

Still Buffering 002: How to Communication

Published February 1st, 2016

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[theme music Baby You Change Your Mind by The Nouvellas plays]

Raleigh:

Hello, and welcome to *Still Buffering*, a sisters' guide to teens through the ages. I'm Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

And I'm Sydnee McElroy. And we're back! With a-

Raleigh:

Yay!

Sydnee:

With a second episode!

Raleigh:

We made it!

Sydnee:

We made it! We didn't get canceled after one.

Raleigh:

I thought we might.

Sydnee:

That do-

Raleigh:

It was a fear of mine.

Sydnee:

That doesn't happen [laughs].

Raleigh:

I mean, you never know.

Sydnee:

If it did... I was worried it might, to us. We might make, make history. With the first-

Raleigh:

Podcast history, but in a bad way.

Sydnee:

[laughs] The first canceled podcast. iTunes comes in, and says, "You're canceled. You're done."

Raleigh:

It just says, "Nope."

Sydnee:

"You're done here."

Raleigh:

"Nope, nope, nope. Get out." [laughs].

Sydnee:

[laughs] "We won't host you anymore."

Raleigh:

That didn't happen, though.

Sydnee:

It-

Raleigh:

We're here.

Sydnee:

It didn't. It didn't. So I think, um, Raleigh, since our first episode seemed to work out-

Raleigh:

Yeah?

Sydnee:

Maybe, maybe we should try it again. Maybe-

Raleigh:

Try another one?

Sydnee:

Yeah, let's try another one. Do you have any other, like, you know, teen questions? Any other, like, horrible teen, uh, quandaries that you've found yourself in that I can, uh, help you out of again?

Raleigh:

Well, uh, I had a situation happen recently, with some of my, uh, friends, my girlfriends.

Sydnee:

Lay it on me, 'cause I understand friend, you know, like-

Raleigh:

Oh, right. Right.

Sydnee:

The, like, girl group dynamics, I am-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

I am so attuned to that.

Raleigh:

I, I thought so. That's why, that's why I came to you for this one. Uh, so I'm in a group message with, like, 14 of my other girlfriends. There's, like, 15 high-school-age, 15, 16-year-old girls in this group text.

Sydnee:

A group... So it's on your phone.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Like, a group text?

Raleigh:

Like, texting? Like-

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

iMessage?

Sydnee:

I do that. No, I got... I'm all over that.

Raleigh:

All right. So we're all in this group text, and there's a girl on there who never talked to any of us. And I... Nowhere. And I was like, "Hey, what's happening? Why is she in here, not saying anything?" And then, someone removed her from the group text, and then everyone left the group text, and then all of us got added back into the group text by some person we don't know.

Raleigh:

And then, we were all in this group text, and apparently this girl, who was on the group text, not saying anything, was listening to all of us, and was telling people things that we were saying in our group text, which we thought was safe.

Sydnee:

Okay. Uh, okay. L- let's back it up. So, you're text messaging [laughs].

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

And there are other people text messaging-

Raleigh:

At the same time.

Sydnee:

All at the same time. Now, I'm confused as to, like... How did the girl get in? How... D- did somebody... Didn't somebody have to invite her?

Raleigh:

Yeah. Like-

Sydnee:

Or can you just join it willy... Who made-

Raleigh:

So-

Sydnee:

Who is the... Who's the founder of the group?

Raleigh:

So there was a founder.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

And she made this with a bunch of other people, before I was friends with them.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Over the summer. And then, I became friends with them in the beginning of the school year. And then, I was added in.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

So I'm, like, the newbie. Like, I'm the newest one in this group message.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Even though it's been, like, five months. But, uh, but these girls were in there before me. So they added her in before I was aware that she was in the group message.

Sydnee:

So they knew she was in?

Raleigh:

Right. I didn't even know she was in it, because I just knew the people that were in it, that were talking. But she never talked.

Sydnee:

And it was going on for five months?

Raleigh:

Yeah. Like-

Sydnee:

Is that typical?

Raleigh:

I mean, not usually? I... Like, the longest group text I've ever been in is, like, a month. But I guess these are, like, cool girls. Like, I'm in with the cool girls now.

Sydnee:

Why do you have a... Okay. Wha- what kind of information are you exchanging in a group text that lasts [laughs] a month?

Raleigh:

Okay. So I'm gonna be honest. Literally, nothing important.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Um, some of them are probably listening to this right now. So it's fun. Like, don't kick me out.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

But nothing important. Like, like, whenever we just think of anything that we need to tell our friends, for some reason, we just send it in the group text.

Sydnee:

But what if you... I mean, why don't you just tell the friend, like, that you want... I mean, do you want to tell all those people? Because obviously, there might be secret people. Which-

Raleigh:

I mean, yeah.

Sydnee:

By the way, this is a lot like that movie. That scary movie we watched.

Raleigh:

The rat movie again?

Sydnee:

No, no. The scary movie. Um, *Unfriended*.

Raleigh:

Oh, it is like *Unfriended*.

Sydnee:

It sounds like you're in, it sounds like you're in the beginning of a horror movie, and that this person is actually... Isn't it a ghost? It's a ghost of somebody who died, and then-

Raleigh:

Well, I mean-

Sydnee:

They're gonna-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, you guys are all gonna get killed. Are your friends-

Raleigh:

I mean-

Sydnee:

Getting picked off, one by one, by a mysterious supernatural force?

Raleigh:

Not yet.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

But she's gone now. So I think we're good.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

I think, I think we're good. I mean, we took her out once, and then somehow, she mysteriously got added back in.

Sydnee:

That's what I'm saying.

Raleigh:

And no one knows how she got added back in, like this is-

Sydnee:

Unfriended.

Raleigh:

A real story. Like, no one knows how she got added back in.

Sydnee:

Okay. This is how urban legends-

Raleigh:

But she's alive.

Sydnee:

Start.

Raleigh:

Like, I see her at school.

Sydnee:

Okay. But... And she hasn't killed anybody?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

That you know of.

