

MBMBaM 631: Blastoise Is My Dad

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Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme song, "My Life Is Better With You" by Montaigne plays]

Justin: Hello everybody and welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm your middlest brother, Travis the unstoppable McElroy.

Justin: Whoa.

Griffin: I'm Griffin.

Travis: They tried to get me.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy. Enough about you. I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: [laughs] But Travis is back, it's a big deal.

Travis: I'm unstoppable.

Justin: He's unstoppable, they can't bring him down.

Travis: I just wanna say... And listen, I mean, yeah. I had COVID. And it gave me a lot of time to think. And maybe some of the threads and the tapestry revealed themselves to me.

Griffin: Oh boy.

Justin: Here he goes.

Travis: It became pretty obvious to me that this whole COVID thing was a conspiracy.

Justin: Don't look too close. My thing is, don't look too close at the loom. We all make that mistake sometimes.

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: Or the loom looks back. Here's the thing, I don't know if you guys noticed this, I got COVID shortly after Joe Biden was like, "Okay, pandemic's done." Kind of makes it seem like maybe it was all set up to get to me.

Griffin: Kind of, he was waiting until—the party don't stop 'til Travis gets COVID and walks in.

Travis: Yeah. More like Joe-VID. Because it seems like he set this whole thing up to try take me out of the game.

Griffin: Oh, that's interesting. Joe-VID, I wonder if anyone's ever said that before.

Travis: And this close to election season, maybe trying to take this key player out of the game?

Griffin: That set off some red flags and klaxons for me as well, Travis.

Travis: Yeah, about one month before election season, Jo-VID finally came to the culmination of his two-and-a-half-year plan to take Travis out of the game.

Griffin: Yeah. And we all saw the numbers shift when Travié got it. Or rather, I guess, when it got Travié.

Travis: When it got to me. But you know what? I fuckin' beat it, Joe.

Griffin: Yeah, you did.

Travis: I got it, Joe. I beat it.

Griffin: So, Joe Rogan sucks... like, got a lot of sort of buzz about him when he got COVID.

Travis: Yeah, I think it upped his numbers.

Griffin: Well, he took off his clothes, revealing his big, beautiful body. And he did like his secret like you know, Alex Jones spa sesh that he did that helped him kind of like hop over it.

Travis: Mm-hmm, yeah.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And so, obviously, everything we're about to say is a goof and a bit. But is there anything that you wanna share about sort of your recovery period, that you could go viral for, no pun intended?

Travis: Uh-huh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Just for the—I mean, I know Joe-VID's over and on one else is goona get it.

Travis: No one's gonna get it.

Griffin: But like if hypothetically someone did, if there were some key learnings that you had? And this is a joke and a bit and a goof.

Travis: Yeah, I ate a lot of cookies.

Griffin: What kind?

Travis: Any kind I could get my hands on, really. A lot of the soft bake. I had some German style cookies from The Oldie that really helped power me through, that vitamin cookie.

Griffin: Interesting.

Travis: I did some knitting. But the blanket I made is far too wide. Far too wide. Which I'm regretting.

Justin: Oh, that's more of a—what's this, a scarf?

Travis: Well, no. It's a blanket for my child.

Justin: Yeah, but if it's too wide—

Griffin: It's a scarf.

Justin: It's a scarf. [laughs]

Travis: Well, it basically is—

Griffin: Oh, wait. Hold on, wait. We're doing a bit right now about Travis' Joe Rogan and Alex Jones spa techniques to get over COVID. But I do actually wanna explore Justin's bit that he has just proposed.

Travis: Oh, okay. Yeah.

Griffin: Which is like, what is a long—

Justin: Mine's more of a tangent. It's more of a random thought. 'Bit' is like putting it too strongly.

Travis: Okay. And so, wait. So, Justin, that's all it was. Is that if stop making the blanket now...

Justin: It's a scarf.

Travis: It's a scarf?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: And if you had started a while back, you know, you would've had a nice little... maybe a pot holder? Or a coaster?

Griffin: Yeah. Ah, Trav... I'm sorry you got COVID.

Justin: Yeah, I'm sorry you got COVID. But good news is you had plenty of time to watch Hocus Pocus 2. And I wanted to see what everybody—

Travis: More like Jokus Pocus 2. It's part of it.

Justin: Oh? Okay. More like Croakus Pocus 2. [laughs] You watched Hocus Pocus 2 how my time— Like, I wanted to do a quick count just to like—

Griffin: How many times we're up to that we've like kicked it with the Sanderson sisters.

