy the whole album. And putting all those together was kind of an expensive process for somebody, um, that didn't have, you know, like, a CD burner, you know?

Griffin: Right, yeah.

Rachel: Or a way to, you know, put that together themselves.

Griffin: And to plant a flag and to say, "This is sports music."

Rachel: [through laughter] Yeah.

Griffin: And have that be so impactful that to this day, that's still sports mu—

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: Like, they're still playing.

Rachel: I know. And that's part of the problem, right? For *Jock Jams* their success kind of dwindled after a few albums, because arenas are still playing those songs. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, they were like, "We don't need any more *Jock Jams*, thank you! We have a lot of great *Jock Jams*."

Rachel: Uh, so part of the success was also that, uh, this record label partnered with ESPN to promote the album, so they did television ads on ESPN.

Griffin: Yeah, I remember those.

Rachel: So they, like, went straight to their audience and said, like, "Hey, you know how you love these pump up jams? Now you can get them in one place."

Griffin: [whispering] God almighty.

Rachel: I know.

Griffin: It was a good time, wasn't it?

Rachel: I know. So, at the time when *Jock Jams* was at its peak, it was providing about 30% of the label's income.

Griffin: That's a lot. [laughs quietly]

Rachel: Which is incredible. Yeah, I know. It's— it's—

Griffin: For a compilation C— that's like if, like, *Now That's What I Call Music* is Columbia Records top earn— well, that might be true too, actually. I don't know. I don't know what label does *Now That's What I Call Music*.

Rachel: So there was a *Jock Jams* Vol. 1. Vol. 2 came out in '96, Vol. 3, '97. Uh, they did some additional ones. Vol. 4. Um...

Griffin: I bet I can guess what the next one's called.

Rachel: I don't know.

Griffin: [holding back laughter] Is it Vol. 5?

Rachel: [laughs] Well, I don't know that they did a Vol. 5. Hold on, let me check.

Griffin: Wow. Whoa.

Rachel: Yeah, no, Vol. 5 was the last one, and then that was in '99. And then in 2001 they did the *All Star Jock Jams*.

Griffin: Wow.

Rachel: And that was it. Uh, part of the problem, as I mentioned, arenas kept using the same music. Also, Napster! In 2001, Napster came out and everybody could make their own mix CD. Done.

Griffin: Yeah, I guess that sort of sweeps the legs—

Rachel: It's over. [laughs]

Griffin: —out of the mix CD economy.

Rachel: Um, but I will also say, not just for jocks, as I mentioned. A lot of, you know, people were exercising. They wanted some pump up music in their Discman.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: *Jock Jams* was for you.

Griffin: I just like the idea of the C&C Music Factory coming down from the mount with these four tablets and just saying, "These are sp— this is sports music!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: "This is sports music, everyone. Listen. Listen up and... party, and dunk."

Rachel: Are you curious about the very last *Jock Jams*? You'll see a—

Griffin: When did it— what year did it come out? 2—

Rachel: Uh—

Griffin: 2000?

Rachel: —2000... er, 2000... hmm. 1999, actually.

Griffin: 1999. Good lord almighty.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Didn't even clear the millennium.

Rachel: So here's— you'll see a real change.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Uh, "Ray Of Light" by Madonna.

Griffin: Hmmm?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: I mean, it's got a— it's got a beat you could dance to.

Rachel: It does. It does. Um...

Griffin: Maybe not a hook you can dunk to, though.

Rachel: "All I Have To Give" by Backstreet Boys.

Griffin: [horrified] No, what?!

Rachel: "We Like To Party" by The Vengaboys. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: [laughs] Uh—

Griffin: Is that the— yeah, that's the [humming]. I only know that 'cause the chorus goes "We like to party."

Rachel: Exactly. Uh, I will say, the most successful one was Vol. 2, and they think a large portion of that success was because "Macarena" was on it. [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, wow. Yeah, people probably didn't know where to get "Macarena."

Rachel: I mean, I don't know if you ever bought singles.

Griffin: Sure.

Rachel: But that was, like, a real thing, was that you kind of— you would look at the album, you would see that the only song you recognized on it was the only song you really wanted to listen to, and you could get a single for, like...

Griffin: Five bucks, yeah.

Rachel: Yeah, like half the price. Uh, but you purchase *Jock Jams*—

Griffin: You get all the singles.

Rachel: —you can get "Macarena."

Griffin: I mean, I had several *Now That's what I Call Music* for this exact— for this exact reason.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Um, and, you know, you could also get "This Is How We Do It" by Montell Jordan on that same album.

Griffin: Ooh, it *is* how we do it, Montell.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: How wild. This is such a— thank you for bringing this.

Rachel: You're welcome.

Griffin: Because it has not sunk in to me until this very moment that in the last decade of— of that millennium., we figured out what all the sports music was gonna be for the rest of time.

Rachel: [laughs] For the rest of time! That's the thing.

Griffin: And have not tou— I mean, "Sandstorm" has joined the pantheon, and I'm pretty sure that came out... I don't know when Darude did his work. Uh, I would be hard pressed to think of— maybe "Cotton-Eyed Joe"? But for all I know, that was on one of the *Jock Jams*!

Rachel: I will say, and I don't know if this is true at all, um, hockey arenas, but the Blues still play "Right Now" by Van Halen at the beginning of the game when they're, like, all coming to, like, you know, warm up before the game starts. And I'm like, "Still?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: "Van Halen?"

Griffin: They should come out to Glor— I miss Gloria. I know it was, like, the one season thing, but...

Rachel: Maybe a superstition of, like, you don't— you don't ride the back of a previous song into the new...

Griffin: But they haven't done as good!

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Since they got rid of it! They haven't done as good! That's like the opposite of a superstition. Anyway... they can't not win the 2019 Stanley Cup. They already did it, you know what I mean? So what's there to be superstitious about? What's the worst that could happen, guys?

Rachel: I mean...

Griffin: They could fall out of playoff contention, I suppose.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Hey, thank you so much.

Rachel: And it would be entirely the fault of the song. [laughs quietly]

Griffin: And me, for suggesting the thing. Um, thank you to Bo En and Augustus. Thank you— speaking of *Jock Jams*, for the use of our theme song—

Rachel: Ooh, yeah!

Griffin: —"Money Won't Pay." I could ball to that.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Uh, you can find a link to that in the episode description. Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. So much great stuff over at Maximumfun.org that you should go listen to and have fun with and explore.

Rachel: Should I list off a couple? It's been a while.

Griffin: Yeah, sure!

Rachel: Uh, we've got *Beef and Dairy Network*.

Griffin: Yeah we do.

Rachel: We've got *FANTI*.

Griffin: Yeah we do!

Rachel: *Flop House*.

Griffin: Yeah we do.

Rachel: Uh, *JV Club*.

Griffin: Yeah we do.

Rachel: Many, many more.

Griffin: And many, many more. Uh, we have merch over at mcelroymerch.com. Hey! We're gonna be on tour in St. Louis, Kansas City, and Minneapolis, here in just a little bit. April 20th through the 23rd. And you can find tickets and links and everything at themcelroy.family. Please come see us.

Rachel: I am so excited about the St. Louis show.

Griffin: I know, yeah.

Rachel: I'm getting to live the dream of so many people, in that I get to go to my hometown and I get to walk out onstage.

Griffin: It's pretty sick.

Rachel: And hopefully, fingers crossed, people will clap.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And I would like you to be there to clap.

Griffin: Please be there and clap.

Rachel: And I'm speaking to you, the listener that has not yet purchased tickets.

Griffin: You're thinking someone else will go and clap for you. No. Be the change.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, I think that's it. Thank you all so much. I had a lot of fun today. I had a lot of fun talking about sports with you today.

Rachel: I know! You think we alienated a lot of our listeners?

Griffin: No! Because it's not like— we talked about fun sports. We talked about party music to do sports to, and silly— silly—

Rachel: Crazy sports bloopers.

Griffin: Sports bloopers, essentially.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: But positive sports— sports bloopers that have a positive impact on your life.

Rachel: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: That's the new... description of this podcast.

Rachel: [laughs]

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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