

Still Buffering 006: How to Dating [Part One]

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[theme music plays]

Raleigh:

Hello. And welcome to *Still Buffering*, a sister's guide to teens through the ages. I am Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

And I am Sydnee McElroy. Hey, Raleigh.

Raleigh:

Hey, Sydnee.

Sydnee:

You know what I was thinking we should do this week?

Raleigh:

What is that?

Sydnee:

Something that, something that, um, I, I am certain has been a teen issue for as long as there's been teens.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

But I'm, I'm curious to know how it's changed.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Since I was a teen.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Not, I mean, like, you know, like, what, couple years ago? Two or three.

Raleigh:

Two or three years ago.

Sydnee:

Something like that.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, I thought we should do a dating show.

Raleigh:

Like Flavor of Love?

Sydnee:

No, not like a [laughs]. Not like an actual dating, not a dating show.

Raleigh:

Is Flavor Flav here? Where is he? Come out, come out here.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Where are you?

Sydnee:

Woooooow!

Raleigh:

Is New York, is New York here?

Sydnee:

He always does that.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Great, great impression.

Sydnee:

Thanks [laughs]. That's my Flavor, Flav impression.

Raleigh:

[laughs].

Sydnee:

No, I do love that, uh, I introduced you to Flavor of Love. Um, I'm glad I brought that into your life. Uh, that was a dating show, uh, reality dating show.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

With Flavor Flav, and a bunch of women who for some reason wanted to date Flavor Flav.

Raleigh:

What a bad idea.

Sydnee:

Um.

Raleigh:

On their part.

Sydnee:

If you're not aware of that, go check that out [laughs].

Raleigh:

[laughs]. Go check all of that out.

Sydnee:

Pause this show.

Raleigh:

Please. This isn't important anymore. That is.

Sydnee:

Y- you know, a, a probably, a better example of a, a modern day dating show would.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Would, would, you know, be The Bachelor.

Raleigh:

Yeah. The Bachelorette.

Sydnee:

Yes. Either way.

Raleigh:

Either way. Bachelor in Paradise. Bachelor Pad.

Sydnee:

All of The Bachelor.

Raleigh:

All of The Bachelors.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. The Bachelor line of products.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Uh, you know, and if you like The Bachelor, you know what you should check out?

Raleigh:

Rose Buddies.

Sydnee:

Yes, you should, by the way, just as a side note, because it's hysterical. We were listening to them, the latest, that is, that is a podcast about The Bachelor by our family, Griffin and Rachel McElroy.

Raleigh:

It's great. Great fun.

Sydnee:

It's hysterical. We were listening to it yesterday, and I would, I'd highly recommend it.

Raleigh:

Highly recommend. 10 out of 10.

Sydnee:

But, not that kinda dating show.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

I don't, I don't have any-

Raleigh:

Well, that's disappointing.

Sydnee:

I don't have any eligible bachelors or bachelorettes here. I don't have any gaggles of men or women, who are interested in said eligible [laughs].

Raleigh:

I'm disappointed.

Sydnee:

Human. No. I- I- I- have not arranged any of that. That would've taken a lot of work on my part, and I think you would've noticed when you got here.

Raleigh:

I probably would've. All the cars. All the people.

Sydnee:

The cameras.

Raleigh:

Cameras.

Sydnee:

Something, no. What I meant was more like, we should talk about dating.

Raleigh:

That makes a lot more sense.

Sydnee:

Because, I'm sure that it is still as stressful, like, navigating teen relationships, figuring out if somebody like you likes y- like, like likes you back.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm. Definitely.

Sydnee:

Or not. And expressing that like. I am certain that that is still difficult. So I thought we should talk about it.

Raleigh:

Definitely. Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee:

'Cause I mean, the first thing, kinda just start from the beginning. The first thing would be trying to figure out, like, I mean, you don't have to figure out if you like somebody, I guess.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like you kinda know.

Raleigh:

It just happens.

Sydnee:

You just gonna like him.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But then, how, h- knowing how somebody likes you back.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

Because, I would say that, from my perspective, it usually was something that, I don't know, would happen organically.

Raleigh:

You sound like mom.

Sydnee:

Like, [laughs]. It's, well, it would be somebody that I would, I wouldn't just, like, like somebody randomly that I would, like, see in the hallway, and I don't know their name, or who they are.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And I'd be like, "That's the person for me. I'm gonna track 'em down."

Raleigh:

[laughs].

Sydnee:

It- it's somebody that you spend time with, for some reason or another. So, like.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I have a class with, for me it was usually I did theater with.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Or I was in show choir with. Something like that.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh. It explains a lot.

Sydnee:

And we would, we would spend time together, and then, after a while, I- I, you know, I would know.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

I like them. And, I would start looking for little clues, like maybe they wanted to talk to me more, spend more time. Uh, one big thing was that, uh, one, uh, of my high school boyfriends, eventually, after we, eventually, you know.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Put the pieces together and started dating. He and I, he would always need a ride home.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

After play practice. And, he always asked if he could ride home. Like if my mom would drive [laughs].

Raleigh:

That's so cool.

Sydnee:

If our mom would be the one to drive us home. Like, not me, I wasn't driving yet. So it'd be like, "Do you think your mom would give me a ride home?" And I was always like, "Of course. [inaudible 00:04:44]." So that we could, like, sit in the back seat, and talk, and like, eventually, like, secretly hold hands.

Raleigh:

Ooh. So scandalous!

Sydnee:

I know. So, the- that was like a clue, like he wanted my mom to give him a ride home from, you know, play rehearsals.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

And that's how I kinda knew, like, "Oh, maybe he likes me." And then, I mean, I guess we weren't really doing, by the time we were teenagers, we weren't really doing like the notes, you know? The old, like.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

"Do you like me? Yes or no. Check yes or no."

Raleigh:

Check yes or no.

Sydnee:

That was more of like a younger thing.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

By teenager, you at least have enough of, like, the social skills to sorta navigate that. Oh, the way he just looked at me.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

The way he said something. He or she, you know, like, I think I kinda, I think, I think they like me back.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee:

It, how, how do you figure that out now?

Raleigh:

Well, I'm really bad at it.

Sydnee:

Okay [laughs].

Raleigh:

I don't know.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Um, based on my friend's advice.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

And what I've heard from people who are now dating people, or have dated people, and some of my own experience, um, I guess it's more the stuff you were talking about, for like, teenagers. Like, kinda picking up on like, if they're looking at you like, when you, like, I don't know, you're laughing at someone who just said something, and like, you look over at them, they're already looking at you.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Or, like, um, they ask you a lot of questions that you, like, you know they know the answers to. Like, they could've found the answers to somewhere else.

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

But they're asking you, so they can talk to you.

Sydnee:

Like, school like questions, like, "Hey do you know... "

Raleigh:

Well just, yeah.

Sydnee:

"What two plus two is?" Or-

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

That's a very easy one. If someone asked me that, I would be concerned for them.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

I wouldn't even think they liked me. I'd just be concerned.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Rileigh:

But, um, other things too, just, like, "When is this?" Or, "What is," You know, "This called? I don't know. I couldn't think of this." Or something. I don't know. Something you've heard them talking about before. Or that they know you like, or that they know you know a lot about. But then, they ask you about it, so they can talk to you.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Rileigh:

That kinda stuff.

Sydnee:

So, finding a, finding a reason to talk to somebody.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Finding a reason to be around them more.

Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Uh, you can also, I think it's always true, you can tell when your friends like somebody.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

If they don't wanna tell you, because they talk about, they find reasons to talk about 'em all the time.

Rileigh:

Yes. I definitely know.

Sydnee:

And not, yeah. Not like in a rel- not necessarily in a romantic way.

Raleigh:

But just talking about everything about them.

Sydnee:

Yes. Just mention them.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like, in a conversation. Like, "Oh, that's just like so-and-so."

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

Yeah. All the time.

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

Um, but yeah, so, if, okay, so I think that's pretty similar. Finding reasons to talk to the other person.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Things to talk to the other person about. Uh, w- I mean, I, I guess that would be similar, you- you know, you don't drive yet.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

You've got your learner's.

Raleigh:

Soon. Soon.

Sydnee:

But yeah.

Raleigh:

Six months.

Sydnee:

Soon. So, I mean, same kinda thing. Like, do you think guys and girls, or, girls and girls, or guys and guys, everybody, wanting a ride home, with like, would, would the parents, 'cause you've indicated to me before that you guys stay away from parents now. [laughs].

Raleigh:

I try to. I try.

Sydnee:

You, you all try to, to, to and, and I don't think that was necessarily true for my friends and I, because we had to talk to each other parents when we called each other on the phone.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

So like, eventually, we'd get to know each other's parents. So, like, the idea of getting a ride home with somebody's mom, and like, kinda knowing them, or, or dad, and, and knowing them, wouldn't have been...

Raleigh:

A big deal.

Sydnee:

A big deal.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Can you see a scenario where you would be interested in somebody, and so they'd want, you know, to hang out with you longer, and, have to...

Raleigh:

Like, ride home with you with your parents?

Sydnee:

Yeah. [laughs].

Raleigh:

I mean-

Sydnee:

To involve the parents.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I try not to involi- uh, involve parents on my parents, or the other person's parents. But, um, yeah, I could see, like, if I was at, like, some sort of sports practice, or, after school thing, they were like, "Hey, I need a ride home. Can you give me a ride home?" Or, like, "Do you need a ride home? I can give you a ride home." You know? Yeah, I could- yeah. I, that's never happened to me before, but yeah.

Sydnee:

Now what about, what about the phone? Because I used to come up with reasons to call the people. Like, the person I was interested in.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

To ask them something, either about school, or again, about some extra-curricular thing.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like, something about show choir, or whatever.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like, a reason to call them, just so that I could talk to them a little bit.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then we could hopefully connect on other things.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Other than, like, whatever the thing. So, are you guys calling each other now?

Raleigh:

No..... No. Nope. Nope.

Sydnee:

So not even the person you're, like, like you're interested in? You wouldn't call them?

Raleigh:

Maybe once you got to the point where you were actually dating. But not before you're dating. I've-

Sydnee:

You would, you wouldn't call 'em?

Raleigh:

No. I'd text them. I do the same thing. I come up with a reason to text them, and ask them about something, so I can talk to them. Um, like something they're interested in, or like, something I want to be interested in. Or, like, something I've don't really need an answer to. But I just, like, wanna talk to them. Yeah.

Sydnee:

But isn't, don't you lose some of the nuance in texting?

Raleigh:

I hate talking to people on the phone.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

So much. Like, whenever I'm even ordering food, like, I try to see if you can order online, and I'd, like, rather order from the place where you can order online, and then order over the phone.

Sydnee:

But what about your f- I mean, like, is that true for your friends, too? Because-

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

I mean, okay, so it's not just that you don't like talking on the phone.

Raleigh:

No. No.

Sydnee:

Your friends don't do that.

Raleigh:

It's everyone. No. I mean, I have friends who already have, like, are in relationships. But that's different. That's like, not talking to someone. That's being with someone.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

And they talk to each other on the phone. But not when you're just, like, talking to someone.

Sydnee:

Okay. And talking to someone still exists?

Raleigh:

Did- did that exist when you were a teen?

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Okay. Because I have heard that that is, like a, like a my generation thing.

Sydnee:

No. That is not, no. We, we used to use that, that term, if, if anybody doesn't understand what we're saying, when you are interested in somebody and they're interested in you, but you're not officially dating yet.

Raleigh:

You're talking.

Sydnee:

You can say, "You're talking."

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And, and that was, yes, we used that terminology.

Raleigh:

Yeah, we use that a lot.

Sydnee:

I think it confuses our parents, 'cause.

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

I do not think it existed-

Raleigh:

Mom doesn't know what that means.

Sydnee:

For them. I know. I mean, they would talk about, like, going together.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Though, and that's not something.

Raleigh:

I, I, going out together. Going out with someone.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Not going together, though.

Sydnee:

Going together.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And, and certainly, "Going steady," Has kind of vanished-

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

From our, um, we understand what it means, but it's not-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Common vernacular. We wouldn't say that.

Raleigh:

No. I've never heard anyone use that. Like, modern day.

Sydnee:

Now let me ask you this. Just on that note about talking to somebody. If you are talking to someone.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Can you date other people? Or, or, can you talk to other people, I should say?

Raleigh:

I wouldn't. I wouldn't. That would make me feel weird. Um, but I mean, I guess. I wouldn't like it if someone did it to me. I wouldn't like it if I did it, but I guess, I don't know, I guess technically, you're not officially dating someone.

Sydnee:

So people do it?

Raleigh:

Yeah. People definitely do do it.

Sydnee:

It's acceptable?

Raleigh:

I don't, I don't know if it's acceptable. But it happens.

Sydnee:

Because that's something that always fascinated me about Archie comic books.

Raleigh:

Mm gosh.

Sydnee:

So.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

And don't even, don't front, you read Ar- you read-

Raleigh:

I know I do.

Sydnee:

You read Archie comic books.

Raleigh:

I, I, I have obtained your collection. They've been passed down to me.

Sydnee:

Yes. And that my collection was passed down to me from mom, and her brothers and sisters.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

So, those are some old Archies.

Raleigh:

I got 'em. Got all of them.

Sydnee:

And I will say, Archie works hard to stay relevant.

Raleigh:

It does.

Sydnee:

You know?

Raleigh:

It does.

Sydnee:

It changes through the years.

Raleigh:

I mean, they still go to a, like a, like a, um, the chocolate shop, what is that? Like a, um-

Sydnee:

Yeah, pops.

Raleigh:

Like.

Sydnee:

Soda shop.

Raleigh:

Yeah, like a soda shop. That's not very modern, but everything else.

Sydnee:

No.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's fair. But, ah, one of the things that used to amaze me was the idea of, you know, in Archie comics, there's Archie, the central character.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Who is dating both Betty and Veronica.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And everyone's aware of this, and everyone's fine with it. That situation, if it was happening commonly when I was a teenager.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I was not aware of it. If you were dating somebody, you were dating them.

Raleigh:

If you're dating someone, yeah, you don't date other people. That's like, messed up.

Sydnee:

No. And it's certainly like, they will, they'll both refer to him as their boyfriend.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

If somebody's your, your, you know, I mean, in-

Raleigh:

You're official.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Partner.

Sydnee:

When I was a teen, if I called someone my boyfriend, I didn't expect him to have other girlfriends.

Raleigh:

And you didn't have other boyfriends.

Sydnee:

No.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

No. That would've been cheating.

Raleigh:

Yeah. And that's bad.

Sydnee:

And then, we would've probably broken up.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

But, and, but it, for me, even when we were talking, when I was talking to someone.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I would've expected that, since we are building, we would be building towards a relationship.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

The, the, you know, it eventually there, it would fall apart, and then we'd talk to other people.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Or it would c- you know, we'd start dating.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

In which case, since that's what we're working on, I would expect them not to talk to other people.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, I would expect them not to, either. I would prefer that. But I guess, I don't know, I guess, today, in this t- um, time and age.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

You don't really know. Because it's like, you're not calling them, and talking on the phone with them to the point where they couldn't be talking to anyone else when they're talking to you. I mean, when you're texting someone, they could be with someone else. They could be texting someone else at the same exact time. I mean, I guess.

Sydnee:

Ugh.

Raleigh:

You never know. 'Cause I mean-

Sydnee:

All this, all this communication, you could be having-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And you wouldn't...

Raleigh:

I mean, when you're talking on the phone with someone like you did, you knew they were at home, 'cause you called their home phone. You knew that they weren't talking to anyone else, because they could only be talking to one person.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

So, you knew they were pretty much only talking to you. But, like, now, they could be talking to, like, 100 people. And you never know.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I mean, I guess by the time that instant messenger was a thing, we've kinda talked about that before.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

You could, you could worry that perhaps the person that you were talking to, or dating, or whatever.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Was talking to somebody else on instant messenger.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

But it wasn't... That wasn't a common, I wasn't worried about that.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That wasn't something we thought about a lot.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I mean, most of the time, if you wanted to talk to the person that you were dating, or talking to, or whatever.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

You, like, physically went to where they were.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I would say we, maybe we spent more time physically going to be with the person, or finding situations-

Raleigh:

In talking to them?

Sydnee:

For, well, for instance, like, one thing that I remember, I used to do when I was younger, to be around either the person I was dating, or maybe the person that I was interested in.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Was, we would go to the, uh, college football games here.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

The, the, Marshall University.

Raleigh:

Marshall. Yeah.

Sydnee:

We would go to those football games on the weekends, and hang out in, like, the area behind the end zone.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

There was, like, it used to be all grassy. There's bleachers there now, but it used to be all grassy.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And we would hang out there, like, my friends and I.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Because we would know that certain guys-

Raleigh:

Would be there.

Sydnee:

That we were interested in would be there. Or maybe somebody that I was already in a relationship with would be there, and this would be an opportunity for us to, like, hang out together, before we could drive, and had cars, and had control over where we went.

Raleigh:

Well, that sounds like a fun time.

Sydnee:

Is that something that people still do?

Raleigh:

Not really.

Sydnee:

Really, no?

Raleigh:

I mean, I can't think of a situation where, like, I've gone somewhere thinking that someone else would be there. Unless, like, it was like, a, like a high school football game.

Sydnee:

Really?

Raleigh:

I guess sometimes the Marshall, like the college football games, I know certain people will be there. But, that's not a common thing, I guess, to do, to go to hang out with someone. I guess, like, I guess the equivalent to that would be, now that I think about it, to wanting to hang out with someone with your other friends there, that you were interested in. Would be, like, having a party.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Or, like, having, not even a party, 'cause, like, I have people over all the time, but that's not really like a party. Like it's just, like, 15 other people, like some guys, and some girls. And...

Sydnee:

[laughs]. That sounds, that sounds like a party. [laughs].

Raleigh:

It's, well, I mean, compared to some parties that I've seen, that are like, so many people that, like, the host doesn't even know.

Sydnee:

Right. And that one party that you had that one time.

Raleigh:

Right. That one party I've had that one time. I've had s- party since then, by the way.

Sydnee:

Good job.

Raleigh:

That's a Ril- That's a Raleigh update for you.

Sydnee:

Good job. More parties.

Raleigh:

Um, [laughs]. Um, but, I mean, I mostly do it. I'm not gonna name my friends, of course, but because some of my friends are interested in the group of guys that are in our school, or in our grade.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

So it's kind of like, I have my friends over, and then I invite them over, because, like, I'm friends with some of them, like, really good friends with some of them.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

So it's like, I have them over, and invite, tell them to invite their friends, and then I have my friends over. So it's like I get a chance to hang out with the people that I like, the person that I like, and then, like, they get a chance to hang out with the people they like.

Sydnee:

Okay. So that's how you devise situations where you'll get to spend time together.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

And then it's just like all of us hanging out together. So it's not like pressure. But it's also not like you aren't hanging out with them at all.

Sydnee:

That was like we used to always go to Burger King after football games.

Raleigh:

Nope. [laughs]. No.

Sydnee:

Yeah. And the- it was like, that was the thing to do. Like, you were, if you were cool, you went to Burger King.

Raleigh:

The cool kids went to Burger King??

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Yeah. We would all go to, our parents would drop us off, at Burger King. And, we would get to hang out with [laughs].

Raleigh:

That sounds...

Sydnee:

That was actually-

Raleigh:

Sooo much fun...

Sydnee:

That was, that was, um, some of the football games. And then, actually, the, the Marshall football games, because they were close to a Wendy's.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Wendy's is where we went.

Raleigh:

You could just walk to that one.

Sydnee:

Yeah, so we would walk to the Wendy's, and that's where if, you know, you'd-

Raleigh:

Just a lot of food eating.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. We spent a lot of time [laughs] hanging out in fast food restaurants. Is that still a thing?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

No?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Where do you hang out, if not at fast food restaurants?

Raleigh:

Other people's houses.

Sydnee:

So you're n- okay.

Raleigh:

We don't really go anywhere in groups anymore.

Sydnee:

I... The, s- uh, before my time, I think the mall was the place.

Raleigh:

We do that.

Sydnee:

The, the mall was still somewhat the place. But it was not nearly, I think the mall fad was already starting to decline some.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

By the time that I was a teenager. But, so, you don't go to the mall very often?

Raleigh:

Well, I don't as much anymore, but, like, when I was in, like, middle school, I would do that. Like, the people I was in theater with, there was like a group of guys, and a group of girls. And like, we'd all go hang out at the mall together. But that was more so, like, before we were teenagers.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Probably, I guess we were, like, 13. 12.

Sydnee:

So there was, that's what I'm trying to figure out, where you guys go, because if you're not going to fast food restaurants, and you're not going to hang out at the end zone at the football games. [laughs].

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And you're not, I guess you're just going to each other's houses?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And everybody's parents are fine with this?

Raleigh:

Yeah. Really.

Sydnee:

Because I, I, I certainly had get togethers at my house.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I mean, w- at our house, when we- when I was younger.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But that wasn't, that wasn't common.

Raleigh:

Yeah. No, we do that all the time.

Sydnee:

Huh.

Raleigh:

I mean, like, I mean, the other weekend, I was just having some girls over to spend the night, and, like, we were just talking to some of our guy friends, and they Snapchatted us, which you would know about if you listen to our Communications episode.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Um, they Snapchatted us. And were like, "Hey, we wanna come. Why weren't we invited?" So then we just like a last minute, like, "Hey," Everyone came over. And then there were a bunch of guys, and a bunch of girls. And it was like, we were all hanging out together. It was one of those situations where it was like some of my friends, that, like, had crushes, on some of the guys that were coming over. And it's like they wanted to be able to hang out with them.