Raleigh:

That I [laughs] know of.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

This is where the plot thickens.

Sydnee:

All right [laughs].

Raleigh:

This is-

Sydnee:

What I'm confused... Is... So you don't use this group text thing to exchange any relevant information?

Raleigh:

Well, I mean, like, if we all want to hang out with each other, we're-

Sydnee:

So-

Raleigh:

Just like, "Hey. Let's all hang out." And then we make plans, so it's not like I'm texting this person, then texting this person. Like, you know, we're all together.

Sydnee:

Okay. So this is how you would, like, organize an outing.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean-

Sydnee:

Or some-

Raleigh:

It only-

Sydnee:

Some such thing.

Raleigh:

Works out, like, half of the time.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Because most of the time, the plans just ends up falling through. But, like, 20% of the time, yeah, it's how we make plans.

Sydnee:

See, because, what I would've done in high school to make plans... Th- this is a very foreign concept to me, because if I wanted, you know, my, my friend to come over, or to, like, go to the mall-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Or whatever, you know, I would have, like, called her, or his house.

Raleigh:

Called them?

Sydnee:

I would-

Raleigh:

Their house?

Sydnee:

Well, yeah.

Raleigh:

What if they're not the ones that answer?

Sydnee:

Well, I mean, you... That was one thing you had to expect. Like, I actually... I've always had a little bit of phone awkwardness. Well, not so much now, but I used to. And so, I actually would practice ahead of time, like, 'cause you pick up your landline... You- you're familiar with the concept of a landline?

Raleigh:

I think we used to have one.

Sydnee:

You did.

Raleigh:

Not like, not like an old phone landline, but like, you know, like a... I don't know, like, a land... I don't know.

Sydnee:

What's an old phone landline [laughs]?

Raleigh:

Like, the ones that have, like, the little circle on the front?

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

And, like, the cord that's attached to it?

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

The cord wasn't attached to ours.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

It was like a little, like, place you could put it, so it could sleep. But then, when you need to call someone, you could just pick it up and talk to-

Sydnee:

Right, a cordless phone.

Raleigh:

Right, yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Okay.

Raleigh:

Right, yeah. Okay.

Sydnee:

Well, and we did... You know, through most of, most of my, um, teenage years, we had cordless phones. Now, I do remember a corded phone. The ones with the, the curly cord on them.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, but we still... I had the, the ones that you pushed buttons on. Again, through most of my-

Raleigh:

Oh, okay. Okay.

Sydnee:

Uh, the, the dial-up ones, the rotary phones, as they're called, they-

Raleigh:

They're called rotary phones?

Sydnee:

Yeah, where you turn the numbers?

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

That, that even predates me a little bit. I mean, I, I remember they existed. I've used them.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I understand how to use them, but those are a little older.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

But yes, so you'd pick up your phone. Your home phone, your landline.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And you would [laughs]... You'd dial the number that you would have to know-

Raleigh:

You'd have to memorize it?

Sydnee:

Yeah. So, like, I had my best friends' numbers memorized. And the ones that I didn't, I just had, like, written down. Like, actually, I kept a list in my diary.

Raleigh:

In your... Okay, wait. That's a whole 'nother thing-

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Like, you had a diary.

Sydnee:

I had a diary.

Raleigh:

Um, but you memorized them?

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

'Cause I honestly... Other than, like, mom and dad's phone numbers, because they made me, I could not tell you the first digit of any of my friends' numbers.

Sydnee:

Those were your best friends, the ones that you, you knew their number. And again, I didn't know everybody's number, and that's why I had the, the diary list, but you would, you would have to know. Because you would call them a lot, and you know... Like, I knew their parents well enough to say, like, "Mr.," or "Mrs.," like, whoever-

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

"Hi. Hi, this is Sydnee. I'm calling for Stacy. Is she available?"

Raleigh:

That sounds so uncomfortable to me. Having to talk to someone that's not your friend, that's your friend's parent.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Like, I haven't even met half my friends' parents.

Sydnee:

See, we had to, because we, we had to talk to them on the phone.

Raleigh:

Oh, that's so awkward.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Like-

Sydnee:

But that's, but that's what we... I would have done. So if I wanted to make plans with one person, I would've just called them up. If I wanted to make plans with more than one person, um, I would either, like, call each one, or... I mean, like, three-way calling existed, like, where you could get two people on the phone with you at the same time.

Raleigh:

That's a thing?

Sydnee:

That is a thing. Uh, but-

Raleigh:

I didn't even know that was a thing.

Sydnee:

But I didn't use that a lot. I mean, I... Like, in movies, they use that, but I never used that a lot.

Raleigh:

They used that in *Mean Girls*.

Sydnee:

Yes. Exactly. So that... You could do that.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

But we didn't, we didn't do that much. Like, I would call somebody, and then I'd be like, "Hey, you know, Melissa, why don't you call Lisa? And then, somebody else will call Sarah," and like, like, everybody would call e- ... You know, almost like a phone tree, or a phone chain. Like, somebody would just call some... That way, you didn't have to call everybody. Like, everybody called one person.

Raleigh:

I don't know what a phone tree is, but I get what you're saying.

Sydnee:

Right. So, like, that's how we would've made plans. You know, like, organized events and-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And such. Um-

Raleigh:

See, now, it's just, like, text in the group text. Like, "Hey. Who wants to hang? Hit me up."

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

"BRB."

Sydnee:

But then, like, you can just ignore it. And you don't-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Well, I mean, because it, it allows you to not, um, commit or decline. You know what I mean?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

'Cause, like, if you call somebody, you got them on the phone, and you say, "Hey, you want to go to the mall today?" You know-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

"We can go, we can hang out, and... " [laughs].

Raleigh:

Hang out at the mall. 'Cause that's a cool thing to do.

Sydnee:

It was cool to hang out at the mall, okay?

Raleigh:

Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

It was very cool. We liked to hang out at the mall. Um, and you know, like I said, [laughs] go to Limited Too.

Raleigh:

Limited Too??

