#### Wonderful! 001: Time Makes Bozos of Us All

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[theme music plays]

#### Rachel:

Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

### Griffin:

Hi, this is Griffin McElroy.

### Rachel:

And this is Wonderful!

### Griffin:

It's a— I don't know what to say in this one. It's a— In this podcast... Let me start. In this new revolutionary style of podcasting, to... I don't know what to say at this part, 'cause usually we talk about the Bachelor, Bachelorette franchise, but we don't, we're not gonna do that so much anymore.

#### Rachel:

Yes. So for those of you that are new to a podcast with Rachel and Griffin, you should know, we used to talk about reality dating television.

### Griffin:

Almost exclusively, yeah, mostly the Bachelor, Bachelorette franchise, but for a lot of reasons we've decided to move away from that, um, and talk about things that just sort of universally make us happy in this new show called Wonderful. We did a pilot episode um, a few weeks ago when we were kind of testing out the waters to see what we wanted to do, and the answer was, and maybe it's a lazy answer, but wouldn't it be nice to live in a world where you could just do a podcast about mystery flavored dum-dums? If you just— what, if you were just fucking feeling it?

### Rachel:

[laughs]

And I'm feeling it, I'm pretty much always feeling it. So we, every episode we're just gonna endeavor to start to talk about things we're enthusiastic about, we're gonna ask you to share some things that you're enthusiastic about that we will then share enthusiasm about, until we're just like, "Come on, feel this energy." That was so loud. Feel, you feeling the energy in this space right now?

### Rachel:

[laughs] Yes-

## Griffin:

This pod, if you-

# Rachel:

... So we're calling it an enthusiast podcast, and we uh, we invite you to be enthusiastic with us.

# Griffin:

We are gonna keep it probably a little tighter than usual, than a lot of your hour-long podcasts, partially 'cause, and maybe you could tell this by the fact we're whispering and grimacing at the loud hot rod that some teen high school fucking jock is driving outside is that we almost always record when our baby's asleep.

# Rachel:

Yeah—

# Griffin:

So it's-

# Rachel:

We have uh, a nine month old baby.

# Griffin:

His name is Henry and...

# Rachel:

He shares a wall with our recording studio.

#### Griffin:

It's true. But he has two pink eyes and we think an ear infection. So at this point his sensory game is less than perfect. So maybe we can get a little bit louder here in the studio.

#### Rachel:

I'd rather not [laughs].

#### Griffin:

Just 'cause he's operating, you know, not at 100%. Um, so maybe we should just get started, and start just talking away, and some things. Do you want... And this is important, 'cause this is gonna be our first one, what are you just like fucking feeling right now Rachel? What are you into?

And keep in mind that like the success of our podcast either, um, it hangs in the balance here, because people are gonna tune out if it's not a good one, but I don't want to put too much stress on you, but just make sure it's like really sells the concept that we've been sort of stressing about for the past few months.

#### **Rachel:**

I got one.

#### **Griffin:**

Just really make sure it's, I can't stress this enough.

#### **Rachel:**

I know.

#### **Griffin:**

Splits the uprights, perfect touchdown.

#### Rachel:

Pressure, pressure is sky high.

Okay. You know how in a touchdown they have to throw the ball through the uprights. So go ahead.

#### Rachel:

Okay. [laughs].

### Griffin:

Let's hear it.

## Rachel:

Um, now I'm gonna preface this, this is an expression. Uh...

# Griffin:

[laughs].

## Rachel:

It is, it is not one that I myself use, but when other people use it, I'm always delighted.

# Griffin:

Okay, so our first one is an expression, let's hear it.

# Rachel:

No worries. Let me give you an example.

# **Griffin:**

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

### Rachel:

So sometimes for example, let's say you accidentally bump into somebody, or you uh, take the last bag of charcoal at a grocery store, and you...

# Griffin:

Happens a lot, 'cause I'm always making just big big charcoal fires in the yard.

# Rachel:

Yes. And you start to apologize to the person, and say, "Oh my gosh, I'm so sorry. I know that you were gonna take this bag of charcoal."

#### Griffin:

You are, you are assuming a lot about how I handle things socially.

#### Rachel:

[laughs].

### Griffin:

'cause most of the time like I am apologetic, but I'm also, my need to uh...

### **Rachel:**

Okay, let me give an example [crosstalk].

### Griffin:

...to lower myself before somebody is also sort of up against my desire to never talk to like a stranger.

### Rachel:

Let me give an example you'd be familiar with.

### Griffin:

Okay.

# Rachel:

So you're at GameStop.

### Griffin:

Oh this isn't...

### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

### Griffin:

The first episode of Wonderful and you gotta come for my games?

### Rachel:

[laughs]. And, and you go to grab...

#### **Griffin:**

I cannot wait to hear this fucking pull.

#### Rachel:

The new Mario 4D sensory experience from Nintendo-

#### **Griffin:**

You saying using forty, F-O-R-T-Y? Or four-dimensional?

#### Rachel:

Four dimensional.

### **Griffin:**

You're talking about some Captain EO...

### Rachel:

It comes with smell.

### Griffin:

It comes with smell.

#### Rachel:

It comes with smell. That's the one.

### Griffin:

It's the ones I got to smell.

### Rachel:

That's the title.

### Griffin:

What's the smell? And don't be um, racist.

### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

Against um, Italians. Or I guess, he's not really Italian.

### Rachel:

I heard that he's not gonna be a plumber anymore.

### Griffin:

He's done being a plumber. And you can also come to Wonderful for all your, just, breaking video game news, but Mario, he's done being a plumber. It's wild to me that Nintendo can just say that.

### Rachel:

[laughs].

### Griffin:

He's not a plumber, why is he wearing overalls? It's just his clothes?

### Rachel:

Um, so.

### Griffin:

I bumped into somebody, 'cause they tried to take my Mario game from me.

### Rachel:

They're trying to take the Mario 4D, you say, "Oh I'm sorry." And they say-

### Griffin:

Well I'd have a nerd voice, and they'd have a nerd voice in this big thing that you've painted. "Oh, you're trying to take away my Yoshi-zaur."

### Rachel:

Uh, and they say, "No worries." And I always kind of liked it when I hear it. I'm not a confident person in the sense that I could say no worries. I don't think it's for me necessarily, but when other people say it to me, I enjoy it.

Yeah, I think, I think it definitely fills this sort of language niche right? Like where it says like, "I'm—" It's always in response to I'm sorry. 'Cause thank you has you're welcome.

### Rachel:

Yeah.

#### Griffin:

And I'm sorry has no worries. I guess I've just never really thought about no worries, but I guess it is a nice—

### Rachel:

It's super chill. Like, it's anticipating that this inconvenience might have you worried, and they're saying, "Hey, hey, but, before you get there."

## Griffin:

"Hey, I, there's no beef."

### Rachel:

No worries.

# Griffin:

Is there another thing, is there, it, what's the closest synonym to no worries? 'Cause I agree with you, no worries is powerful. No worries.

# Rachel:

Hakuna matata? Are you setting me up? [laughs]

### Griffin:

[laughs] I didn't think I was setting a trap, but if you had said the next sentence in there, I would have sprung the hakuna matata trap on you, and you would have been, you would have been in my pit for hours.

### Rachel:

So I did a little research on this expression, you wanna hear about it?

There's research— I just thought it was like just some weird like cosmic sort of consensus of just like, "We need a thing to say when somebody apologizes, but it's really not a big deal."

#### Rachel:

The Oxford English Dictionary um, said that the usage of no worries began in Sydney, Australia, in 1965.

#### Griffin:

Oh, what would that sound like please? Please? Come on.

#### Rachel:

They gave an expression.

#### Griffin:

Oh no, I need it.

#### **Rachel:**

I'll get there. I'm gonna do it. I'm gonna do it just for you 'cause it's our very first episode of Wonderful. But they give an expression that I will read in my Australian accent.

#### Griffin:

Oh, well it's gonna be so good everybody.

#### Rachel:

[Australian accent] No worry, it's amazing what a few schooners of jolly does for a bloke.

#### Griffin:

Oh, Jesus Christ.

#### Rachel:

You asked for it, I was just-

#### Griffin:

I know. That was a good Jesus Christ, I was thanking Jesus.

#### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

### Griffin:

That was a juicy, I put my head down 'cause I was immediately sent into a prayer state...

## Rachel:

[laughs].

# Griffin:

...thanking Jesus for the gift of you.

# Rachel:

Uh, so they think um, the article I read which was from quartz.com, uh, thinks that Crocodile Dundee, he played a big role in the Americanization of this expression.

## Griffin:

Hmm.

# Rachel:

Um, which was Crocodile Dundee for, uh, you probably don't remember.

# Griffin:

[laughs]

# Rachel:

Because it was in 1986, um, was a box-office hit [laughing].

# Griffin:

I didn't do as much research.

### **Rachel:**

Can you believe that?

You can tell when Rachel's like, "I've done enough research."

#### Rachel:

It starred, Paul Hogan uh, was the second best grossing film behind Top Gun.

### Griffin:

Wow, okay, never mind. I take it back, you've done-

### Rachel:

That's got to be old information.

## Griffin:

Yeah, that's got to be old, old info.

## Rachel:

But his catchphrase was, "No worries, mate."

## Griffin:

All right. Well I like it.

# Rachel:

Anyway.

# Griffin:

And that was a good one.

### Rachel:

Yeah.

### **Griffin:**

I never thought about no worries, but I like it.

### Rachel:

I had somebody, so I was walking in the stairwell at my work.

Okay.

#### Rachel:

And I almost bumped into somebody, 'cause the way the stairwell, the doors open up.

### Griffin:

Yeah.

### Rachel:

You run into people constantly.

# Griffin:

Sure.

## Rachel:

And I said, "Oh, I'm sorry." And she said, "No worries." And I said, "It's like you know me." 'cause I would have worried.

# Griffin:

Yeah.

# Rachel:

Thank you.

# **Griffin:**

They, there are definitely people who would take that worry. Like, you know, I mean like, "I'm sorry," like, "Oh well, now I'm in, no I'm in charge." "I'm so sorry."

"Yeah you are. Now I'm in charge."

# Rachel:

Uh, you want my last bit of research?

# Griffin:

You've done a lot of research on... I'm starting to feel very shitty. I have like five things that I have no research on.

#### Rachel:

I do, I have a, I have a thing I did this week, I'll do that next.

### Griffin:

Okay, okay, okay.

### Rachel:

Um, but this, this website I went to, this quartz.com website said that the expression is also very popular in Malaysia, Singapore, Australia as we mentioned, New Zealand, Philippines, and then behind all those, the United States.

### Griffin:

Okay, so that's why it's not-

### Rachel:

People in Malaysia are saying it constantly.

### Griffin:

... It's a thing that I have probably said a hundred times, a hundred thousand times, and I've heard a hundred thousand times, and I did not, I would not... If this was on [stutters] ACT's prep test.

### Rachel:

[laughs] yes.

### Griffin:

That was like, thank you is to you're welcome is to I'm sorry is to what, I would not know the answer to it. It's a weird alien thing to think about, divorced from, bumping into somebody on a staircase, but it is a nice whole turn of phrase.

### Rachel:

It's an expression I like.

Um, I don't know which of mine to start with, so I think I'm just gonna go with the one that I, is the longest, and that is the six notes that Carly Rae Jepsen sings, leading into the chorus of Cut to the Feeling.

### Rachel:

[laughs].

## Griffin:

I could have done anything here.

# Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

# Griffin:

I, it's episode one, I don't wanna like burn all of my good CRJ material. But I, Cut to the Feeling dropped earlier this year right? And a lot of people like, summer hit, and I listened to it I was like, "Oh yeah, it was fucking great." And I, again, CRJ's Emotion is unironically, probably top five albums of all time for me, um, but I only listened to Cut to the Feeling that one time.

And then uh, I was trying to like entertain Henry, and we were bouncing around in, in the bed, and I just put on like, "Oh, there's Cut to the Feeling." And we just had a little dance, and then listening to that I was like, "Oh wait, this song fucking owns bones."

# Rachel:

I don't think I know the six notes that you're referring to.

# Griffin:

Uh, I will play it for you in a second very quietly.

# Rachel:

Okay.

# Griffin:

Um, but there's a build-up to the chorus, um, and it happens twice I think, maybe three times, where she just lets out this sort of like Xena-like battle hymn. I'm gonna cut it in here, and this is, is this fair use? I think we're

probably gonna be talking about like songs on here, so I think we got to put on like ten five seconds of a song, as long as we... Let's do a parody of it, more like Butt to the Feeling, and now it's fair use.

### Rachel:

[laughs]

#### Griffin:

I went to journalism school, and I know all about fair use, if we just say Butt to the Feeling from now on, then we're clear to play this clip.

#### Rachel:

Well, and I took one journalism class in college, so.

#### Griffin:

And it was all about fair use, and Butt to the Feeling, so.

### Rachel:

And it was Carly Rae Jepsen, which was weird, 'cause it was 2001.

### Griffin:

They should be, they should absolutely be... Well I think she, what was she doing then? She was probably on like um, Kids Incorporated, or some shit. [laughs]. Kids Incorporated is my next pick, so we can just transish right into it. Um, so here's a clip, those six notes, powerful, just let them fill you with like maybe you're, you're going through something right now, just let them fill you with power and light.

[Cut to the Feeling clip plays]

### Griffin:

It's very good. When's that new album dropping is what I wanna know. The answer is nobody knows.

#### Rachel:

I read an article that she, like, has hundreds of songs.

I read an article that, like, the next album could be like 40 odd songs long.

#### Rachel:

Like she was on tour, and she was just writing nonstop.

#### Griffin:

She was just writing.

#### Rachel:

Well, we had to see her live.

#### Griffin:

We did, it was a literally life wondering— I wanted to talk about this because like, Carly Rae Jepsen really does make me extremely happy and I feel like there's some parts of my online persona, and this is like something that is really kind of tricky to manage is there, there are things that um, are kind of ironic.

And then, but I try to keep most of it aboveboard right? And Carly Rae Jepsen is definitely one of those things, like I definitely think she fucking rules, and Emotion is a really, really good album. But to this day, I'll tweet about Cut to the Feeling, or a video that I made of myself messing around in some game to Favorite Color, which is like one of my favorite songs. It's a CRJ track off Emotion, and people were like, "Oh wow, I just started listening because I thought you were joking this whole time."

#### Rachel:

What is it you think that you like about her?

#### Griffin:

Um, I think it is like, I think it-

#### Rachel:

Just kind of the, the happy, poppy sensibility?

### Griffin:

It is a type of like elevated pop that... I am not a music critic at all, and so like I super just don't really wanna like pretend like I know what the fuck I'm

talking about. Um, the, like the like music is very good, like there's some fucking fresh beats on the first one.

Um, and it just represents this like, uh, I feel like there's a lot, there's a sort of ongoing narrative thread, and again I'm showing my ignorance here of just like pop stars saying like, "Well, mastered pop, let's try something else." And it feels like uh, between her few albums, Kiss was the one before Emotion, that was the one that had uh, Call Me Maybe on it.

#### Rachel:

Yeah.

## Griffin:

And that was it, like Call Me Maybe is like, I think a lot of people were ironically into that song, but I thought it was kind of a jam.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

# Griffin:

And now Emotion just has transcended, and like been this like just really really great album. But like, to finish my point, I was on YouTube on one of my weird like 1 AM deep dives, and I was just watching music videos, 'cause I never watch fucking music videos anymore.

### Rachel:

Yeah.

# Griffin:

And I watched a new Katy Perry one, and a new Taylor Swift one, the new Taylor Swift one that's a, the new song off of her Ed Hardy album. And they were both so bad and it's just kind of like, I don't know, it just made me appreciate like, oh, you're just like crushing pop right? Like this is the best pop now I feel like. Um...

# Rachel:

Here's what I'll say about Carly Rae.

Hit me.

### Rachel:

I feel like what I like about her songs is the, one, there's this kind of feel of like triumph, like she's just conquered something.

## Griffin:

Yeah.

# Rachel:

And she's like joyous. And also like she's coming out on the other side of some shit.

# Griffin:

Yeah.

# Rachel:

You know, there's like this energy to it that you only get when you like come out on the other side of some shit.

# Griffin:

Yeah, there's, there's, and like a lot of the songs touch on that, like Boy Problems is about like, you hear that and you think like, "Oh, it's about her having boy problems." But it's actually about a friend of hers who she is exasperated by because she only talks about her boy problems, and not like performing like a deeper connection with their friends.

And it's like, "Oh, that's good, it's really good stuff." Making the most of the night you hear that, and it's just like, "Oh, it's just like a, you know, Kesha style party anthem." But by the way, don't even get me started on the new Kesha album, 'cause I've started listening to that very recently, and holy fucking shit...

# Rachel:

[laughs].

... it's extremely good also. Um, but it's not like it is, like, about, like, you trying to get a friend out of a funk, and going on an adventure with them to try like raise their spirits. Like there's a lot, I don't know, I just really like...

### Rachel:

Yeah.

### Griffin:

I just, I, I really I could listen to it non-stop. We took a trip after Emotion came out, uh, I think it was one of our tours, and we like measured time by Emotion listens 'cause we just like burned it all down. So like, I don't know, it's really good, and—

## Rachel:

You and your bros.

### **Griffin:**

Yeah. And those six notes again, just one last time, let them fill you with, with power, and just take on whatever the day's got for you.

[Cut to the Feeling clip plays]

# Griffin:

You got another one?

### Rachel:

Yeah. Um, I'll do my less specific one now.

### Griffin:

Okay.

### Rachel:

Movies about baseball.

### Griffin:

Okay.

### Rachel:

This is, this is surprising for a few reasons.

### **Griffin:**

Did it surprise you that you picked this even?

### **Rachel:**

Yes.

### **Griffin:**

A little bit? Okay.

### Rachel:

Yes. One, I don't really like baseball. I mean I enjoy going to a baseball game, um, I'll watch it on television if other people are watching it.

### Griffin:

I think this, I think that's erudite, I enjoy the romanticization of baseball more than I think I enjoy baseball.

### Rachel:

So here's the thing, and maybe it's just 'cause of the sheer volume of baseball movies just 'cause we are Americans in America, and it is our national pastime.

### Griffin:

Sure.

### Rachel:

But there was this quiz the other day on, like, how stuff works I think, that was, like, a hundred percent of Americans can't name more than ten baseball movies. And I was like, "Well, I'll take this quiz." And I got like tons of them right just by looking at one...

# Griffin:

Well, the Major League Series gets you like halfway there.

# Rachel:

I'm not even talking about this.

Angels in the Outfield.

#### Rachel:

I haven't even seen those. Can I give you, can I give you my list?

#### **Griffin:**

Yeah, sure.

#### Rachel:

These are the baseball movies that I have seen.

#### Griffin:

Can we play knockout, and we'll just go back and forth? And whoever can't name one loses? I love games.

#### Rachel:

Well, I have mine written down now.

#### Griffin:

Oh, well shoot.

#### Rachel:

So it's kind of cheating. But we can, I mean we can play if you want.

#### **Griffin:**

You'll just crush me with your cheater list.

#### Rachel:

Okay.

#### Griffin:

Okay.

#### Rachel:

Sandlot.

Angels in the Outfield, I'm just gonna take that one.

#### Rachel:

Field of Dreams.

### Griffin:

I'll take just one major league, and then now we're clear again.

### Rachel:

Eight Men Out.

### Griffin:

Um, little big, Little Big League? What was the name of that one with a boy through the thing? The boy through the arm? No, Rookie of the Year.

### Rachel:

Okay. Uh, The Natural.

### Griffin:

Little Big League was another one where the kid [crosstalk].

### Rachel:

It was another one, yeah. Uh, A League of Their Own.

#### **Griffin:**

You said Sandlot right? That was your first one.

#### Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

#### **Griffin:**

Oh, boy, uh, Moneyball.

#### Rachel:

And yeah, my other one was gonna be Rookie of the Year.

Oh.

#### Rachel:

So, so you kept up with me.

### **Griffin:**

Oh, you got another one?

### Rachel:

Um...

### Griffin:

Oh, now we're in it, now we're in the fucking game. Oh my God, I need this, I need this win.

### Rachel:

I've never seen the Mr. 3000, but that I think was baseball with Bernie Mac.

### Griffin:

Oh, shit, shit... Yes. Um... [whispering] Pitch, Pitch, Pitchman.

### Rachel:

Ooh, I've got that one too.

### Griffin:

Pitchman.

#### Rachel:

No.

#### Griffin:

Pitchman. Babe-

#### Rachel:

Are you thinking, are you thinking of the Jimmy Fallon movie?

Oh, Fever Pitch.

### Rachel:

[laughs] Did I just give that to you?

### Griffin:

You did [laughs]. This is not good podcast.

### Rachel:

Is Bad News Bears one?

### Griffin:

[laughs] Probably. Fuck this, this is not good podcast content. It's our pilot episode, we can't sit here and just [crosstalk] baseball movies we know.

### Rachel:

But, so all of that to say.

### **Griffin:**

Yes.

#### Rachel:

I just, I realize, a lot of those movies I listed like Field of Dreams for example are movies that are pretty much entirely about baseball, and I love them, and I don't love baseball.

### Griffin:

You don't dig on baseball.

#### Rachel:

I think, I mean, I like a movie with an underdog, you know, anytime there's like a team, or a player that has to overcome some kind of adversity.

### Griffin:

Yeah.

#### **Rachel:**

And maybe the nature of having innings in a baseball game kind of sets up that drama for you.

#### Griffin:

I think that's it. I think it is a game that is based around, like, a really powerful uh, like, structure for fictional drama.

#### Rachel:

Yeah.

#### Griffin:

'Cause— Football is tough to get that across. "It's a third down!"

#### Rachel:

[crosstalk].

#### **Griffin:**

There's seven seconds left, and... What's that?

#### Rachel:

I think I figured it out. So when a person comes up to a plate, like, all eyes are on them.

#### **Griffin:**

That's it.

#### Rachel:

For an extended period of time.

#### Griffin:

Here comes Tony...

#### Rachel:

Every other sport-

Danza, here comes Tony Danza, he's up there, he's gonna do it. Tony Danza, Angels in the Outfield, that was who you— You wanted to get Tony Danza as the... Okay, you, it is, it's, sorry, it's 2000 and— Tony Danza, okay go for it. Let her rip Tony Danza.

### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

#### Griffin:

From Who's the Boss?.

#### Rachel:

But I think any other sport, most players only get a few seconds, like they have the ball for a few seconds, or they have the puck, or whatever. Um, baseball, that person could be at the plate for a long time.

### **Griffin:**

I also think in a baseball movie it's easy to create a lot of characters.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

# Griffin:

You know what I mean? Fucking Daniel Stern, and apparently Angels in the Outfield is maybe the only one I've seen.

### Rachel:

[laughs].

### **Griffin:**

Just they're a tall gawky dude, chewing a bunch of chaw all the time, and that's that one. And then there's Tony Danza and Christopher Lloyd was the angel.

### Rachel:

I don't think I've seen Angels in the Outfield.

It had a very good message.

#### Rachel:

I saw Rookie of the Year, which came out around the same time.

#### Griffin:

Angels, were there angels in that one?

#### Rachel:

No.

#### Griffin:

Then they did not screen it at my church.

#### Rachel:

[laughs].

#### **Griffin:**

Did watch it there. When I watched it, I was like, "Oh man."

#### Rachel:

So your church saw angels in the title and were like, "This seems good."

#### Griffin:

Let's, yeah. We had, we did do that, I remember at my church we did a movie, like, it didn't last long, but we had like in the summer, so we would do like monthly, or whatever movie parties. And one of the times that was Angels in the Outfield, and folks got into that. One of the times it was Signs, um, 'cause it that had a sort of...

#### Rachel:

Oh, yeah.

#### Griffin:

... Uh, sort of predetermination-airy sort of message in there. Um, and then one time it was just The Fugitive, and it was like, "Yo guys, we lost the plot a little bit kind of, maybe, sort of."

#### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

# Griffin:

Good flick, but mm. Um...

# **Rachel:**

Well it's about a man on a journey...

# Griffin:

For Christ.

# Rachel:

... [laughs].

# Griffin:

But also to exonerate himself from a murder he did not commit. Um, hey, how do we go to the ads? I'm relying on you on this one. [whispers inaudibly].

# Rachel:

Uh...

# Griffin:

I definitely think we can keep doing the- Yeah.

# Rachel:

You know what else I think is Wonderful?

# Griffin:

Well now, but I was talking about-

# Rachel:

Money!

# Griffin:

... Oh, money is Wonderful!

#### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

### Griffin:

That seems sort of antithetical to like what we're going for here. Like yeah, baseball movies are great, and Carly Rae Jepsen's six powerful notes, her fus-roh-dah, her, her dragon shouts.

## **Rachel:**

And also the following products you can buy.

# Griffin:

And also these products.

# Rachel:

[laughs].

# Griffin:

Uh, no, I don't like that. We got to have a separation of church and state. Can we just do, hey babe?

# **Rachel:**

Yes.

# **Griffin:**

Can I steal you away?

# Rachel:

[laughs] No!

# Griffin:

I think we can just do it. I think we can just do it. I think— 'Cause I definitely want the, I definitely that home improvement stinger still in the mix. This was something we did on Rose Buddies for many years too, was all that Rose Buddies ran. Um, and I think it can stay in the picture.

# Rachel:

Okay, so the way it would work is that um, Griffin would ask if he could steal me away, and then it explicably I would go, [hums the Home Improvement sting, imitates Tim Allen]. "What?"

### Griffin:

Say that was a very, that was a pretty good stint. That was more of a, getting back to basics. Sort of a vanilla swirl—

### **Rachel:**

[crosstalk] ...first episode of Wonderful.

### **Griffin:**

Yeah, we don't want people to feel lost when you sing the Home Improvement commercial break music.

### **Rachel:**

[laughs].

### Griffin:

You want it to sound like the Home Improvement commercial break music, so people aren't confused.

### Rachel:

Exactly.

### Griffin:

Um, I have missed four picks in my fantasy football draft. I don't know why I thought I could do this and podcast at the same time.

[ad break]

### Griffin:

Hey, here's a Jumbotron message, this one is for Sasha, and it's from Lapis who says, "Happy birthday, dear sister. Through my transition in life, you've been the most supportive and loving sister, and I'm so proud you finished your education degree, and are now a real teacher. I couldn't think of a better way to thank you than having Griffin and Rachel wish you a happy birthday. Here's to another year of adventures, lunches, and love." Wanted this one in July.

#### Rachel:

Hopefully you still love teaching!

### Griffin:

Hopefully you still love teaching. These fucking kids.

### Rachel:

New school year! New school year.

### **Griffin:**

They come to my classroom, they steal all my Kleenex boxes. Got mad bugs, can't do nothing 'cause these fricking kids. It's only been two months, but I'm so sick of their BS. My bugs.

### **Rachel:**

All right. [laughs].

### Griffin:

I didn't know what— That was I trying to— I was role-playing. You know how I like to do.

### Rachel:

[laughs] Just exclusively around Kleenex.

### Griffin:

Mm-hmm. We were talking yesterday when we were buying Kleenex, it's about like every time you buy school supplies you'd have to get Kleenexes for the teachers, and how, like, bogus that was, that like we had to supply those. Bogus in the sense like we're happy to do it, but also like, "Boy, you need me to get you these tissues? That's no good."

#### Rachel:

I know. How ridiculous. Uh, this next message is urging you to go out and grab Supernatural Attraction, issue one at kelmcdonald.com.

That's kelmcdonald.com.

### Rachel:

And here's a little bit about that issue. "Persephone was killed in a hit and run, but her roommate 'fixed' her. She has now returned from the dead with only a few scars as proof of the incident. Her unique situation allows her to find out her school is full of all kinds of supernaturals, and she's the focus of this community's attention. The first issue of this digital comic is up for sale at kelmcdonald.com. Listeners looking for some supernatural comedy mixed with romance will get 40% off with the code, 'WhenYourReady.'" It looks like when your ready is spelled W-H-E-N, Y-O-U-R, R-E-A-D-Y. So you may wanna try that.

### **Griffin:**

Um...

### Rachel:

Um. So it's a supernatural romance comedy, those are all things we like.

### Griffin:

Yes. I mean, God, I have my Supernatural, um, I mean just breaking it down word for word, those two brothers, what won't they shoot? Demons? And then comedy, I mean that's my whole life blood, and then romance, a little bit of this right here, a little bit of that, a little bit of this.

### Rachel:

Aww, he's gesturing to me and him.

# Griffin:

A little bit...

### Rachel:

And then there's some.

# Griffin:

[making cartoon sound effects]

#### **Rachel:**

There's some obscene gestures.

#### Griffin:

Um, so yeah, go check out that thing. [Max Fun ad]

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[ad break ends]

#### Griffin:

I wanna tell you about a thing I've been really into lately, and you, and you the listeners to strap in. I wanna talk about virtual reality.

#### **Rachel:**

Uh-oh.

#### Griffin:

Expand your mind, broaden your horizons. Why did you say uh-oh?

#### Rachel:

Uh-oh.

#### Griffin:

Why did you say uh-oh.

#### Rachel:

'Cause I'm thinking of the arcades where you stand on the platform and everybody watches you.

[laughs]. They had one of those in my mall that you would like fucking jam your entire child's skull into, and if you didn't possess a child's skull, which sadly I didn't as a child.

### Rachel:

[laughs].

### Griffin:

I had a 45 year old man skull when I was 10, and I still do to this day. Um, and you would look around, and you'd be like a little laser tank. But like it was just such garbage.

### Rachel:

What are you talking about?

### Griffin:

I am talking about the thing that's like, your— Your foot is literally touching a headset, oh no, it's about six inches away. Um, I'm just talking about virtual reality and, like, this is— I don't wanna like, geek, out too much. I mostly want to talk about the fact that like um, I dipped out for a bit and I've had this, the Oculus Rift, and we have a Vive also, these are two different types of like virtual reality headsets that are out right now.

Um, we've had them for a while, and I got them last year, and like messed around with them for a while, and it's really neat, and then I stopped doing it. And in the span of time, and like the last like eight months or so, uh, some really cool stuff has come out, and so recently I've been getting back into it, and checking stuff out. And like the experiences have evolved to be like really, really cool very, very quickly.

Um, and so I referenced that like game that I did the Carly Rae Jepsen thing in, there's just a game called Chroma Lab, where you're just in a thing, this is a square space. Squarespace is not the sponsor this week, but hit us up. Uh, with these little color balls that you can move around, and it's just really trippy. And there's one where you're on a spaceship, you're just pulling yourself through the spaceship, and flying around. Um, and instead of like sort of dipping into any sort of individual experience, but the reason I'm enthusiastic about it is because I can't think of any other thing in my lifetime that has gone so quickly from, like, sci-fi, like, ergonomically impossible bullshit, to, like, I own two of them and they're pretty good.

#### **Rachel:**

Yeah, so this just works with your computer right?

### Griffin:

Yeah, so there's a, there's a few... I, when a lot of people talk about like VR becoming, like, accessible to everybody, like that's the big stumbling block is just having it be this self-contained thing, you just put on your head, and no wires, no nothing. Uh, and there is the gear VR, you can slot your like Samsung phone into this little headset, and it works fairly well, it's still just like a, like a one phone, so it's not like super powerful.

Um, but yeah, it does plug into your computer, and computer like handles all the, the processing of it. So like it's really inaccessible. I saw my uncle on Facebook like saying like, "I wanna get into VR." And I was like, "I can help you with that, but it, it it'll probably be about \$1500." And so like I understand that that's, I understand that that, like, sucks. And it's, I think you have to be coming at it from a place of privilege to even like have access to this stuff right now.

But the dream of like, if you had told me in 2008 like, "Hey, VR is gonna be here, and like you'll have one, and it'll work like better than I think you thought it would be working right now." I'd say like, "Go, no, you're telling tales out of school." And like it totally does exist. And I never, I guess I just, like, this is the thing everybody talks about right? When they talk about like, "Well, when I thought by the time I got to be 30 we'd have jetpacks and flying cars."

### Rachel:

Yeah, exactly.

### Griffin:

I would comfortably have included that when I was a teenager, I would have comfortably included, like, virtual reality in that. 'Cause you read like Snow Crash, and you're like, or you see the Matrix seeing like, "Oh, fuck yeah." That looks cool, but not in my lifetime. But it is, like it's here. And I guess like self-driving cars are getting there too, which is like kind of wild, but like this is the most tangible thing.

And I don't know, I just really, I, I played that the game is referenced earlier, uh, you're this like robot on a spaceship, and you have an astronaut there with you who's like a human being, and you're just like alone on the ship with them trying to go around and fix stuff, and it's this like quiet very, like, character-driven VR experience that felt like extremely real, and like, the whole time I was playing it, and I was like, I can't believe I'm 30 and have this.

### Rachel:

Yeah.

### Griffin:

And, and not like 90. Like I can't believe it, or dead. [laughs]. I'm just like blown away that this stuff exists. And even though it's like still really expensive, and not like perfect, or accessible to everybody, like by the time it is, which I still think could be in my lifetime, like, can you imagine being in school, and like strapping on a headset, and then like all of a sudden you're on this Magic School Bus adventure to like the prehistoric ages?

### Rachel:

You know what it reminds me of? It's like, you know, when people listen to uh, like audiobooks, and so sometimes you'll be talking to somebody, and they'll say like, "Oh yeah, I have read Grapes of Wrath." It's like well, well no, actually, I listen to it on audiobook. Like, it'll kind of be like that with VR, of like, "Oh, I've been to the Louvre."

### Griffin:

Yeah.

#### **Rachel:**

Well, actually just through virtual reality.

## Griffin:

But I think we'll hit a point where it's like, that's not that big a distinction.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

## Griffin:

Um, I think one of the reasons like I'm excited to do this podcast is because I think I am in general a very enthusiastic person, and I like sharing that. And, like, when I'm into something, it is hard for me not to talk about it with people. And I feel like I butt heads with folks in... I don't butt heads 'cause I don't fucking say anything, but I don't like get in fights with my peers about this, but like, I see people who like get a headset, and then they do it, and they're like, "This sucks, the cord's too thick."

And it's like, you can put on a helmet, and be on a spaceship, and it works really good. Like that, I feel like there's a lot of people whenever, anytime I say anything about VR, like I get dunked on pretty quickly by a lot of people who like wanna talk about the, you know, the logistical problems with it, or the price problems with it, or like, "Oh, is that the only thing you've played? How's your \$1500 rig doing for you?" Um, when like, I think it's just fucking incredible that this thing's here.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

## Griffin:

Like I can't believe it's here, and that it's like sitting on top of my computer right now, and if I wanted when we're done with this podcast, I could go, you know, to the wild, wild west, or whatever. Um, I'm just blown away by that.

## Rachel:

Uh, you know, it is pretty incredible actually, because I know I've gotten to use your VR headset a couple times, and it's just totally immersive. Like you

really, you lose kind of all awareness of your actual settings, and the other people that might be in the room with you. Uh, and that's, that's something I didn't really expect from virtual reality in our lifetime. I thought it would be like platforms and blockades.

## Griffin:

Yeah.

## Rachel:

Not, like, suddenly I'm in a totally different world.

## **Griffin:**

And I'm wondering, like, I'm wondering if there is this, like a way that those sort of revelations like build in life, like I'm wondering, like, now that virtual reality is a thing that I have, and it went from this thing that I never thought existed to a thing that like does exist, all of a sudden I see fucking Elon Musk like, "Yeah you're gonna go to space, you know, whenever you want by 2040." And like, maybe like five years ago I see that I'd be like, "Oh, bullshit." But I do have this virtual reality headset that works.

# Rachel:

Yeah. That's a good point.

## **Griffin:**

So, like, maybe my dude's gonna get me up there. Like maybe my dude is gonna be able to ship me from LA to San Francisco in like eight minutes um, in like some sort of human blender. Like okay, yeah, go for it. Let's do it. Let's go wild Elon. Ship my particles dog.

## Rachel:

[laughs].

# Griffin:

Um, what's your third thing?

# Rachel:

My third thing is The Grand Prize Game.

#### Griffin:

The Bozo Show?

### Rachel:

Yes.

## **Griffin:**

Oh, my God. Wait, was The Grand Prize Game a segment in The Bozo Show?

### Rachel:

Yes.

## Griffin:

Okay, but it wasn't the whole Bozo Show.

### Rachel:

No.

## Griffin:

It's the only thing anybody ever remembers, it's like, what the fuck else was Bozo and Spifford, like what were they doing?

## Rachel:

Like hijinks?

### Griffin:

Clown hijinks mostly?

### Rachel:

Mostly.

### Griffin:

Just dumb, like pouring cups of water on children, or something?

### Rachel:

Yeah. There's a little of that sketches.

#### Griffin:

Sketches, sketches.

## Rachel:

Uh, so The Grand Prize Game that Griffin and I know and love.

## Griffin:

I'm so in love with you. I, I love that—

## Rachel:

[laughs].

## Griffin:

... I love you so much. I'm so glad that this is a thing we're talking about up to two millions of listeners on the internet right now is The Grand Prize Game.

## **Rachel:**

So in the run of The Bozo Show, there were like two Bozos.

## Griffin:

Whoa. What?

## Rachel:

The show started in 1960 with...

### Griffin:

Oh, I guess you'd need two Bozos there. [laughing]. 'Cause of the cruel machinations of time.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

### Griffin:

Time makes Bozos of us all. [laughing].

There's the title of our episode. So Bob Bell was Bozo from 1960 to 1984, so 24 years of Bozo. And then he got his little squirting water pin.

### Griffin:

He got Bozoed. Oh I thought you were gonna say he passed away.

## Rachel:

He got his, his squirting water pin in his bronze clown shoes, and packed up for retirement. And then...

## **Griffin:**

He's okay right?

## Rachel:

I'm sure he's fine [laughing]. And then the Bozo that you and I are familiar with is Joey D'Auria, and he was Bozo from 1984 to 2001.

## Griffin:

2001?

## Rachel:

I went on YouTube to watch a little clips, uh, because I had a very distinct memory of what he sounded like.

## Griffin:

Yeah.

## Rachel:

And then he was like actually a very funny man. And I think he was. Like he had like a real good—

## Griffin:

Gotta be man. If you're on the, if you're on the air for fucking 50 years, you gotta be, you gotta have a little bit uh, you gotta have some pith in there.

So The Grand Prize Game was on every Bozo Show, and I think I just kind of love game shows, and this was like a game show element to a largely clown focused show.

## Griffin:

Yeah.

## Rachel:

Uh, six buckets in a row vertically.

## **Griffin:**

Are they different sizes? Do they get smaller?

# Rachel:

No.

## Griffin:

No? Interesting.

## Rachel:

Same size. The first bucket is basically right where your toes are, you stand behind this blue line.

# Griffin:

I've definitely seen kids beef that bucket though.

# Rachel:

Yeah well you could never lose the first bucket, Bozo would always pick up the ball and let you have another try.

## Griffin:

But you know Bozo would like talk some shit about you, you know, backstage.

# Rachel:

Well a lot of the kids-

"Beef the first one again, good work, Dougie."

### Rachel:

A lot of the kids that go on the show are like four or five years old, like.

### Griffin:

They should be able to drop a ball in a bucket. One of my brothers had a McDonald's birthday party, and we have a home video of it, and they play a game where you have to hold the straw to your nose, and drop it in a cup. And is that, I think people did?

## Rachel:

I don't know.

## Griffin:

Okay. they had one where they had to stack up all of the, like a styrofoam burger boxes, and see who could stack up the most. A lot of games in the McDonald's.

## Rachel:

It's weird. You have such a strong memory of this.

# Griffin:

I have, I can remember literally everything from every second of my home videos. I haven't, I have it, it is the only thing—

# Rachel:

You watched them a lot.

# Griffin:

Oh, a hundred thousand times.

## Rachel:

Yeah. So um, by the time we were watching— So apparently this game used to just feature silver dollars, um, and that used to be a prize that you could get.

Yeah.

#### Rachel:

Um, but by the time we were watching, he would put \$100 bill.

#### Griffin:

Holy shit.

#### Rachel:

In six buckets. So the six bucket is the furthest away. You have to get all five buckets, and then the six to get the hundred dollars, and the bicycle. And by the time we were watching, you would get a trip to Disney World.

### Griffin:

And that is the most—

#### **Rachel:**

For like four days.

#### **Griffin:**

A five-year-old can't handle that fucking stress. Are you kidding me?

### Rachel:

Well nobody like, you know, it's kind of like Carmen Sandiego, like very few people.

### Griffin:

You know Joey was putting that hundo in there himself, like, "No way, I got to make it interesting for me."

#### Rachel:

Um.

#### Griffin:

Is that what he sounded like? It's been a while.

No [laughs].

## Griffin:

"A Bozo spiff, get over here."

### Rachel:

Um, what I also remember very strongly. So The Bozo Show was on WGN, which is located in Chicago.

### Griffin:

Hmm.

## Rachel:

Um, Archway Cookies. You remember that?

## Griffin:

No.

## Rachel:

Used to be a big like, giveaway. Like there was a...

## Griffin:

On The Bozo Show?

### Rachel:

Yes. There was always an at-home player that was playing along with the kid.

## Griffin:

I remember safety pops. They were dishing out safety pops like mad.

### Rachel:

I don't remember that.

### Griffin:

It was suckers that had a little loop at the bottom. And I don't know why there was...

#### **Rachel:**

Oh, I remember safety pops. I just don't remember that as a feature on The Bozo Show.

## Griffin:

I think that was a big feature on The Bozo Show.

## Rachel:

Uh, I, what I remember is that uh, any time someone gets the first bucket, everybody in the studio audience gets a little something too.

## Griffin:

Oh.

## Rachel:

Along the kid that has played, and it was almost always Archway Cookies.

## Griffin:

Oh, okay.

### Rachel:

Archway cookies I think had like the little windmill cookies. I remember, they're very tasty.

## Griffin:

I remember-

### Rachel:

Anyway, the reason I bring that up is that I remember nothing else about The Bozo Show. It's like you mentioned.

### **Griffin:**

Yeah.

### Rachel:

Nothing. I used to watch that show all the time, and I think I was exclusively watching it for The Grand Prize Game.

### Griffin:

I have a theory about why even we are talking about The Grand Prize Game right now, and it is that I remember I was in college, and I was fresh out of a long-term relationship, and I got invited over to my friend Michael Bradbury's house, and he was like, "You gotta play this game, and get drunk with us, and just like hang out, and drink, and play this drinking game."

And I rolled up, and I was like, "All right, let's see what everybody's talking about." I was nervous, you know, 'cause I had been in a long-term relationship, I hadn't been like partying much, I hadn't had much of a big social life, and so I wanted, like, [inaudible]. Then I rolled up, and they had beer pong set up, and I was like, "Oh, I know this motherfucker."

## **Rachel:**

I know. [laughs].

# Griffin:

Oh, this motherfucker right here? I know him.

# Rachel:

Yeah.

# Griffin:

That's The Grand Prize Game.

# Rachel:

Except at waist level.

# Griffin:

Except at waist level and you get drunk. Not that Bozo wasn't, but.

# Rachel:

[laughs].

Um, yeah. And I think, I think everybody has that moment. Or the first time they play beer pong you're like, "You mean The Grand Prize Game? Okay. I've always wanted to."

### Rachel:

These are in a triangle, that almost makes it easier than if they're in a line.

### Griffin:

Hey we're about to wrap up, but before we do, we got a few great submissions. If you wanna send in a good thing that you're into right now, you can go to wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com, and just drop us a line. Keep it fairly short, uh, just like a sentence or two about this thing that you're into, and maybe we'll talk about it on the show.

Uh, the first one here is from, the first one here is from Rebecca who just says, "Haruki Murakami, Thai Street food, new floors, cooking with bacon fat."

## Rachel:

That's great. That's great. Especially, I love cooking with bacon fat.

## **Griffin:**

Oh yeah, I especially love Haruki Murakami, but yes. And Thai street food. And you know what else? New floors. We've never gotten new floors, but when you go into a place that's new for us, it's like, "Oh, hell yes."

## Rachel:

We got new windows though, and it changed our life.

## Griffin:

Windows are just floors for the wall.

## Rachel:

Ooh, that's beautiful.

## Griffin:

Um, anyway, another one from C who says, "Hi Griffin and Rachel. I'm excited to say I just got my first job. I currently work at an ice cream shop,

which is great, as I get to eat ice cream while I'm on break. I also made \$100 last week, and I was finally able to buy myself Breath of the Wild, the new Zelda game uh, on the Nintendo Switch. Hopefully my job keeps being fun, and I don't get sick of the ice cream soon. I hope you two are having a good day." This was maybe the greatest email I've ever received in my entire life.

## **Rachel:**

Exactly.

## **Griffin:**

Thank you so much C.

## **Rachel:**

That's lovely. Also, I mean you're familiar with that kind of gig because you used to work at the...

## Griffin:

That was my first job, was working at TCBY.

## Rachel:

The Country's Best Yogurt.

## Griffin:

And I would be lying if I said that the reason I got that job wasn't so that I can have money to afford video games.

## Rachel:

Yeah.

## Griffin:

Then I got a job at GameStop, and I just like, you know, cut out the, cut out the middleman. Thank you, C. Here's one more from Bodhi who says, "Over the Garden Wall. A ten-part cartoon miniseries that takes about an hour and a half to watch through. Absolutely dripping with cool autumn vibes. It's got a great voice cast too, and the soundtrack is unbelievable. I even bought a copy of the soundtrack on vinyl, and with New Zealand shipping costs being what they are, it was a pretty big purchase. Still worth every cent."

#### **Rachel:**

We've seen that.

### Griffin:

We've watched a couple episodes of this, and...

## Rachel:

Yeah. Justin McElroy turned us on to that.

## Griffin:

Yeah. If you wanna get a message on the show, again, again just shoot it to wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com, and I think that's probably gonna do it for us. Thank you so much for listening to this pilot of our show, um...

## Rachel:

Thanks to the Maximum Fun network for supporting our transition into this new program.

## **Griffin:**

Yeah. It's been a sort of scary thing that we've been sort of struggling with for a little while. And also thank you for listening, like this was— A big thing was like, figuring out the logistics of, like, the backend stuff, but a big thing is, like, we know that you have listened to this other podcast for a long time, and we have sort of lost interest in doing that podcast, and we have appreciated all of the support we've gotten from folks who just like want us to make things that we're enthusiastic about, and that's really cool.

## Rachel:

Oh, I also wanted to thank um, you may have noticed our super great art that we have now for our new show, and uh, that is a big thank you to Louie Zong who did a incredible job. Uh, he is a very accomplished, uh, animator and artist, and we were very lucky to have him do that for us.

## Griffin:

Yeah, he works on We Bare Bears, which we've been very, very into lately.

Yeah, it's a great show.

#### **Griffin:**

Uh, thank you very much Louie. And thank you to Bo En and Augustus for letting us use the song Money Won't Pay. It's like, I've been obsessed with Money Won't Pay for forever, and uh—

#### Rachel:

Yeah, Griffin played it for me, and we both are like-

### Griffin:

Like, instantly. I've wanted to like use it as a theme song for something for so long, and so when we talked about doing Wonderful I was like, "Oh, it's gonna be Money Won't Pay. Uh, it's gonna be our outro too, which you're gonna hear here in just a few seconds. Thanks again to Max Fun. Go check out these shows, they're on maximumfun.org like, One Bad Mother and Stop Podcasting Yourself and Tights and Fights, uh, and Dead Pilots Society, all great shows there. And we have other podcasts and videos you can find at mcelroyshows.com. Is that it?

### Rachel:

It is. What are we gonna do for our outro?

### Griffin:

Uh, let's not, let's not, we don't gotta settle on that on episode one.

### Rachel:

Okay.

### **Griffin:**

I don't wanna get into a bad funk, 'cause I wanna say, like, no... See that's what I'm saying, I'm overthinking it. Let's just say, thanks for listening.

### Rachel:

Thank you for listening [laughs].

And we'll be back next week with a new episode a Wonderful on Wednesday, so see you then. Thanks, bye!

#### **Rachel:**

Bye!

[theme song plays]

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Absolutely. You're absolutely right, you said it actually better than I did, so I have to think about what that means.

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[laughs]. Hey, these are, this is the straight talk that you're gonna get on the show.

#### Speaker 1:

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