Justin: How many times we're up to. And Trav, you probably are gonna put us to shame.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, take it to the leaderboard, Trav.

Travis: I watched Josie and the Pussycats for the first time.

Justin: Ah, yeah!

Griffin: Great flick.

Justin: As a palate cleanser?

Travis: And that kind of took up a lot of my time. I watched all of season 12 of Taskmaster.

Justin: Are you gonna tell me like single digits?

Travis: Well, I guess, Justin, that depends on if you consider 0 a digit.

Griffin: Yeah, it's one. I guess that would be one.

Justin: The definition of 0 is a mathematical value between positive and negative values. So, I do not think that is a single number.

Travis: Hmm, but if I had 10, you would say that's a two-digit number. Like, a 10 is a two-digit number.

Justin: Grifster... Travis, I'm sorry, stranger.

Griffin: Trav, you had your shot and you blew it.

Justin: You're actually dead to me, stranger. Griffin.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: What's your count?

Griffin: Of Hocus Pocus 2?

Justin: Uh-huh.

Griffin: I can't believe you'd even ask me something like that.

Justin: [laughs] You old dog. What's the number? [laughs]

Griffin: Two is the number at the end of the film, Hocus Pocus 2. And you thought—And here's what's fucked up.

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: It's scary that in the first movie, these three sorcerers did a lot of pretty heinous shit, mostly to kids. And we have a lot of fun watching Bet fly around on her vacuum or whatever. And we love to see Kathy Najimy up there just like making us bust up. But like, they were trying to for sure kill some kids. And so—

Travis: They did kill some kids.

Justin: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Yeah, their KD rashe vis-à-vis kids is higher than acceptable limits.

Travis: They killed at least two kids in the film.

Justin: This is what I want `em to speak on. And I'm gonna try to not go into Hoke Poke 2 spoilers too much. `Cause I know the community's seen it, but you know... You never know, maybe people's schedule... These ladies have really gotten—

Travis: By a stretch of the definition. Because they don't act very ladylike.

Griffin: No. Thank you, Travis.

Justin: Well, you haven't seen Hocus Pocus 2, so you know half of their story. So shhh. [laughs] You're embarrassing yourself.

Travis: All right, yeah. And you know what? Egg on my face.

Justin: They became cultural icons, right? To an extent where—and they were so, I would say this is like the mimetic, you know?

Travis: Yeah, sure, sure.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Justin: The younger generation demand the return of the Sanderson sisters. And I just, I gotta wonder how many times Disney had been like, "We really wish we hadn't had them eat kids."

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Because that is such a hard—

Travis: "We went pretty hard on that..."

Justin: Yeah. And the first time you see the Sanderson sisters in this new movie, Hocus Pocus 2, they are immediately doing a rendition of The Bitch Is Back. But it's The Witch Is Back.

Travis: Oh, shit!

Justin: The Witches Are Back, right. And that's immediate, the three of them. And it's like split screen like. [sings] And I was watching it with about eight people. And everybody was kind of like, "Ey!" The Sanderson sisters kind of bopping around. And I'm kind of thinking to myself, "They do kill kids."

Griffin: They kill and eat kids, for sure.

Justin: I mean, anybody?

Griffin: Anyone wanna—

Justin: Do you remember? They killed so many kids, we had to kill them. And then you put 'em on enough fuckin' Halloween costumes. And all of a sudden it's like, "Well... what's a kid?" You know?

Travis: I bet you could chart, and don't hold me to the timeline of this, but it seems to me that you could chart like Disney did Hocus Pocus, 100% kid death. And then, subsequent Disney films, especially the made for TV ones, they were like, "We got a mummy. I think there's a werewolf in there. Use a Leprechaun." But zero kid death in them. Even in like under wraps, The Mummy is like pretty chill.

Justin: Never kills the kid.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Never kills the kid.

Justin: Never kills the kid!

Travis: And it was like—they were like, “We went hard on that one. And everyone seems to love the ones that killed the kid the most. None of the other ones hit as hard as the three ladies who murdered a child in the first five minutes.”

Justin: Everyone’s just wild about these ladies that murder the kids.

Griffin: And what scares me is that they can’t be killed. So, it’s like law of large numbers, eventually every kid is done-zo. Every child is done-zo. Leave no child left behind out of their cauldron where they will mash them into some sort of anti-aging poultice.

Travis: Goop style, yes.

Griffin: Goop style, and there’s nothing we can do about it because they can’t die. It’s not fair, it’s a joke from God on us.

Travis: Hey, Justin, can you tell me one thing? And this is a spoiler, of course. And everybody jump ahead three seconds here. Is Salem in it?

Justin: Salem? Do you mean... You don’t mean Salem. Salem’s from—

Griffin: Sabrina.

Travis: Oh, right, right, right.

Justin: Sabrina the Teenage Witch.

Travis: The cat.

Justin: Bricks?

Travis: Binx.

Justin: Hicks?

Travis: Binx.

Justin: Binx, there you go.

Travis: Thackery Binx. I can't believe I fucking forgot that name.

Justin: Thackery Binx, whoa! You remember his first name but you forget his cat name.

Griffin: His first name's Thackery...

Travis: Thackery Binx, voiced by Jason Marsden, played by a different actor in the film. Which I love 'cause they basically said, "We don't want it to look like Jason Marsden and we don't want it to sound like you."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] I mean, that happened—Not since David Prowse and James Earl Jones have two actors been so equally unsuited for the role.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I actually don't know. It's inconclusive, Travis.

Travis: What?

Griffin: Wait, how many times have you seen the film, Justin?

Justin: Gah... don't get me started.

Griffin: So, we haven't—so, none of us have seen—

Travis: You said you watched it with eight people?

Justin: I will say this, infinitely more than you guys.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Did you have to cover your eyes through most of it, Justin? Was it too spooky?

Justin: No, none of it was too—none of it was very scary. I will give you one incredible twist that I did not see coming. And this is really gonna freak you out. Sam Richardson is a treasure and a huge addition to the film. So, twist, Sam Richardson is bringing his A game and is a delight for every frame he's on the screen.

Travis: Is Doug Jones back as Billy Butchers—Billy Butcherson? Billy, the zombie.

Justin: Billy, the zombie. [laughs]

Travis: Billy Fazoli's is back and Hanky Panky too. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Billy Fazoli's is back. [laughs] "And thanks for the breadsticks, man."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Billy Fazoli's. [laughs] Yeah... There's probably a lot of reasons why it's to immoral to recommend that Hocus Pocus 2 is out now.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] This is an advice show. A quick Yeti update. I've received four offers of a Yeti cooler since our last recording. I got an, "Expiring soon. Your name came up for a Yeti Hopper Cooler. You've been chosen for a Yeti Hopper M20 Cooler."

Travis: Ooh.

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: "Please verify where to send the newest model yet. Hurry up, confirm now." Another Yeti Backpack Cooler. I've won so many of these things, you all would not even believe.

Travis: What are you doing with all of `em?

Griffin: Yeah, what are you gonna do with a Yeti—you don't really live, I would say, I cooler lifestyle. You're not usually out in places where you don't have access to cold beverages.

Travis: In fact, I would go so far as to say, Griffin, that Justin has arranged a lot of his life decisions to make sure he's never too far away from a place where he could put things to become cold.

Justin: That's a great—yeah. It's a great question. I received—I have won, according to the spam folder of my email, I've won 34 Yeti Coolers since late May.

Travis: Shit.

Griffin: Holy shit.

Travis: Yeah, man.

Griffin: Since May? Holy shit, Juice.

Justin: Yeah. But that's how they get you. Because what they want me to do is pay for shipping.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: I bet, on each one. So, I'm not gonna do that. I'm gonna wait until it seems like the tide had stemmed of Yeti Coolers that I have won. And then, I will say, "Ship them all to me via freight."

Travis: Oh, in one, in bulk. Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, bulk coolers.

Griffin: I think our nation's dwindling, beautiful yeti population is already having a tough enough time. And we don't need to be killing them and turning their, you know...

Travis: Chest cavity.

Griffin: Insulating sort of chest cavities into so beer houses.

Travis: Oh, it got pretty serious. You really brought it down, Griffin. I didn't expect it to go to such a real place.

Justin: You really brought the mood down. This is an advice show. And I'm so thrilled to be here. We missed you last week and I'm happy to be back. That's all there is to it. Sorry.

Travis: Yeah, sorry I got COVID.

Justin: San José, Denver, we're sorry. We're gonna get up there.

Travis: Oh my God, I felt so terrible.

Justin: He really did.

Griffin: He really felt very bad.

Justin: To an extent where I was worried about him.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: We all felt bad. I had to be with my—I had to be with my family all weekend. [laughs]

Griffin: That's—

Justin: I mean...

Travis: I didn't get to go to the Winchester Mystery House. Which I was really planning to.

Justin: We've all s—let's just—we've all suffered.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: We've all suffered. You guys, through your own violence, by not watching Hocus Pocus 2, that's' a suffering you've brought on yourself.

Travis: I'm good.

Justin: "I'm looking to get some advice on what to do if you're at a super fancy and official art auction where people raise little numbered signs to bid on art."

Travis: Yes.

Justin: God, ain't that literally—

Griffin: The best. The best. The dream.

Justin: The dream. The dream.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: I'd be so paranoid.

Travis: Right.

Justin: That I would accidentally bid.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Keep reading, Justin.

Justin: "What if you goof up and dress all posh. And then, you get yourself one of those number bid signs. And you place a bid on purpose that you know you can't pay but you think somebody will immediately outbid you. But nobody does, and the gavel is struck and you've won it. What's the best excuse or way to get out of your poor decision making?" That's from Ben, who, I have to say, an extremely specific email, Ben. [laughs] I'm a little bit nervous.

Griffin: But... relatable.

Justin: I'm saying, I think Ben may have stumbled into this scenario. Maybe, I don't know.

Griffin: Maybe, you knows?

Travis: What I've got is a very particular set of skills. By which I mean, a very specific anxiety. Which I guarantee is shared by like 90% of the adult population. And that is the specific anxiety of going to an event, a place, whatever, where there is a very specific, like, set order of operations in which to do things.

Justin: Mm-hmm?

Travis: And feeling like everyone else knows exactly what that is, except me.

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: And the chances that I will get in a wrong line, go in a wrong door, sit in the wrong seat, whatever... and even just gently be corrected by another human adult, and melt into an Alex Mack puddle of shame, is so high that it has stopped me from going to many a fancy art auction. Which I am definitely invited to all the time.

Griffin: I would say two things. One, there's always a chance that as soon as the auction concludes and you've just bought it for a billion dollars or whatever, that then the painting frame is actually shredder. Like, Banksy did

that one time. And it shreds up the painting and you'll be like, "Huh... I guess I can't buy that one. It's all tornt up now."

Justin: "He got me. Banksy got me again."

Travis: "He tornt it up."

Griffin: And by the way, Banksy had to be in the room, didn't he? Like, how was everybody's first reaction, as soon as that auction closed and the thing feel down through the shredder...

Justin: "Lock it down."

Griffin: Everybody wasn't like, "Shut the fuckin' doors. Lock it down."

Travis: "We gottem."

Griffin: "Nobody's leaving until we find out which one of you is Banksy."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Hey, everybody. Real quick. Raise your hand if you're Banksy. Got you! [laughs] You did it!"

Griffin: "Got you."

Justin: "Someone please—"

Travis: "Shit! I shouldn't have raised my hands."

Justin: [whispers] Travis... Okay, listen, not for show. But Travis, I wanna talk to you over here. We should do like a cozy mystery.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: Where it's locked right after that. And the people in there, all the fancy people have to figure out who's Banksy.

Travis: It's a locked room Banksy mystery.

Griffin: Well, it's funny that you did you did kind of box me out of that when it was my idea.

Travis: Well, you might be Banksy, Griffin. We can't—

Griffin: Okay...

Travis: Justin and I definitely weren't there.

Justin: We read a lot of mysteries. You only read Star Wars. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, no. I only read sports magazines. Anyways...

Travis: If you wanna do a cozy sports mystery, we could all work on that together?

Griffin: Aw, no. I'll do that myself, I guess. With dad and my fellow sports fans.

Justin: Do you wanna hear—this is—I just imagine—

Griffin: I had a second bit. I had a part two to my thing.

Justin: Oh, you had another bit? Okay. Yeah, yeah, yeah, please, go for it, Griff.

Griffin: Which is that, y'all know how I feel about—

Travis: Banksy?

Griffin: Shoplifting.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: This isn't even that. Right? It's not like you're taking the painting and leaving without paying for it. If you do accidentally spend a million

dollars on the thing and then it doesn't self-shred? You can just stand up be like, "Ah. Whoops." And walk out and leave. They're not gonna stop you.

Travis: It's not legally binding. This is true.

Griffin: They can't stop you.

Justin: Travis, you absolutely no idea if it's legally binding.

Griffin: You have no idea if that's true or not.

Travis: That is very true.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: But the idea of—my heart tells me it can't be.

Justin: [laughs] That's how we decide laws, right?

Travis: Yeah. Unless you're signing the equivalent of like a liability like waver when you go into an auction that's just like, "If I wave my hand at the wrong time, I definitely have to pay you a million dollars or go to jail."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: But even that, Travis. