

Wonderful! 178: Tamagotchi Baby

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[theme music plays]

Rachel:

Hello this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin:

Hi, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel:

And this is wonderful, the fastest episode ever.

Griffin:

Oh, you know why? Because [singing] we created life with [mumbling].

Rachel:

People always say that they like the soft, you know, soothing tones of our early Henry episodes

Griffin:

Oh, well they're gonna... [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Well this, this won't be quite as... We're in a, hi this is a wonderful show, we talk about things we like, things we [speaking too fast to be coherent]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, we're in a different house now, so we have a little bit more space between the studio and our room and the, the babies.

Rachel:

Yeah, they used to share a wall and now this, we, we don't have that circumstance.

Griffin:

Right, so it won't be quiet but it will be fast. It'll be what we called in the theater community rain pace.

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

Uh, because... Yeah that's where you will make a show go faster because it looked like it was gonna rain and so like...

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Sometimes you would just skip entire scenes-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... if they seemed, you know, sort of unnecessary, just because like...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... if you can get through the first act, and then it's starts raining, you get to keep their money.

Rachel:

Oh, that's fascinating.

Griffin:

I mean, that's how we did things at Huntington Outdoor Theater. It's, it's, anyway, we had a baby, Rachel had the, Rachel had the baby.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, but, but I helped.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, yeah, so we thought, uh, we would talk about it. So if you are not somebody that is interested or, you know, is uncomfortable with hearing about, uh, birth of a child, this-

Griffin:

Well, I mean, yeah, it's not gonna get particularly anatomical but, um-

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs] Um, I am not one to get-

Griffin:

This is-

Rachel:

... uh, graphic but...

Griffin:

This is the soft relaunch I would say of Wonderful!

Rachel:

Mm-hmm

Griffin:

Uh, we hope you enjoyed our hockey and old bad writing episodes.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Because they are fun to do those.

Rachel:

And our live show.

Griffin:

And our live show and, uh, we're, we're, we would probably have skipped this week, but we wanted to also let you know that next week Max Fun Drive starts.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

And we're gonna have a lot of, uh, great stuff for you there, including a bonus episode that [laughs] we never recorded. It's been a bit of a mess.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Maybe let's start there. Maybe let's start the conversation there. Our first child Henry is four years old now.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Which is bonkers, I think by, by any measure. And he was a difficult newborn.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Who turned into a really great toddler.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Who, who, who has been nothing but a, a joy. Any behavioral issues I say are, are easily quashed and he's so-

Rachel:

Yeah, he does not.

Griffin:

So-

Rachel:

... he does not have a temper. He always, uh, he always ate very eagerly.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, he just had various medical issues that him a more challenging baby than he may have otherwise been.

Griffin:

Right. He was kind of, kind of tiny, he had low muscle tone, which is a, a, basically a pretty broad diagnosis of he was a weak-

Rachel:

Yeah. And then he was behind on all these physical milestones.

Griffin:

Yeah. No gains.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, and that made it harder for him to eat, which-

Rachel:

And then as you all know, 'cause I've mentioned it before, he had a milk protein allergy, which meant that I couldn't eat dairy or soy if I was gonna nurse him.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

And so that made a lot of other things challenging too.

Griffin:

Yes. It meant that basically he would not sleep longer than what, 45 minutes at a time? Which was terrible, which was very, very difficult.

Rachel:

Yeah, I remember asking in our pediatrician if 20 minutes of sleep was restorative in any way, because that was about what he was getting.
[laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah. Um, so yeah, that was rough. I would say by about, certainly by a year it was easier. Um...

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Certainly prob- Probably by about six months he was doing a little bit better at night.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And, uh, I mean it was sleep deprivation for us.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it was very bad.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And one of the darker periods of, of our life. And that's one of the things that they don't really tell you, especially before your first child, but you kind of know to expect it for the second is like, it's okay if this isn't your favorite part of the process? It, it certainly wasn't mine with Henry.

Rachel:

No. And I will also say that [laughs] when our first child was born, Griffin and I were not, uh, talking to therapists-

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

... or taking any kind of medication to support our mental health.