Sydnee:

So, once you, okay. So, you're hanging out, you're talking to somebody, you're texting them.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

You're concocting...

Raleigh:

Snapchatting.

Sydnee:

Snapchatting them. You're concocting situations to try to be around them.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

How do you make the transition from that to dating? To quote, unquote dating.

Raleigh:

Dating?

Sydnee:

Like, we are now...

Raleigh:

Boyfriend and girlfriend?

Sydnee:

Boyfriend and girlfriend.

Raleigh:

Um, well you have to-

Sydnee:

Or boyfriend and boyfriend, or girlfriend girlfriend.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Or, yeah.

Raleigh:

Right. Just in, like an official relationship.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Okay. Um, well you'd have to go on a date with just them first. I would say. I would feel weird dating someone officially without hanging out with just the two of us beforehand.

Sydnee:

Okay. So, or, so you, have you gone on group dates at this point? Like, you-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Would you probably have already been on?

Raleigh:

Probably.

Sydnee:

And I don't mean group dates like double dates.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like where people are paired off.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I mean, like, just all of you hanging.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like a group hang.

Raleigh:

I know. I- a group hang?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Is that not a thing?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

A group hang?

Raleigh:

I've never heard anyone say, "Group hang." Before.

Sydnee:

Yeah. It's like a, a group hang is, you know, when it's a sin- it's a situation that you've probably sort of made so that certain people get to hang out with each other.

Raleigh:

Okay. Yeah.

Sydnee:

Even though they're not together yet.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

It's, it's a way...

Raleigh:

I've, I've probably made a few group hangs, then. But I have never used the term, "Group hang," to describe them. [laughs].

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Okay.

Raleigh:

But, uh, I would feel more comfortable going on a date with someone, like just the two of us, if I had hung out with them beforehand, with, like, other people around.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Because then it's like, I've gotten to, like, know them, and like, I n- know about them. Like, I know what they're into. But, I haven't had to, had the pressure of just, like, being the two of us alone.

Sydnee:

So, before you officially are together.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Are you going to go on a date?

Raleigh:

I would hope so.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

I mean, that seems like it'd be the normal.

Sydnee:

That's still the norm. Okay.

Raleigh:

Yeah, definitely.

Sydnee:

'Cause I, I, I don't know that I would necessarily say that was always true when I was younger.

Raleigh:

Really?

Sydnee:

Like you would just kind of be hanging out, and then you would just, it was clear you liked the other person, you would spend most of your time with them, and then, at some point, you would start kissing?

Raleigh:

No, no.

Sydnee:

Which means that now you're dating. [laughs].

Raleigh:

I don't...

Sydnee:

[laughs]. At least that was my experience, is that, that, that's what happened.

Raleigh:

I don't think that happens anymore. There are a lot of times, more than not, where it's like, I know two people who are going on dates with each other a lot, and who are, like, I guess, kissing.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

And who are, um, hanging out a lot, like whenever we have group hangs.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

But, uh, they're not officially boyfriend and girlfriend yet. Like, one of my friends, like I can ask her, "Are you all dating, officially dating yet?" And she'll say, "No. But basically." Because they basically are, and like, everyone refers to them as boyfriend and girlfriend, because it is a guy and a girl. But, everyone refers to them as that. But, they're not officially that.

Sydnee:

How do you, how do you define that, then? If not, "We hang out together, just the two of us a lot. We are physically intimate with each other, in some way, on some level."

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

"We clearly enjoy each other's company. We are not," I'm assuming they're not seeing other people.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

So m- why are they not dating?

Raleigh:

I don't know. I don't know! Um, I guess-

Sydnee:

Isn't, aren't those all the rules? Like-

Raleigh:

Those are.

Sydnee:

Doesn't that define?

Raleigh:

You're meeting all the criteria. Um. I guess.

Sydnee:

Unless they just don't like labels. Unless it's just, like, "Don't label me." I don't, we don't wanna-

Raleigh:

I guess. That could be part of it. But I guess it's also kind of a thing, like, I know this is the case with one of my friends, where it's like, um, you don't know if you want an actual relationship with anyone yet. So it's just kind- now don't look at me like that. Because you-

Sydnee:

What does that even mean at your age?

Raleigh:

Okay. Let, let me finish.

Sydnee:

[inaudible 00:22:48].

Raleigh:

Let me finish. Let me finish.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Okay, okay.

Raleigh:

You're not, you don't know if you wanna date anyone yet, so when you decide if you do or not, if you t- decide that you do, then you have someone you can date, and you can be like, "Hey, are we boyfriend and girlfriend?" Or boyfriend and boyfriend, girlfriend and girlfriend, whatever, "Are we officially in a relationship yet?"

Sydnee:

Sure.

Raleigh:

Um, but then, if you don't want to, then it's not like breaking up with someone that you've only been dating for, like, two or three weeks. It's like, stopping talking, but not really talking.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Like, stopping hanging out with someone, but you're still friends?

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

So it's not like a breakup, because you're not officially dating.

Sydnee:

Okay. So you avoid putting the dating label on, so that you can avoid having to take it off.

Raleigh:

I guess it's like, yeah, it's like a time period where you're figuring out if you're wanting to actually be in a relationship with someone, because then, like, I don't even know.

Sydnee:

Is that, is that when, on your Facebook status, you would put, "It's complicated."

Raleigh:

I guess so?

Sydnee:

It's complicated.

Raleigh:

Like, we're, I'm not taken, but I'm not single.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Somewhere in between.

Sydnee:

I love the idea that, to be honest. This is not, this is not me being patronizing. To be honest, the relationships you have in high school, most of the time, aren't going to be permanent.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Now, certainly, people do.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

There are people who are high school sweethearts. And, you know, end up together.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And that's, that's great. In some ways, Justin and I...

Raleigh:

Were, like eight year old.

Sydnee:

Well, no, 12. [laughs].

Raleigh:

Sweethearts. 12 year old sweethearts.

Sydnee:

Sort of. Yes. I mean, we had, like, a long separation, in between.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Uh, but we did the talking, too, and the dating, and then.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

The breaking up, and all that, before.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then got back together. But, for the most part, the idea that you would try to avoid, like, "I just don't know if I'm ready for a relationship." [laughs].

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like a real relationship yet. It's like, well, just dive right in, it's fine. It probably won't be. [laughs].

Raleigh:

That's true. I mean, I've never been in that situation before, but I certainly have a lot of friends who have.

Sydnee:

Sure.

Raleigh:

So I guess it's like a common thing. But I also don't know, because I'm also one, not very hip, and into it.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

But, I am two, also not doing the dating thing a lot.

Sydnee:

You just wanna keep your options open.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

You wanna see what all is out there.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

You don't know yet.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

You're not ready to commit.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

That's fine.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's okay. You just wanna be a single lady.

Raleigh:

Nobody's put a ring on it yet. [laughs].

Sydnee:

[laughs]. I hope not. [laughs].

Raleigh:

[laughs].

Sydnee:

You're 15. Nobody's putting a ring on it.

Raleigh:

I'm just kidding.

Sydnee:

Anytime soon. Okay?

Raleigh:

I'm just kidding. Mom, I'm just kidding. Dad, dad, dad, I'm just kidding.

Sydnee:

I know. I was gonna say, I'm a speak for mom and dad here. That's not happening. [laughs].

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

All right. So, no, that makes sense. I, see, I think, what I'm picturing is, and I don't know if this is still true, we would, I always remember these awkward conversations, wh- 'cause I did, I had a fair number, I think, of significant others, throughout my dating experience.

Raleigh:

Oh, oh.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Sydnee had a lot of boys.

Sydnee:

I did. I dated a lot [laughs].

Raleigh:

[laughs].

Sydnee:

I like, I don't know, I'm a social animal. Okay?

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. I just am. And, I, I would say that there was always this awkward moment where, like I said, we, you'd transition from, like, "We're just hanging out as a group," to, for me it was, instead of hanging out in the part of the green room where everybody was back stage.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

It was just me and one person, somewhere else back stage. [laughs].

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Just the two of us.

Raleigh:

Weren't you missing your cues?

Sydnee:

Oh, no, I would never miss a cue.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

D- of course not. He did a lot. But not me.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

But, it, that was kinda like the way that things would, would move.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

And then at some point there would be some awkward semi-staged, not staged like, intentionally, but-

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

You, you knew what you were doing. Moment where you'd say, like, "Oh, so and so was asking me, you know, are we dating? Or, I don't know. I d- I didn't know what, I mean, what, I didn't know what I should call you. I didn't know if I should say boyfr-. Are you my... "

Raleigh:

Sydnee. Stop. [laughs].

Sydnee:

Are you my boyfriend? Like...

Raleigh:

Stop. [laughs].

Sydnee:

Like-

Raleigh:

No, stop, stop, stop.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. But didn't, don't, do you still have that awkward conversation, where you have to define, like, okay, officially, like, this is- "Are we dating?"

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

"Like is this officially a thing?"

Raleigh:

Yeah. I feel like everyone has to have that at some point. Like, I mean, 'cause you don't just, like, all of a sudden, like, telepathically, like, without words, just go from being, uh, half relationship, to, like, in a relationship. I mean, you have to have some sort of conversation. [laughs].

Sydnee:

'Cause I think that label, at least in my adult experience, with, uh, I mean, I, you know, Justin and I got together when I was in college.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

So I don't know how, how adult, I guess I was an adult, technically. [laughs].

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Didn't feel as much of an adult as I do now. But, uh, my adult experience with dating, was that it wasn't, there wasn't, like, a moment where I looked at Justin and was like, "So you're my boyfriend now, right?" [laughs]. Like that doesn't-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That doesn't, that didn't happen.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

We, it was just assumed.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

It was understood. But, but as a teenager, it was v- it was very clear. Like, that label was important.

Raleigh:

Yeah. It is. Because then I feel like now, like, if you're not someone's official partner, like you're not in an official relationship with someone, like, it's not, you have to, you can't be as comfortable around them, because, like, you have to worry about, like, "Well, they're not gonna break up with me, because we're not officially dating yet." It's like they don't have to worry about that. They could just, like, stop talking to me. Like, stop hanging out with me.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. Okay.

Raleigh:

But like, once you're officially, like, someone's, like, I would be officially someone's girlfriend, or once you're officially someone's boyfriend or whatever, like, you can be yourself around them, completely.

Sydnee:

Really?

Raleigh:

And you don't have to worry about them, all of a sudden just breaking up with you, because I feel like it's a bigger deal breaking up with someone than it is just, like, stopping talking to someone.

Sydnee:

That makes sense.

Raleigh:

Yeah. That's at least how I see it.

Sydnee:

That is interesting, because, I would say that I already felt that level of comfort, that was kind of a pre-requisite.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

To being s- in a relationship with somebody, for me.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Was already feeling like I was completely myself around them, and comfortable.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then I was ready to consider that label, as opposite to needing that label, to f- like, to fully open up to somebody.

Raleigh:

Yeah. But then, are you friend zoned? Then are you just, like, really good friends?

Sydnee:

I don't know- m-, I don't know.

Raleigh:

That's a good question.

Sydnee:

Maybe. Maybe is that, so that's what you run the risk of, I guess.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, that's like-

Sydnee:

If you're too open.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Like, I have several friends, I even have some guy friends where it's just like, you know, it would be weird, even if I liked them, dating them, because, like, they already know everything about me. I already know everything about them. We're just, like, friends.

Sydnee:

See? I will tell you, I think that's something that changes as you get older, 'cause once you get to that level of comfort, that's priceless.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Good, good relationships can be built on that kind of, you know, I, I already, I get you.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I understand you. I know where you're coming from. That's, that's a really-

Raleigh:

That's probably just a difference, though, I feel like, between teenagers and adults. 'Cause teenagers, I feel like boys and girls, a lot of them are just, like, "Yeah, I already know this person. I want someone that's, like, new, exciting, mysterious."

Sydnee:

You still want the mystery. Right.

Raleigh:

When you're adult, you're just like, "Eh. Eh. Eh."

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

You know?

Sydnee:

Now, one thing I will say that we haven't, that I wanted to mention that we, you probably, I would guess you don't do now, but, you tell me. One, uh, thing that I know at least one of my boyfriends did for me-

Raleigh:

Oh, no.

Sydnee:

Before he was my boyfriend, in order to, like, make me interested, to try to show that he was interested in me, and then, to, to make me more interested in him.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Was, uh, not mix tapes, 'cause we were past tapes.

Raleigh:

Ah, gosh.

Sydnee:

You're aware of what cassettes were.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But mix CDs.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

I was given mix CDs, and then, not just mix CDs, but also, CDs of, like, "This is a band I really like, and I think you would like, too." Music was part of every relationship that I was a part of as a teenager, was, in some way or another, us giving each other music, that was, guess just good, like, just wanting to share something we liked.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But also, secretly symbolic. You know?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, "I'm giving you this, because I want you to listen to this one song, 'cause it's really important."

Raleigh:

That's really funny that you say that, because that is, like, so common.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Like, not mix CDs, and I'm not being sarcastic. I'm really not. Like, I'm not. That's really, like, that happens a lot.

Sydnee:

Mix CDs?

Raleigh:

Not mix CDs. No. Not mix CDs. Not. But, like, telling someone, like, "Hey, listen to this song. I think you'd like it." Or, like, "Listen to this band. I think you'd like it."

Sydnee:

But you don't, you don't give each other any- I mean, like, I don't know you-

Raleigh:

Nothing like.

Sydnee:

You don't make a Spotify playlist.

Raleigh:

Yeah, no.

Sydnee:

And then-

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Tell the other person to check it out, or something.

Raleigh:

I wish someone would, like, make me a Spotify playlist.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

He's like, "Hey, go check out this playlist I made for you." 'Cause then I'd be like, "Okay. Well, you're my boyfriend now. We're dating now. That's how it works."

Sydnee:

Well, that's, it's a really cool thing to do, and it used to be, I think, much more intimate because, back before even CDs, if you were gonna make somebody a cassette tape, with different songs on it, that took a lot of time.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm. Yeah.

Sydnee:

A lot of time and effort. Watch the movie *High Fidelity*. They'll tell you how important that kinda thing is.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Uh, but then, when we moved onto CDs, it was slightly easier, but still hard, like, time went into that.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee:

To burning that CD, and putting the songs together.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

It was a little easier, though. Now, I, not as much effort would go.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Into...

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

I don't know.

Raleigh:

Unless you were, like, I guess the only, like, minimal effort would be when you're, like, trying to pick a song to send to someone. So it's like, you know they'll like the actual song, but then again, it's like, listen to the lyrics. It's a, it's a message.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

There you go.

Sydnee:

It's the secret of the— Well, it really does. I, I know that one of, one of my, uh, high school boyfriends w- put the song Hallelujah on a mix.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Mix, for me. And, you know, that's the Jeff Buckley song.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Hallelujah. And that, yeah, that's like a pretty powerful statement for a teenager.

Raleigh:

It is a pretty powerful [mumbles].

Sydnee:

Listen to that song, you go like, "Woo."

Raleigh:

[mumbles]. Oh, gosh.

Sydnee:

Diggin' me.

Raleigh:

Oh, he is digging me.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Is that not a thing?

Raleigh:

No, I mean, it is. I would, I would definitely, that would be super cool if someone, like, made me a CD now. And was like, "Hey, I put all these songs in a CD." Because, then it's like, you know, like, they, I mean, especially making a CD now. It's like, who does that? Like, no one does that anymore.

Raleigh:

Then it's like, taking the time to pick out all the songs that you think they'd like, like, listening to you think, like, "Does this say a message? Will they get it?" But then, it's like, putting them on actual CD. Like, I feel like if someone did that now, it would be a definite, they like you.

Sydnee:

That would be a big move.

Raleigh:

Like, back then, I feel like, not back then. But like, when you were a teenager [laughs].

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

I feel like it was kind of a more like, it wasn't a definite they like you, because that was how you listen to music.

Sydnee:

Yes. Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah, but now that would be, like a definite, like, "Oh, they like you."

Sydnee:

And it was something that people were doing for themselves.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, I made my own mixes. Teylor used to make great mixes.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

A lot of the mixes, CDs that I, I still have some CDs. [laughs].

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm. In your CD binder.

Sydnee:

Yes, I do. And a lot of the mixes that I've saved-

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm [affirmative].

Sydnee:

Teylor made, 'cause she was really good at that.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

Uh, but, the, so, you were making your own mix CDs, so somebody making you a mix CD wasn't like, "Oh my gosh, I can't believe he did this."

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

But it was a little secret language.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That you could expose your heart to somebody-

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

In a very, n- you know, n- unaggressive kind of way.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, next time someone likes me, I mean, hey, if you're listening to this, just go make me a CD.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Don't even have to tell me. Just make me a CD. That'd be super cool. I don't, I don't know how I'd listen to it. I don't have any way of listening to it now.

Sydnee:

We have a CD player here.

Raleigh:

Okay. Well, I'll come over [laughs] to my sister's house.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

And listen to the CD you made me. Or, next to her one and a half year old daughter.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

That is how I will know that you like me.

Sydnee:

Well, Raleigh, I think that there is a lot more we could explore about dating.

Raleigh:

Definitely.

Sydnee:

Because we've, I think we've only made it to the level of, like, two people dating.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And nothing that's come next.

Raleigh:

Right. 'Cause there's so much.

Sydnee:

I think this is worthy of multiple shows. I don't think we're gonna cover-

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

All of the intricacies of teenage relationships.

Raleigh:

Unless, unless everyone just wants us to do, like, a four-hour long special.

Sydnee:

[laughs].

Raleigh:

Live show.

Sydnee:

An odyssey through the land of, of teenage dating.

Raleigh:

Right. Right.

Sydnee:

No, I don't think so. Uh, but, but thank you for listening, this week.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

We'll certainly delve further into...

Raleigh:

Dating.

Sydnee:

Dating.

Raleigh:

At some point.

Sydnee:

In the future. Uh, but I think this has helped clear some things up, Raleigh.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

It sounds like it's awkward no matter when it happens.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Always. Definitely.

Sydnee:

But it's also, but we keep doing it, 'cause it's also the most fun.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Definitely.

Sydnee:

So.

Raleigh:

Awkward and fun, and, stupid, and all the things in between.

Sydnee:

And part of, just kinda part of the ritual, I think.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

The teen, the teen ritual.

Raleigh:

The teen ritual.

Sydnee:

Yeah. So, thank you everyone who tunes into our show.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Thank you everybody who's listening, uh, please, uh, check out our Facebook group, the Still Buffering Facebook group. It's growing. It's bigger and bigger and you guys have amazing, cool conversations, and I love reading, and, seeing what everybody's talking about, and thinking about.

Sydnee:

I know somebody made the suggestion that we should try to keep all the posts on one episode. Like, the thread on one.

Raleigh:

That would make it much easier for me, too. [laughs].

Sydnee:

[laughs]. Uh, which uh, which, I, whatever you guys wanna do.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

As long as you're all having fun and talking.

Raleigh:

As long as you're having fun.

Sydnee:

Whatever, whatever may, whatever floats your boat.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Uh, I do wanna thank, um, specifically, Marcy, and Brooke.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Who put together the map of all of our listeners.

Raleigh:

That was awesome.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

That was craaaaaazy.

Sydnee:

It's super cool. And you can still respond to that thread on the Facebook group, and add where you're at.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Where you at?

Raleigh:

Where, WYA?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Oh, is that a, is that how you abbreviate that?

Raleigh:

Where You At?

Sydnee:

Okay. Where You At? You can tell 'em, WYA.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

And they will [laughs]. They will add you on the map, which is really cool.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

So, so please check that out, uh, if you wanna email us, uh, stillbuffering@maximumfun.org.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Send us emails, suggestions, especially if it's something you want us to ask on the show. Let us know.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Uh, also, tweet at us, @stillbuff.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

That's it. Just @stillbuff.

Raleigh:

Still Buff. We couldn't, we couldn't get *Still Buffering*.

Sydnee:

No. And, uh, and thank you guys for, for listening.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Thank you to the Nouvellas for the use of our theme song. Baby You Change Your Mind. Uh, and, yeah. Thanks guys for listening. This has been *Still Buffering*, a sister's guide to teens through the ages. I am Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Raleigh:

I am a teenager.

Sydnee:

And I was, too.

Allegra:

I'm Allegra Ringo, a dog owner.

Renee:

And I'm Renee Colbert, a dog wanter. And we host a show called Can I Pet Your Dog? The podcast for unapologetic dog lovers.

Allegra:

You can find us every Tuesday on Maximumfun.org or on iTunes.

Renee:

So, now, what is this? Is it just a podcast where all we do is talk about dogs?

Allegra:

Sort of. Uh, we definitely have a segment called Dogs We Met This Week, where we tell you about, you know, dogs we met this week.

Renee:

We also have a segment called Dog Heroes, as well as Cool Dog Tech and Stupid Dog Tech. We also have some of your favorite celebrities. Lynn Man Mo Beranda, who did Hamilton has been a guest. We've got Leslie Margherita. Uh, we've had Nicole Byre, Anne Wheaton, all the best at dog related celebrities.

Renee:

So check us out every Tuesday on Maximumfun.org. Or on iTunes.

Allegra:

Can I pet your dog?

Renee:

Can I pet your dog?

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