Sydnee:

Uh, Claire's. Check out Claire's for all the earrings.

Raleigh:

Claire's still exists.

Sydnee:

Yeah?

Raleigh:

I got to Claire's.

Sydnee:

So we would check it out-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

And get some earrings.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Yeah? And then, hit up Chick-fil-A. And-

Raleigh:

Okay. Well, this is getting farther and farther away from what hanging out is like now.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

At first, it was like, mall? Okay. I get it. Claire's? I mean, maybe in, like, middle school? But now, we're just just at, like, the point where it's like, come on. That's not what we do nowadays, these hip, new teens.

Sydnee:

Oh. Or maybe, like, if you wanted to go to the skating rink?

Raleigh:

Okay. No, I don't think I've even been to a skating rink since, like, fifth grade, when I got enough reading points.

Sydnee:

[laughs] To be fair, I didn't like skating. My friends did that more. I would go, but I didn't... I can't skate. I have weak ankles [laughs].

Raleigh:

I get it. I get it. We have the same genetics.

Sydnee:

Anyway, so i- if you wanted to, if you wanted to, like... Like I was saying, if you wanted to make plans, if you wanted to hang out at the mall, or whatever, I would just, just call people. And then, they could commit or decline, but they weren't able to just ignore.

See, the, the text thing worries me because, like, then you could have somebody in the group who, like... They don't want to go, but they don't want to say they don't want to... 'Cause who ever wants turn somebody down, right?

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

You always want to, like, just be able to just disappear-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Go mute-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And not have to say anything.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

So, like, that would... What if you asked and nobody responded at all?

Raleigh:

Then it's just like, "Okay, cool. Thanks, guys." You know? And then they're all... They all feel bad, so then, they say yes.

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

They're like, "Oh, I was in the shower." I'm doing air quotes right now, but you can't see them.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

"I was in the shower. I was eating dinner."

Sydnee:

That's very crafty.

Raleigh:

"Doing homework." Which you know is the, the fakest one, because none of us ever do homework.

Sydnee:

You do.

Raleigh:

Do I?

Sydnee:

Don't front.

Raleigh:

Do I?

Sydnee:

Don't front. You do your homework [laughs].

Raleigh:

I was trying to sound cool [laughs].

Sydnee:

"Front," is still a thing, right?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Not... Really? You don't say that anymore?

Raleigh:

Trying to, trying to front? Don't try to front.

Sydnee:

Don't front?

Raleigh:

No [laughs].

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

I've never said that word in my entire life.

Sydnee:

Okay. I, I still say that [laughs]. I had a teenager at work, today, tell me I was kinda cool.

Raleigh:

Oh, wow. Did they really?

Sydnee:

Just deal with it.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Just deal with it [laughs].

Raleigh:

I will.

Sydnee:

I also had another one tell me I looked like a nerd, so-

Raleigh:

Well, okay.

Sydnee:

E- even split, on the day. 50/50 [laughs].

Raleigh:

You get one... You know.

Sydnee:

At the end, I'm... I come out the same as I went in.

Raleigh:

You come out the same as you, you went in. There you go.

Sydnee:

Um, but that... You know, this is different, though. Okay, so we talked about, like, making plans. Like, if I was gonna communicate with friends, just, like, chatting, like-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

You know, just, like, talk... Like you said, like, talking about just... Whatever.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

You know, things you want to just... "Hey, you won't believe what just happened on TV." Or, like, you know, "Did you hear about-"

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

"Did you hear about the local... The, latest, like, political scandal?"

Raleigh:

Okay, we don't talk about political scandals.

Sydnee:

Things that you want to talk about with your friends. Or, like, back in, back in my high school days, it would've been like, um... Like, with my theater friends, I would've been like, "Hey, uh, I just memorized all the words to the first act of *Rent*. Do you want to come over later [laughs] and we'll sing them?" I guess that's still making plans.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Like, that kind of thing?

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

So, like, if I just wanted to, like, chat with people, we could either talk on the phone, or there was, like, Instant Messenger.

Raleigh:

What?

Sydnee:

Like, AIM?

Raleigh:

I have... Okay. Any other examples? Ex- ... Like, instances?

Sydnee:

[Laughs] So, like, okay. Instant Messenger. Um, or, like, for instance, I started with something called Prodigy.

Raleigh:

Nope.

Sydnee:

Which, Justin had to explain to me what I was actually using. It wasn't even, like... Apparently, it wasn't the [laughs] internet. It was, like, you're online and you're connected with other people, and you can look at what they do, and you can chat with them, but you're not even, like, in the internet, so to speak. I don't even understand.

Raleigh:

I don't understand, and I understand a lot about the internet, and, like, talking to people. I don't understand anything about what you're saying.

Sydnee:

You have to understand, there was a time when, if I was going to get online, the way that I did that was, go to my computer, and go to AOL, and then type in a bunch of stuff, and click a button, and wait for our phone lines to plug me into the internet.

Raleigh:

Your phones were connected to your computers?

Sydnee:

The phone lines are how you logged onto the internet. And so, you would hear this, like, awful sound that, like, you waited for, that meant you were connecting.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

And, like, I don't even know how to... I'm gonna play it for you later.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

There's this awful sound that would happen [laughs]. And you could tell, like, was it going through, was it patching through, was it working, was it working? And like, if, if, if you did, then you were online, and if somebody called while you were online, like, you might get kicked off.

Raleigh:

So, wait. Like, you couldn't talk on the phone with someone at the same time that you were using the internet?

Sydnee:

No. Not if you had a phone line. Unless you had more than one line, no.

Raleigh:

You had more than one... What's, even, a line? Like, now-

Sydnee:

Okay. See, this is a whole other thing [laughs].

Raleigh:

See? Like, if I wanted to, like, use the internet, it's just like, "Hey, I have a homework question. I'm gonna FaceTime you on my laptop, and then put you in a separate window, and then, while I'm doing my homework... And then you can tell me what I'm doing."

Sydnee:

See, none of this would've existed. If I wanted to ask somebody a homework question, first of all, I would've just called them on the landline. Secondly, if I wanted to do it through a computer, I could do it through AOL Instant Messenger. Which was, like, you log onto the internet, and then you send somebody... It was like a text message-

Raleigh:

So it's like computer-texting?

Sydnee:

Yeah. E- exactly.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

It's like computer-texting. Or, like Facebook messaging.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

So you-

Raleigh:

But then, what if, like, you leave your computer? What if, like, you, like, go to go eat?

Sydnee:

Ah.

Raleigh:

Or, like, you gotta go shower?

Sydnee:

This... Okay. This is the best part about AIM. So you would, you would chat with them on AOL, and you... And I might do that. Like, I might chat with my friends on AOL Instant Messenger. Um, and if I wanted to leave, you could leave an away message. So if they tried to message you, up would pop this away message that said, like, something incredibly clever, and, and cute.

Raleigh:

So you probably spent more time actually coming up with your away message than you were actually going to be gone?

Sydnee:

Abso-lutely. Like, you would put on there, like, I... You know, for me, like, uh, "Not here right now. I'm wasting away again, in Margaritaville."

Raleigh:

Okay. More Jimmy Buffet. Good. Good. Obviously, this was a cool thing, back in the day. You know, you got your Jimmy Buffet music at your parties.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Got your Jimmy Buffet away message? Is that what it's called?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Your away message.

Raleigh:

I didn't even know that existed.

Sydnee:

Then it would pop up. And you could make it sound super cute, or, like, if you wanted to be, like, you know, kind of angsty, make it sound, like, tortured and kind of sad, like-

Raleigh:

Like, like, lyrics? Could you do that?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Yeah, like, song lyrics were a very popular thing to put on there.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Like, I had lots of Weezer lyrics, lots of, like, um, like, Tori Amos lyrics, and-

Raleigh:

Again, I just don't-

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Don't know.

Sydnee:

I know.

Raleigh:

But, okay. Do you think bringing that back would be uncool?

Sydnee:

I thought it was very cool. I mean, what, what is cooler than, like, your friend wants to talk to you, and instead of talking to you, they just get this, like, enigmatic, like, "Ooh, these little earthquakes. Here we go again?" What does that mean?

Raleigh:

Is that a lyric?

Sydnee:

What's wrong with Sydnee? Yes, it is.

Raleigh:

Okay. Well, um, okay. So would it be uncool if, in this group message, per se, I wanted to go eat dinner, and I didn't want to have my phone with me, 'cause I was, like, you know, gonna go tech-free.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Yeah? Being cool-

Sydnee:

That's a good idea, yeah.

Raleigh:

Okay. And then, I just send my friends a text that's like, "This is my away message," and then I put an away message in, and then I leave it. Is that uncool?

Sydnee:

Well, I, I mean, I don't know. It would seem kind of odd. Like, it might seem... It might seem kind of aggressive that you're like, "Here's an away message," [laughs].

Raleigh:

"So don't talk to me."

Sydnee:

You didn't ask if I was leaving. I'm telling you [laughs].

Raleigh:

Oh, okay. But, like, on these instant messagers, could you, like, accumulate messages when you were gone? Like-

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Could people still send you a bunch of stuff? Because I find that problem a lot... Like, you leave the group message to go shower-

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

For, like, 20 minutes. And I come back and I have, literally, 138 text messages.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I mean, it... See, okay, that probably wouldn't have happened, 'cause people would get your away message, and then, like, would they keep-

Raleigh:

They'd get the hint.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Why would they keep messaging you?

Raleigh:

We need to bring back away messages.

Sydnee:

I think that's a great idea.

Raleigh:

But then, what if they have... I guess you didn't have group AIMS?

Sydnee:

Well, we didn't have group A- AIMS, but we did have chat rooms.

Raleigh:

Is that the same thing as a group text?

Sydnee:

It could be. Like, you could have a private chat room, which would be like a group text, which you... Like, you invited people into, and it was the same

thing. It was on the computer, but it was like texting, and you would just sit there and type, and, like, only the people that you invited into the chat room could talk.

Raleigh:

Oh, okay. So it's like a computer group text.

Sydnee:

Exactly. So-

Raleigh:

So, like, a Twitter group text? Like, a group DM?

Sydnee:

Yes. Yes.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Except for... Not-

Raleigh:

Well, that makes sense.

Sydnee:

Not attached to Twitter.

Raleigh:

Not attached to social media.

Sydnee:

And not limited to 140 characters.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

So you can just type whatever you want. It's like... 'Cause there were, there were private chat rooms, but there were also public chat rooms.

Raleigh:

Where you just talk with literally anyone?

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

That's kind of scary.

Sydnee:

That... It's terrifying. That's where the in- ... That is where, like the internet started for me. Like, that was the first time like... I was on there, like, chatting with my friends, and then there were all these... So my friends would come over-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

So we could get in... Like, we could physically sit there together and be in a chat room on the internet, with people we didn't know, and then just get in there, and see, like, what we could say to, like, freak people out-

Raleigh:

Now, I'm just imagining-

Sydnee:

Or mix it up.

Raleigh:

You and all your friends, sitting in your room. And I know what your old room looks like, so I'm imagining you-

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

You all sitting in your room, eating your ramen... I'm assuming you probably were doing-

Sydnee:

Probably.

Raleigh:

Listening to Jimmy Buffet in the background?

Sydnee:

Probably.

Raleigh:

And then, imagining... I'm just... The way to describe it... Imagining all of you and your cool friends-

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

Imagining yourselves sitting in a room with all of these people you didn't know.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Like, an actual, physical room.

Sydnee:

That was pretty much it.

Raleigh:

That- that's what you did for fun?

Sydnee:

Oh, we would lo- ... We would... Now, to be fair, it was in the computer room. Because remember-

Raleigh:

Oh, right.

Sydnee:

We didn't have laptops.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

You know, I mean, we had, we had the big family computer.

Raleigh:

The computer.

Sydnee:

The big computer that was in the-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

It was in... What, uh, was that-

Raleigh:

The guest bedroom.

Sydnee:

Yeah, the guest bedroom.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

So we had the big family computer, and we would all pull up a chair around the family computer, and wait to get logged in, hope nobody called, and then... And sit there in chat rooms, which was totally dangerous. And there were definitely times where, like, um, we would be talking to somebody, and then they'd be like, "I'm a 50-year-old man." And it was like, "Ah."

Raleigh:

So, Omegle?

Sydnee:

What?

Raleigh:

Do you know what that is?

Sydnee:

What?

Raleigh:

Well, it's pretty much that. Right? I- I'm saying, "Right," as if there's other people here that get what I'm saying. But-

Sydnee:

I have no idea what you're talking to me about.

Raleigh:

It's, like, a thing that you can do on your computer. And you can, like, video chat with a random person, but you know it's gonna be a random person. But you can also just chat with this person.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Th- this is the same idea. Um, you could do that-

Raleigh:

Just as creepy.

Sydnee:

That is creepy. Don't do that.

Raleigh:

I don't.

Sydnee:

You don't do that, do you?

Raleigh:

I don't.

Sydnee:

No?

Raleigh:

I don't.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

My friends do. I don't.

Sydnee:

Okay, good. Yeah, no, don't do that. Because... I mean, that was the thing. We thought, like, "Oh, this is kind of fun and e- exciting." We were talking to strangers. They could be anyone.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

They could be anywhere in the world. I mean, eventually... I mean, this was a neat concept, of-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

The idea that you could be talking to somebody, somewhere else in the world.

Raleigh:

Even though that's, like-

Sydnee:

This was all brand-new.

Raleigh:

All that today is.

Sydnee:

Exactly. Like-

Raleigh:

It's, like, all it, now, is.

Sydnee:

This was a brand-new idea. Um, and it never occurred to us when we were younger that people would use this for, you know, nefarious purposes.

Raleigh:

Bad things.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Really bad things [laughs].

Sydnee:

So, so don't. Because, I mean, you know, maybe, like, you'll make a cool, new pen pal in Tokyo. Or-

Raleigh:

A pen pal?

Sydnee:

Or whatever you would... Whatever the equivalent would be today.

Raleigh:

I don't even know what the equivalent to a pen pal would be, now. Just a, just a, a follower on Twitter [laughs]?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Maybe you'll get a-

Raleigh:

A friend on Facebook?

Sydnee:

A cool, new follower on Twitter. Or maybe, you know, you're gonna be featured on, uh, like, Dateline later. So-

Raleigh:

Because someone catfished you? Is that, is that what it's called? Someone-

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Catfished you?

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Then, you just ended up dying, because you thought this was, like, a cute, teen boy. But it ended up being a very scary, not-teen man.

Sydnee:

Exactly. Exactly. So don't, so, so don't do that. Don't do that thing [laughs].

Raleigh:

I will not do that thing. Now I'm very scared to do that thing.

Sydnee:

Yeah, don't do that. Um, okay. So, so that's how... So we figured out how we're gonna make plans, and this is how we would communicate... Like, chatty.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like, just like how we would chat. How... I'm curious to know, how would you navigate, like, if it's somebody you like? Like, a boy or girl that you have a crush on-

Raleigh:

That you like-like.

Sydnee:

That you like-like.

Raleigh:

Ooooh.

Sydnee:

Like, how... Because... Let me give you an example. In, in my day [laughs]-

Raleigh:

In... Back in the day-

Sydnee:

Back in the day, uh, if it was somebody that I liked, uh, there were a couple different things I could do. Um, one, if we were at school-

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And I wanted to, like, show him that I liked him at school, I could, like, write him a note.

Raleigh:

Is this, like, one of those notes where it's like, "Do you like me? Check yes, or check no?"

Sydnee:

I got some of those notes, yes. Um-

Raleigh:

Ooh!

Sydnee:

By high school, we were a little more sophisticated. So it would just be, like, one of those, like, like... Just a note to, like... "How are you doing? Oh, my gosh. Like, I cannot believe, like, gym class was totally crazy today."

Raleigh:

But then, you'd have to wait so long-

Sydnee:

"This is exhausting-"

Raleigh:

To get an answer.

Sydnee:

Well, but... I mean, that was the excitement, was, like, waiting to see, like... Was he gonna put a note in your locker? Or, like, slip one into one of your

books? Or, like, hand you one at lunch, or have one of your friends deliver it?

Raleigh:

Oh. Then, it's extra cool.

Sydnee:

Yes. And, like, maybe you had different lunch periods. So, like, you know, somebody would deliver it and be like, "So-and-so gave this-"

Raleigh:

Like, pass it along?

Sydnee:

"To me." Yeah.

Raleigh:

Like a mailman?

Sydnee:

And you had to trust your friends.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Not to read them. And so, sometimes, you would have, like, really, like, cool folding on them. Like, fold them in neat ways.

Raleigh:

So they couldn't open them?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Or so you could tell, like, you know... And then-

Raleigh:

So you could tell, if they opened them?

Sydnee:

Yeah. So, so you would learn how to fold your note in a neat way, and you would... And again, you would, like, draw little doodles or, like song lyrics.

Raleigh:

But then, what if you don't get a note back?

Sydnee:

Well, I mean, they probably don't like you very much [laughs].

Raleigh:

I mean, it sound- ... Uh, yeah.

Sydnee:

But, like, there were notes or, like... As I got older, you know, we kind of moved on past notes. And certainly, you could, like, just tell your friends to tell s- ... "Tell so-and-so I like him."

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Um, and you could, you could also Instant Messenger them. But then, there was also paging. So, like, do you even know... Like, what is your concept of a pager?

Raleigh:

Okay. I... This is gonna sound like I'm being funny, but this is really serious. As far as pagers go, I know they use them on Grey's Anatomy.

Sydnee:

Okay. That's fair. Nowadays, I think pagers are largely just something that, like, doctors and drug dealers use [laughs].

Raleigh:

Oh. Drug dealers, too?

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

It's growing.

Sydnee:

Uh [laughs], it's fading.

Raleigh:

Oh.

Sydnee:

The- there was a moment in time... And I wasn't even cool enough to have a pager, full disclosure. I had many friends who had pagers, and I was very jealous. I didn't have one. So, like, there was this moment between, uh, just using your parent's landline and getting a cellphone, where people had pagers.

Sydnee:

And if you were super cool, then you would page somebody, like, with your... You know, to let them know that you wanted to talk to them. But, like, you could send them, like cute little messages. Either, like, if you had a-

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Fancy pager that had words on it, or just, like, through numbers.

Raleigh:

But how do you read a number message?

Sydnee:

I don't know. They were, like, secret codes. I'm assuming there was something-

Raleigh:

Did you, did you... Were you not cool enough to know them?

Sydnee:

No, I didn't. I didn't have a pager. But I'm assuming there was something more sophisticated than, like, 8-0-0-8 means, "Boob," [laughs].

Raleigh:

I [laughs], I would think so, because now, that's just what people do on their calculators during math class. Like, I look around at all the boys, like, "Ha, boob."

Sydnee:

[laughs] No, this was, this was, like, a way you could send cute messages, or something, to somebody through a pager. Other than just paging them to, like, say, "Call... " 'Cause, you know, that's the point of a pager.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Send me your number, and that means, "Call me back."

Raleigh:

Oh. So, like, the, like, the, uh, Kim Possible theme song? Where it's just, like-

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

"Call me, beep me, if you want to reach me."

Sydnee:

Beep me! Exactly.

Raleigh:

Beep me.

Sydnee:

That's a pager.

Raleigh:

Is that what a pager is?

Sydnee:

Yeah, that's what... Beep me.

Raleigh:

Oh, man. I was, I was seeing pagers before I even knew they were pagers.

Sydnee:

There you go. So if you wanted to tell a boy that you liked him, obviously, you're not gonna page him. What, what do you-

Raleigh:

No. Well, I think you-

Sydnee:

A, a boy or a girl.

Raleigh:

I think you start out, uh... You, you like their tweets.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Or their Instagrams. If they're... Their Facebooks. If you're still using Facebook. A lot of people still don't use Facebook now. Uh-

Sydnee:

I am learning that. See, I thought I was cool, with Facebook. But no, right?

Raleigh:

No. No.

Sydnee:

No.

Raleigh:

I thought I was cool, with Facebook, when I was, like, nine.

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

But now, I am... Now, I know.

Sydnee:

Right. Now-

Raleigh:

Now, I know.

Sydnee:

Facebook's where the moms go, right?

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I'm a mom. I'm there [laughs].

Raleigh:

So you like their Instagrams, and their tweets. So they get the hint, and they're like, "Oh. She's liking my tweets, she's liking my Instagrams." And then, you slide into their DMs, their direct messages.

Sydnee:

What does that mean?

Raleigh:

It means you, like... You don't have their number yet. I mean, maybe you do. Maybe they're your friend. 'Cause then, you can just text him.

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

But if it's someone you don't know, and you're like, "Hey, this, this guy or girl is very cute. I'm gonna, I'm gonna hit them up." And then, you go into their direct messages. And you can, like, message them and be like, "Hey. What's up?" And then you start talking, and eventually get to a point where you get their number, and then you have their number. And then, you're in the talking phase.

Sydnee:

And then you call them? And, like, talk to them?

Raleigh:

No. I have never, once, other than you, mom, dad, and maybe Teylor... I can't remember the last time I talked to someone on the phone.

Sydnee:

So what do you... So you've got their... So you just text them?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

In a-

Raleigh:

I mean, you could-

Sydnee:

In a group, or in, like, just a-

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

One-on-one-

Raleigh:

In a private.

Sydnee:

Oh, now, it's a private text.

Raleigh:

You could also Snapchat. I don't Snapchat. Sometimes, I Snapchat my girlfriends really ugly pictures of myself.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

When it comes to boys, I don't use Snapchat.

Sydnee:

Because that's the thing where you, like, send something that vanishes instantly, right?

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

It's like the-

Raleigh:

That's why-

Sydnee:

Disappearing ink-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Of text messaging.

Raleigh:

Which... Okay. Now that I think about it, I guess it's the perfect way for some people to do bad things.

Sydnee:

Right. That's the thing-

Raleigh:

But it's the perfect way-

Sydnee:

I've heard about it [laughs].

Raleigh:

Right. But it's the perfect way for me to take really ugly, ugly pictures of myself, to make my friends laugh, but they can't keep them.

Sydnee:

What-

Raleigh:

I guess they could.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

But then, if they have them, then it's like, you know, they were smart enough to screenshot it in enough time. You can have it.

Sydnee:

But what if they use it to embarrass you?

Raleigh:

I have enough embarrassing pictures of my friends. It's kind of, like, a thing, you know?

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

I mean, in... Back to the group text. All the pictures I have of my friends. for the whole profile pictures of my group text, are ugly pictures of them.

Sydnee:

So it's like blackmail? I have your ugly pictures, you have my ugly pictures-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

We are at a stalemate.

Raleigh:

Like, I see you screen shot this Snap. I have so many ugly pictures of you. If you post that anywhere, I will post so many ugly pictures of you.

Sydnee:

But what you don't know is, I spent the last year building up an immunity iocane powder.

Raleigh:

What?

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

I don't know what just happened. Did, did I miss something? Did I black out?

Sydnee:

That was a little *Princess Bride* reference there, for you.

Raleigh:

I don't think I've ever seen that movie.

Sydnee:

Oh. Oh, help me. Um, okay. So that's what you do if you like somebody.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Uh, is there, like, a... A m- ... Like, we talked about *Mean Girls*. Is there, like, a mean girl thing that you do... 'Cause, like, I, I would say that, for the most part, if I just didn't like somebody in high school, I just didn't talk to them. You know, I just-

Raleigh:

I- I'd say-

Sydnee:

Stayed away from them.

Raleigh:

That's... Well-

Sydnee:

But I mean, there were certainly... 'Cause I, I... An- and I'd like to think I wasn't a mean girl.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I was more on the other end of that.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Um-

Raleigh:

Me too.

Sydnee:

But I think there were certainly, like... I did get some mean notes, periodically. Like, I-

Raleigh:

Mean notes?

Sydnee:

Yeah, like, I would get physically-written mean notes. And then, you could certainly use Instant Messenger to be super mean to somebody. Although, again, like, that wasn't really what I did with it.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I know that I was... I know that I fell victim to that sometimes. Like-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Sometimes, people wouldn't want to say something to your face, so then, like, they'd be nice to you at school. But then, after school, they'd, like, log onto AOL and say something really crappy to you in an IM. Um, what, what do you, what do you do now?

Raleigh:

I guess, the, the standard, you know... Ignore them at school, when you see them in person. Give them, like the stink-eye.

Sydnee:

That's-

Raleigh:

I could see myself doing that now. I do that a lot, now.

Sydnee:

Sure.

Raleigh:

A lot. Um, but there's also sub-tweeting.

Sydnee:

What is sub-tweeting?

Raleigh:

Do you know what sub-tweeting is?

Sydnee:

No, I don't know what that is.

Raleigh:

Okay. So, like, say, someone really made you really angry. Like, they took your Skittles.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

And, like, this person knows they took your Skittles. They know they're the only person that's ever taken your Skittles.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

So you tweet. You don't mention them by name. You just tweet, so you don't-

Sydnee:

Don't say, "Skittles Joe."

Raleigh:

No, you don't say, "Skittles Joe." You [laughs]-

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

You just tweet. And you say, "Hey, next time you want some Skittles, don't steal mine." Or, "Hey, stop being such a Skittle thief." But you don't mention them. But then, they see it, because you know they follow you. And then, they're like, "Oh. They're sub-tweeting me."

Raleigh:

And then, that's where you get the, "Hey, @ me next time." 'Cause it's like, "Hey, @ me next time you want to talk about me."

Sydnee:

So I put, put at @ at, like-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, "Say it to my face."

Raleigh:

Yeah. Like-

Sydnee:

That's what that means.

Raleigh:

Don't talk behind my back. Say it to my face. Exactly.

Sydnee:

On Twitter.

Raleigh:

On Twitter.

Sydnee:

Say it to my Twitter-face [laughs].

Raleigh:

Say it to my Twitter profile avi.

Sydnee:

Say it to my intentionally ugly profile picture-

Raleigh:

That I made of you.

Sydnee:

That I made... Oh, that I made of you.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Ooh. Okay. That's intense.

Raleigh:

That's where things get real intense in the Twitterverse.

Sydnee:

That, that just sounds, to me, like, passive aggressive tweeting.

Raleigh:

It is.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

But sometimes, you can passive aggressive tweet with no specific target in mind.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

You know, just, like, you're really angry. Like, "Oh, I hate teachers."

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

"I hate people. I hate books."

Sydnee:

[Laughs].

Raleigh:

I don't hate books. But you know, it's just examples. Like, books aren't getting offended. But, like-

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

All teachers are gonna get offended by my, "I hate teachers," tweet. It's like, an in-general. But then, if you want someone specific, you got to come in with a specific example.

Sydnee:

Right. Without mentioning them.

Raleigh:

Without mentioning them. Because then, they know it's about them. But if they say, "Hey, why'd you tweet about me?" You can say, "I didn't mention you by name. What are you talking about?"

Sydnee:

This sounds really complicated.

Raleigh:

It is-

Sydnee:

This is all very... Like, there's a lot of land mines here, that you might-

Raleigh:

When you-

Sydnee:

That you might stumble on.

Raleigh:

You grow up around it, it's just kind of, like, your way of life. Like, your-

Sydnee:

Because-

Raleigh:

Survival mentality [laughs] is how to sub-tweet.

Sydnee:

[laughs] That's scary, though, because it sounds like, in general, you know... And we didn't get into everything. Like, I know that there are, you know... Back in, in my day, there was, like, LiveJournal. And-

Raleigh:

I don't know what that is.

Sydnee:

Which... It- it's sort of like Tumblr.

Raleigh:

Okay. I have a Tumblr. Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Right. And it's a... Kind of a, kind of an old-school Tumblr. And I know that there was, like, the brief interlude where, like, MySpace existed.

Raleigh:

I remember having a MySpace for, like, a week.

Sydnee:

I think it was, like, a- after you... Or, after me, and before you.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I think it was almost, like... The MySpace moment was so brief. Because I didn't have a MySpace.

Raleigh:

I had one for, like, a week.

Sydnee:

I had Facebook, and that's not cool now, apparently.

Raleigh:

And I was, like, "There are a bunch of old people on here. What do I do?"
And then I deleted it.

Sydnee:

Um, I think, though, that what's tricky is, it seems like there's a lot more ways for you guys to communicate with each other.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Than there was-

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

And to constantly be communicating... I mean, you had to be pretty direct. Like, especially when I was younger, and you wanted to call somebody. And that's, like, a finite amount of time, because-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

For one, it's, like, the parent's phone. And, like, you gotta know, too, there was a time where we paid for all this phone communication. Where you paid for-

Raleigh:

Paid for it-

Sydnee:

Yeah, you paid for... Not so much for, like, local calls on a landline, necessarily. But, like, for text messages, you paid. For the, uh, minutes you spent on your phone, you paid.

Raleigh:

See, now, I just have-

Sydnee:

You used to-

Raleigh:

All those unlimited texts.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

All the texts.

Sydnee:

The- there was a time where all that cost, cost a lot more money. And, like, your parents were watching it, 'cause, you know, your parents were probably paying for it.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Um, and it seems like, now, you can be constantly in contact with your friends or your frenemies.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, I'm gonna guarantee you, when we're done... Open my phone, turn it on... I'm gonna have at least 50 text messages.

Sydnee:

See? And I might have one or two, maybe [laughs].

Raleigh:

Well, I mean, it's all the group texts too. It's not even people, like, that are talking to me directly.

Sydnee:

See, I would say, Rileigh, that... To get back to your initial, kind of, quandary.

Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Um, because I, I think that that is something... It's hard for me to relate to, because I never would have been in that kind of group text situation.

Rileigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

But I would say that, if you have... Like, if, if you use that for, like, fun, to, like, tell each other funny things-

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

'Cause, like, I'll snap funny pictures and send them to my friends sometimes, like, just-

Rileigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

You know, that kind of thing. I think text messaging is good for that. But I think, if it's anything more complicated, if you're saying anything serious, if it's something you really want to tell somebody, if it's how you feel about something-

Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And certainly, if it's something that, like, might hurt somebody or upset somebody else-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I think you got to go old school.

Raleigh:

And call them?

Sydnee:

I think you gotta call somebody. Or-

Raleigh:

Oh.

Sydnee:

I think, if it's really big... And, and buckle down. I think you gotta go face-to-face.

Raleigh:

What?!

Sydnee:

I think you have to have face-to-face conversation, 'cause there's so much nuance in-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

The way we say things, that text messaging loses. And there's so much that you might say to a person by themselves, that you aren't gonna say in a text message to 15 of your friends.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

So that's what I would say. I'd say, if it's just, like, for funsies, you know-

Raleigh:

Dang.

Sydnee:

Then-

Raleigh:

I haven't done that in so long. I mean, like, I talk to people face-to-face. I [laughs] don't just, like, stare at my phone all day and, like, text people when I'm in the same room as them. But, like, I can't remember the last time, like, I had, like, something serious to talk to one of my friends about, and I said it to their face.

Sydnee:

I... See, I think you'd get closer to your friends, if you did.

Raleigh:

Maybe I'd just start a cool, new trend.

Sydnee:

I think you'd start knowing who your friends really are.

Raleigh:

Oh.

Sydnee:

How about that?

Raleigh:

And then, we reach the real message.

Sydnee:

Which is-

Raleigh:

I don't know.

Sydnee:

Friends are gold. And silver. And there are new ones, and old ones.

Raleigh:

Okay. I think, maybe, you should stop. I don't [laughs]-

Sydnee:

And you should treasure them both [laughs].

Raleigh:

I don't think you even know what you're saying [laughs].

Sydnee:

I don't... There was a rhyme. I for- ... I-

Raleigh:

There was something in there, but I don't think we found it.

Sydnee:

So, so I think, I think that was good advice, right?

Raleigh:

That was good. Yeah.

Sydnee:

I think that was helpful. I think I understand more now, how you-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

How you young kids communicate.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Maybe you can go start a group text, with all your friends. And I'll implement my new away message.

Sydnee:

I- I've... We've all learned something, Raleigh.

Raleigh:

Thank you, Sydnee. Thank you so much.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Well, and thank you, uh, for listening to our show. Thank everybody who listened to our first episode.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Thank you for tweeting at us, for joining our Facebook group. So, check out *Still Buffering* on Facebook.

Raleigh:

Yeah, there are so many things on Facebook, that you are talking about, I didn't even know existed.

Sydnee:

Yes. Thank you so much for all your suggestions. We would name you all, but there were too many of you to name. But thank you-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

For everybody who mentioned all that stuff that we talked about. Um, and for participating, and for liking us, and for downloading our show, and reviewing us on iTunes.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Thank you so, so, so much. Uh, tweet at us @Stillbuff. You can email us at stillbufferingletters, at-

Raleigh:

At Gmail.

Sydnee:

Gmail.com.

Raleigh:

Yep.

Sydnee:

Yep. Stillbufferingletters. Um, you can, of course tweet at me, @sydneemcelroy.

Raleigh:

You can tweet at me, @raleighsmirl. It's spelled weird, but you'll figure it out.

Sydnee:

And thank you so much. We're so excited to be doing this, and we're so excited that all you guys seem to like it. Thank you to Maximum Fun-

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

For hosting our show-

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

For letting us be a part of your wonderful network. And check out their other brand-new show-

Raleigh:

Shmanners.

Sydnee:

Shmanners, by, uh, my lovely brother and sister-in-law... Brother-in-law and sister-in... Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Brother and sister-in-law. Think of them as brothers and sisters.

Raleigh:

No. Don't, don't do that [laughs].

Sydnee:

I mean, not to each other. No, they're, they're-

Raleigh:

They're our-

Sydnee:

Husband and wife.

Raleigh:

Brothers and sisters.

Sydnee:

Combo. Travis and Teresa McElroy. Check them out, 'cause they're adorable and, and informative.

Raleigh:

Yeah, it's great. And, uh, thank you to The Nouvellas, for the use of our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Sydnee:

Yep. It's excellent. Thank you so much. Check them out. Check out their music. They're wonderful.

[theme music plays]

Raleigh:

And, uh, I think that's it.

Sydnee:

That'll do it for us, Raleigh.

Raleigh:

All right. Well, I am Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

And I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Raleigh:

I am a teenager.

Sydnee:

And I was, too.

Justin McElroy:

Hi, everybody. I'm Justin McElroy, the oldest brother from *My Brother, My Brother and Me*.

Travis McElroy:

I'm Travis McElroy, the middlest brother.

Griffin McElroy:

I'm Griffin McElroy, and you can deduce where I'd come into things.

Justin McElroy:

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Griffin McElroy:

Hi, everybody, it's me. Cowboy Greg. And I'm here to tell you one of my classic railroad jokes.

Justin McElroy:

Celebrity impressions.

Travis Mcelroy:

I'm Zooey Beschemel! [laughs].

Griffin McElroy:

Fun facts.

Justin McElroy:

There's a bear behind you.

Griffin McElroy:

[inaudible 00:36:29].

Justin McElroy:

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Griffin McElroy:

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