Griffin:

No, no, no, no.

Rachel:

And we crashed pretty hard that first year.

Griffin:

It was fucking bad man.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, and at, at, at the same time though, like, I don't know. I, I feel like that's something I tell people now when they are expecting or trying to get pregnant or whatever, like it's, it's okay if you don't have that like fairytale [laughs] newborn experience, because there's a very real chance that you will not. Um, and that's okay. Like there's, it doesn't have to be like you're... It doesn't have to be this sad thing. Right? It just means that... It just means that there's different parts of the process that are gonna be better for you than others.

Rachel:

Yeah. I mean, when you're in it, it feels like a very long time.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

But in the grand scheme of things, it is a, it is a small portion of their life.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

Um, my therapist referred to those like easy babies as accessory babies, in that you could just bring them anywhere and do anything with them and they just complimented your lifestyle. [laughs]

Griffin:

That's cool. Sounds so rad like a little Tamagotchi. You just press a button on them and they go back to sleep for 18 more hours.

Rachel:

That was on our experience with Henry. And that is not our experience thus far.

Griffin:

Yeah. So far hasn't been an accessory.

Rachel:

Oh I guess.

Griffin:

He's been accessory to, I would say fart crimes.

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

Gus has been. He's been a perpetrator of fart crimes. He's the gassiest boy.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

He's a, he is inflatable, this child, I would say.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Griffin and I are problem solvers. We like to troubleshoot. We like to research.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

Uh, we have done a lot of research on gassy babies thus far.

Griffin:

Yeah. Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, which for me as, as the, the mom often involves just kind of trying to point fingers at things I could be doing better.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

Uh, which is not great. [laughs]

Griffin:

No. Um... No, it's, it's, it ain't that, it's just, it's, it's babies are weird, man.

Rachel:

They're born too early.

Griffin:

They're born too early. Babies should be a year old when they're born.

Rachel:

[laughs] I didn't want to carry him in my body longer.

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

'Cause, uh, he was a very large baby. But they're born before their digestive system can do anything.

Griffin:

It's, all of this is to say that things have been very tough. I would say around here.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Henry's been amazing. Like he has been-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... so, so good. Maybe a bit of a reversion of him like acting like a baby. A little bit more, but like, he's been very sweet with Gus. Have we said the baby's name? Gus, his name is Gus.

Rachel:

Yeah. Is August Clinton McElroy.

Griffin:

August Clinton McElroy.

Rachel:

We call him Gus.

Griffin:

Uh, and it's been tough. Like we've, we're late on this recording. We're late on our bonus recording. We're late on a lot of things. We're a bit, bit drackled.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so I guess there's a good time to say we've been talking about doing, uh, for the, a little while at least a different, uh, um.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

All of this is to say for a little while at least. And I know that the, the timing's not great here because Max Fun Drive is about to start. Uh, we're gonna drop back to one topic each per episode. Maybe spend a little bit more time exploring that topic, but keeping the episodes a little bit closer to a half hour, which was the original intent of the show, but...

Rachel:

Maybe we'll play some games. We'll-

Griffin:

Maybe but...

Rachel:

We'll do some, some impromptu songs.

Griffin:

Yes

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And once this child starts to sleep and not be... He's so angry.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

He's so angry all the... Henry wasn't angry. He was just, he was just sickly.

Rachel:

Yeah. So Gus is... I mean, we should probably start off by saying Gus is opposite of Henry in lot of ways.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

Um, as I mentioned, he was a very large baby. He-

Griffin:

Henry was six pounds nine ounces when he was born.

Rachel:

Yes. Gus was nine pounds, nine ounces. [laughs] So he almost...

Griffin:

50% more baby.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yes.

Griffin:

If you think about that way, a full three fucking pounds bigger. So-

Rachel:

And I... Yeah. And I will say we had been warned, you know, I had various doctors telling me that he looked large, uh...

Griffin:

10 pounds was what they were saying.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Which, uh, is un-unthinkable now.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah. Big, big head, big torso. Um, and, so when he was born, uh, there are certain protocol for big babies.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, one of which is making sure that the glucose level is appropriate. 'Cause a lot of times those babies are born and they can't regulate their blood sugar, they're so big. [laughs]

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

Uh, and Gus did pretty well.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

But, uh, there's like a 36 hour test that he didn't pass. So we had to start doing formula, which was not anything we did early with Henry.

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

Uh, and I, I'm gonna say I'm grateful.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's such a, it's such a touchy topic of conversation-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... amongst new parents.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And, and it gets touchier the more research that those parents do into it, of, of, you know, being breast fed versus being formula fed and the various benefits of both.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it's such, it's, it's touchy for so many reasons because, and Rachel can speak to this obviously much better than I can, but it's a very intimate thing.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it's a very primordial thing, but it's also like not a thing every, everyone can do or wants to do and there's pressures-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and, and all this stuff. And [laughs] like, it was kind of awesome. Having a doctor just say like, you have to give this baby something in, in addition to breast milk.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, because he's, he's so big. And we were like, "Okay, whatever you say." And it's made things a bit easier.

Rachel:

Yeah. I mean, the thing that happens is if you decide, uh, if you are somebody that can breastfeed and you decide to do that exclusively, you are taking full responsibility-

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

... uh, the majority of the time. And that means that you are doing all the wake ups, and anytime the baby cries you are the first line of defense. And I did that with Henry for a long time and it was very, very, very hard.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And I stuck with it because of the allergy largely, because that limited our formula options.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, this time around, we are doing both, where what's called like supplementing with formula and, uh, welcome to the field Griffin McElroy.

Griffin:

Hello. Hello everybody.

Rachel:

MVP.

Griffin:

Glad to be here. Yeah.

Rachel:

Has made this experience a lot better for me.

Griffin:

Yeah. I'm glad I could do that for you.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I know, I like it. I enjoy it. It, it genuinely is, um, I don't wanna be like, "Everything changes."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah. But it is a powerful thing feeding a baby-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... because it, it, it, you do get into that like deep in your genes, deep in your soul, like I am nourishing life.

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

Um, and that's, and that's awesome. And mostly it's awesome that I'm able to not feel like a complete sack of shit-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... all the time. Uh, because I'm able to actually con, you know, contribute in a meaningful way, especially at nighttime.

Rachel:

Yeah. So-

Griffin:

Which is pretty great.

Rachel:

So, so I will say that there are some pros to this baby.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

Uh, one of which is that he is capable, although he chooses not to, but he is capable of sleeping more than three hours in one go. Which-

Griffin:

Yeah, he's done it a few times now. It's awesome.

Rachel:

... is unparalleled for us.

Griffin:

Yeah it's so good.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah. It's not even sleep isn't even the problem I would say this time. It's, it is, uh, a different kind of exhaustion because his fussiness doesn't manifest

in he doesn't sleep. It manifests in... Again, the opposite of Henry during the daytime. He cannot be put down.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, which is like, I'm not as tired. I'm not as delirious as I was with Henry, but I am hurting. Like my body is-

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... genuinely very sore from the weird angles that I have to put my body in to feed this, this newborn baby. It's like disarming a bomb and like I'm contorting myself to make sure the bottle angle, and his head angle, and my body angle.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And like, it's, it's, uh, it's, it's a lot.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That part for whatever reason is a lot harder. I don't want this whole episode to be like, "Babies can be different from each other."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But, um, it was a strike-

Rachel:

We, we had hoped, and I had often told people when they asked me, "Would you have a second?" I said, "Well, it has to be easier than the first."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

I almost need a guarantee that this second will be easier because I feel, uh, so weary from that experience still to this day. And, um, while there are parts that are easier, uh, it is still very, very hard.

Griffin:

It's still tough.

Rachel:

Yeah. I, I guess this first month or so has been fast in some ways.

Griffin:

Hmm.

Rachel:

But also every day is just getting through it. [laughs]

Griffin:

It's a battle you are battling for every minute of sleep that the, that the baby gets. And it's, it turns into like spell craft at a certain point, where it's like, "Okay, if we do the nasal drops-"

Rachel:

I know. [laughs]

Griffin:

"... 10 minutes before, and then we do half of a bottle of, of breast milk."

Rachel:

Mm-hmm

Griffin:

A three ounce bottle. We do half of that. And then we can put him in a swaddle.

Rachel:

And the white noise, and the fan, and the humidifier.

Griffin:

It needs to be exactly 73 degrees. It's like we're feeling like a shitty rockstar's writer-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... every, every nap time.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, of which we attempt a few a day. Um...

Rachel:

Yeah. And I, I mean, I don't think it's possible to regulate a baby this young.

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

But it is just every instinct that we have. [laughs]

Griffin:

Right. Yeah. I mean, it's tough to backpedal from a four year old who I can say, "What do you want to eat today?" And he will say four chicken nuggets. And I will say, "Ketchup?" He will say, "Not today." And I will say, "Okay." And I'll make the four chicken nuggets.

Rachel:

Yeah. I, I understand. Like Griffin and I talked about like what if they had been closer in age? And part of that seems terrible.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm [laughs]

Rachel:

Because, uh, at least with Henry, he can entertain himself and...

Griffin:

Dude just started wiping his own butt and it's like...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Mommy. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Mommy [laughs] Oh my God. Yes.

Rachel:

Yeah. He, uh, he can use the bathroom by himself and that is a...

Griffin:

So choice.

Rachel:

... a wonderful thing.

Griffin:

Now, is he the best butt wiper?

Rachel:

No.

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

No. No. I would argue there are adult men that are not particularly good butt wipers.

Griffin:

True.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, but, uh, it does mean that we have had a lot more distance between, uh, infancy and now, and so we remembered some stuff, didn't remember other stuff.

Griffin:

Some other stuff. Yeah.

Rachel:

But everybody says it gets better. We know that it does.

Griffin:

We know it do- Yeah.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It, it, it almost has to. I don't know, unless he, unless the anger he has now manifests into something more, more sinister.

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] To be honest.

Rachel:

So when we say angry, we mean that if he gets too sleepy or too hungry, he will refuse to do either, even though that is very much what he wants.

Griffin:

Yeah. Um-

Rachel:

So we will, if we wait too long to feed him, or if he goes too long without napping, he would rather scream and cry than actually address his needs.

Griffin:

And he did sort of, um, headbutt me in the bridge of my nose, like a-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... like a soccer fan or something like that, uh, in a way that was pretty painful during one of these freak outs. And part of you wants to just be like, he's a baby. He doesn't know what he is doing. But part of me wants to be like, "Hey, hey buddy, fucking watch it. You can't do that to me. I'm your dad."

Rachel:

I, I will, I will say with Henry, Henry didn't seem to have much of a temper. So if he was...

Griffin:

He was so weak. Holy shit.

Rachel:

He was very weak.

Griffin:

He could never... This is him trying to head butt me.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Nothing.

Rachel:

He couldn't support his like own head until he was like six months.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And so the aggression was always very mild.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm. More passive-aggressive. Just, he gave you a lot of looks, like really? No, come on. Um, Gus will scratch and punch you, though.

Rachel:

Yeah. So Gus is a tank, uh, which makes everything hard. Uh, but will hopefully give us an easier time in the long run.

Griffin:

The cheeks game though.

Rachel:

Oh, he's got...

Griffin:

[laughs]

Rachel:

His head is large. And so his cheeks alone could be the head of a small baby.

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's, his head is perfectly spherical. He looks like Mr. Fucking baseball.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's, it's, it's insane this kid's head. It's amazing. Um...

Rachel:

Our pediatrician, I think like, obviously with this is our second kid and our first kid had a large head. And so when he told us, "Oh, and he's, um, well this one 99th percentile," and we were like, "Yep. Yeah."

Griffin:

Yeah. Yeah. Sure.

Rachel:

He said that like we would be surprised.

Griffin:

Oh, and his, his belly is also 99th percentile. And so the, what you get, and his arms and legs are pretty small.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And so what you get is a sort of weird snowman.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

With vestigial limbs.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, just love him so much.

Griffin:

I love him. I love him a lot.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Okay. Let's, kind of let's steal you away and we'll, then we'll complain some more. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

[ad break]

Speaker 3:

Mr. [Ruboman 00:19:22], what are you doing?

Speaker 4:

I'm just taking one last look at my coworkers.

Speaker 5:

Every journey comes to an end.

Master Kiron:

Remember Pleck, the space will be with you always.

Pleck:

Sorry. Who are you again?

Master Kiron:

It's Master Kiron.

Pleck:

Oh, right, right. Right. Sorry [laughs]

Master Kiron:

Just calling in.

Speaker 5:

Friendships will be tested.

Speaker 7:

Darl you have to do it. You have to shoot Pleck.

Darl:

Okay.

Speaker 8:

Well you shot up so fast.

Speaker 5:

Destinies will be fulfilled.

Speaker 9:

I've become a complete bird. I'm flying. I'm flying.

Speaker 5:

On April 28th, the saga starts concluding.

Speaker 11:

Guys, we don't have a choice. We have to put on a show.

Speaker 12:

We can do it in the old barn. We've got the costume. We got a stage. We can do it you guys.

Speaker 5:

Mission to Zyxx, the final season on Maximum Fun.

Griffin:

Um, I don't know how much you wanna actually talk about birth experience.

Rachel:

Yeah. I, I did actually want to a little bit, because I had what is probably common for a lot of people, uh, which is where the first child has to be delivered via C-section due to some complications. Ours weren't serious, thankfully. Um-

Griffin:

They were kind of [laughs] my man had the cord wrapped himself like four times.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah. But it wasn't like an emergency. It wasn't like, it wasn't-

Griffin:

Yeah. It was a pseudo emergency.

Rachel:

It was a-

Griffin:

There was some sweat happening in the room.

Rachel:

Yeah. But he wasn't, uh...

Griffin:

In [crosstalk 00:21:02]-

Rachel:

He didn't go to the NICU.

Griffin:

Right. Yeah.

Rachel:

He came out fine.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

He just couldn't get out on his own. So the second baby I had pretty much planned on. And then especially when I found out how large he was.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Was having, uh, a scheduled C-section, which I didn't know anything about.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And nobody really ever told me.

Griffin:

Yeah. Yeah. It's, it is, you hear it and it's not a joke for your second baby that you are not quite as pampered by-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... any medical professionals along the way. Where it's just like, "You know the fucking drill. You come to the hospital, a human comes out, you give him milk and we kick you the fuck out in three days.

Rachel:

[laughs] Or two.

Griffin:

Or two, as was the case with you.

Rachel:

Yeah. As in-

Griffin:

'Cause you're a rock star.

Rachel:

[laughs] And they, um, I guess they figured since I had had one before, but the first time I had been in labor for a very long time, I was somewhat frightened and uh, I didn't really know what was happening.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And so when they were like, "We're gonna do it again." I was like, "Okay. And what is that?" And they were like, "You show up and we'll take care of the rest."

Griffin:

[laughs] Yeah. Um, but in their defense, that is more or less what happened.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah. So we, I thought for sure I was gonna have this baby early, Henry was early. This one was very big. I thought there's no way I'm making it to 39 weeks and four days, but turns out that's exactly what happened.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And we showed up, uh, that morning and they put us in a room with what seemed like six other couples. [laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah. [laughs] It was a hot day for creating babies.

Rachel:

It was like a reality show almost in that we could hear the other couples getting ready for their birth experience-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... right next to us.

Griffin:

See- and seeing a lot of, uh, of dudes like coming in in their gowns and hair nets, just like sitting down and like staring bullets at the floor. And I wanted to just like walk up and be like, "First time, huh." There's a part of me that like was riding a little bit high there like, "Oh, uh, you don't know this tango. Huh?"

Rachel:

Yeah. And so very little privacy, um, very little sense of kind of what, uh, the timeline is going to be, and what they tell you. So this, this was maybe the worst part for me, because what they tell you is you're gonna go under anesthesia, uh, or not anesthesia, but, you know, you're gonna have the epidural and, and we're, we're gonna put all sorts of stuff in your body. So we don't want you to eat or drink after midnight because we don't [laughs] wanna operate on a gremlin.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, and so I was very dehydrated and they had to put an IV in and it took five times maybe.

Griffin:

It was one of the worst things I think I've, it was, and, and we came away from this thinking like, this is kind of a badass thing to say and have it be the truth, but putting the IV in was the worst part of the whole experience.

Rachel:

Yeah. And this is probably very relatable for a lot of people. Um, because, uh, a lot of people have this issue of, of techs trying to find veins and having trouble. Uh, this is not something that usually happens to me because the inside of my elbow, A+ 100%.

Griffin:

Good stuff there.

Rachel:

Good stuff there.

Griffin:

Oh, we love it.

Rachel:

Didn't realize that-

Griffin:

Chunky veins and big.

Rachel:

[laughs] Because you're gonna be holding a baby wanna use your hands or the tops of your arms.

Griffin:

Just [crosstalk 00:24:13] vascularity.

Rachel:

And I, and I've got, I've got nothing good at the tops of my hands when I am that dehydrated.

Griffin:

Well it's because you're a classically trained flutist.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And your hands are...

Rachel:

I will say when I'm hydrated, a lot of good veins.

Griffin:

Yeah, sure, sure.

Rachel:

But that was not the case. And so-

Griffin:

But you're almost never hydrated.

Rachel:

[laughs] So Griffin had to fan me, so I didn't pass out as they spent what felt like an hour on this part of the process.

Griffin:

Yeah. It took, it, it, it-

Rachel:

They brought in three different nurses. [laughs]

Griffin:

It took about as long to put the IV in as it did to take the child out.

Rachel:

Yes. [laughs]

Griffin:

Which is, which is, uh, truly staggering.

Rachel:

And then they have you, once you're all hooked up, they have you walk down to the room, which felt like a little, I don't know. I wanted like a little parade or something.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

But-

Griffin:

To carry you on a palanquin. [laughs]

Rachel:

But so yeah, so you walk in the room and you... And I had known from my previous experience that I was going to get very cold. Uh, and so they put a lot of warm towels on me, uh, and then talked a lot about the price of a towel warmer, which I really enjoyed. I-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Do you remember me telling you about this?

Griffin:

Yeah. There was a lot of conversations happening amongst the medical staff that was, uh, pretty delightful to us.

Rachel:

[laughs] The, the anesthesiologist talked about how you could get a towel warmer for not that much. And they were like, "Oh, how much?" And they said, "\$200." And everyone was like, "Whoa, fancy." [laughs]

Griffin:

I mean, that is a lot of money to spend on a towel warmer.

Rachel:

I know. I know. The way he kind of like flippantly like brushed it off. Like it's not that much. Everybody else was like, "Whoa, what? La-di-da!" You have a towel warmer?

Griffin:

It's called a microwave. Thank you very much.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Also a lot of talk of a, a Costa Rica trip.

Rachel:

Yeah. So the other thing was that the reason I was 39 weeks and four days was because my OB was just getting back from a trip with her family, which we found out during the procedure was to Costa Rica, 'cause again, her and the other guy that was assisting-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... uh, talked a lot of about ziplining. [laughs]

Griffin:

It is. Uh, I will speak from my perspective, 'cause I imagine it's even way more visceral for you. During this process. Since the second time we've done

this, your head and the rest of, and my whole body is on one side of a sheet and I am talking to your head trying to keep you occupied and-

Rachel:

[laughs] Griffin takes this very seriously.

Griffin:

... calm and I, I do. I do. It's a fucking insane thing to be happening because on the other side of that sheet it is-

Rachel:

They're digging in.

Griffin:

... horrifying.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Right. It is. It's, it's objectively pretty wild. Uh, and so it's wild to be like looking in your eyes like, "You're doing such a good job baby. I love you. Uh, deep breath. We're gonna hear my... Our son's about to be here." And then on the other side of this sheet where, you know, the, the, the, the terrible stuff is happening. Uh, the, the doctors are just like, "Yeah. So I went ziplining."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"Tell me about that."

"Oh, it was so fun."

"Anybody else here ever been ziplining?"

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's really, really wild. Good for them, I guess. I'm sure they did it safely. Ziplining and traveling-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... in, in, in the time of, of, uh, pandemic, but, um, just a wild thing to be like, "You guy, you guys are having a completely different day from the day we're having."

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, I will say that I, uh, I felt a lot calmer this time. Uh, because I hadn't been laboring.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Rachel:

Uh, I wasn't scared about, uh, Gus. He was totally chill. Um, and I was more prepared for the experience. So I was talking to Griffin, uh, and I found it very romantic.

Griffin:

Oh really?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

You did try to French me like a lot.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Like a bunch.

Rachel:

I felt, I felt very in love with you. Uh, I enjoyed, uh, our conversation. I remember specifically you telling me how wet my eyes looked.

Griffin:

Oh yeah, they did.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

They looked really wet. They were, they were super, super, super shiny.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

You have beautiful eyes. I love your eyes.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

They, I would say they are all, almost always radiant.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But these were, these, they were like...

Rachel:

Just the wettest they've ever been.

Griffin:

They were gushing.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It was wild. Um, yeah, it was, it was, uh, last time with Henry, they popped him out and cleaned him off and gave him to me. And then I had to leave.

Rachel:

Yeah. I don't know why.

Griffin:

I don't know why either, 'cause I got to like kick it in there with you-

Rachel:

I guess 'cause I had been laboring for so long. I don't know if there's something about like just coming in, just, you know, fresh off a, a night of sleep.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

To where they like don't worry about you as much. But yeah, Griffin got to hang out in the room as they like put me back together.

Griffin:

Right as they were pulling the baby out, they offered, and I think they may have offered this with Henry too. Like, "Do you wanna look over the sheet?" And it's-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... like the, it's the, the incredu- I was wearing a mask obviously. And like the incredulousness in my eyes alone I think was enough to like-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... answer non-verbally.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Why would I want, why would I want that?

Rachel:

But we heard, and I don't know if you remember this happening, but as soon as he came out, everyone's like, "Whoa, big baby!"

Griffin:

Whoa! Yeah.

Rachel:

And then they all started guessing how much he was gonna weigh.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And they were like, "Uh, 9'2".

"No, I think it's gonna be 9'7" and, and..."

Griffin:

9'9".

Rachel:

9'9"

Griffin:

Dummy thicc child.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, our dummy thick child is also waking up. We've had to stop already I think twice this episode just to go check on him.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, so yeah, that's how things are gonna be I think for a little bit. Um, it was-

Rachel:

And we know, we know you didn't ask for this.

Griffin:

We know, it's I promise.

Rachel:

You as the listener, you, as the Max Fund donor, you didn't say please have another child so I can have frantic short episodes. Um, but you know, we're in love and uh, we thought we wanted to manifest our love in the form of another boy.

Griffin:

Right.

Rachel:

And here he is-

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... just angrier than Griffin and I could ever be. [laughs]

Griffin:

It, it immediately like literally the day he was born, started to sink in that I can say things like, "Oh my sons."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

These sons of mine are really... I can't. I gotta get back to the ki- to the old kids, with an S.

Rachel:

Yeah. Uh-huh.

Griffin:

And that's true now. It makes me think of the ClickHole article of which one of my terrible sons are you.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And I feel like that kicked off a lot of just talking about sons in the abstract is like a funny thing. Oh, me, I have not one son but multiple sons. Um, but that's...

Rachel:

Have you started flexing this with Justin and Travis now because I know they love to be like, "Oh, all these kids that I have."

Griffin:

Yeah. Um, no I haven't because it's, uh, I mean it's, to be, it's not that fucking hard.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I guess, like it's exhausting. It's not that hard and like, Come on. Um... So yeah, we'll have uh, uh, uh, an episode for you next week where we will talk about not our kids, but probably still will, I mean, it will be impossible not to.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Um, but we'll talk about normal stuff too and we're also gonna talk about the Max Fun Drive, uh, our annual pledge drive and I'll tell you all about the great, uh, gifts that we have for, for new members.

Rachel:

Yeah. And the bonus content.

Griffin:

The bonus content, uh, and, and, and everything. Um, and we hope you'll, you'll stick with us as we sort of probably, I don't know, hopefully just for a, a month or so, do slightly shorter episodes, but, um-

Rachel:

Do you wanna, do you wanna thank...

Griffin:

Thanks to Bo En and Augustus. Gus. Augu- I, I think Augustus goes by Gus and [caracata 00:31:22] Bonito-

Rachel:

Oh, how funny?

Griffin:

I know. I should do a bit on cara- How, how have I not done a caracara bonito thing. Anyway, um, for the use of our theme song Money Won't Pay finally to that on the episode description. And, um, thanks, thanks for listening. Thanks for Maximum Fun for having us on the network. We're gonna extol their virtues quite a bit over the next couple weeks or so, I imagine.

Rachel:

Yeah. Uh, and thank you everybody for, you know, just hanging in there with us.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, and we're gonna do our best to, you know, keep pumping, pumping out the jam.

Griffin:

Huge thanks to the positive response we got to the hockey episode, which I think we both thought was going to be our most reviled episode to date.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But there's a bunch of, bunch of hockey nuts-

Rachel:

Bunch of real hockey heads.

Griffin:

... out there. Yeah.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Hockey, hockey heads is what they're called.

Rachel:

We recorded that back when the Blues were doing much better.

Griffin:

Uh-huh.

Rachel:

Uh, they're, they're on the uptick again.

Griffin:

They're on the uptick again but they did go in the toilet, for a little bit.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, speaking of going into the toilet-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... I don't really have a transition there. Um, but I would like-

Rachel:

Hey, this was an episode.

Griffin:

This was an episode. They can say that it wasn't-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... it had a beginning, it had a ads, it had the end-

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... which is, uh, this.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. Any, uh, small wonders here at the back half? [laughs]

Griffin:

Oh, um...

Rachel:

You wanna talk about those nasal drops?

Griffin:

I mean, saline drops for the nose is pretty good. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

The baby fucking hates 'em, but it's good for the baby.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. The Shoosher.

Griffin:

Shushu, I think people are getting little taste of the Shoosher maybe in the background-

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... depends on how much great noise canceling our, our editor Rachel is able to do. Um, we'll, we'll see about that.

Rachel:

This baby seems to have brown hair, which is exciting for me.

Griffin:

No. Wild. Wild stuff. Yeah.

Rachel:

Exciting for me, Henry was always very blonde. This one seems to be a little brown, which is, which is fun for me.

Griffin:

Yeah. Yeah. And, um, I'm so tired.

Rachel:

Yeah. Yeah. And, uh, hats off to the new season of The Circle.

Griffin:

Oh God. It's so choice.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's so good. I can't believe how, how good it is. Um, alright, now it's an epi-
Now it's-

Rachel:

Now it's an episode.

Griffin:

Put a, put a, put a lid on it.

[theme music plays]

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Speaker 15:

Max Fun Drive's almost here. It starts on Monday May 3rd, ends on May 14th, and it's the best time to support the shows you love. Here are some folks like you sharing what Max Fun and our shows mean to them.

Speaker 16:

Most importantly it's meant community.

Speaker 17:

And, uh, yeah, just thanks for hanging out and making joke-em-ups and making my week a little bit brighter.

Speaker 18:

So thanks Max Fun for making me a better person and making sure that I'm surrounded by better people.

Speaker 20:

Thanks again for all you do love supporting Max Fun and, uh, keep it up.

Speaker 15:

Come back Monday May 3rd for more details from your favorite hosts. We'll have some of the best episodes of the year, special Max Fun Drive thank you gifts, and maybe a few surprises. That's Monday May 3rd. Until then.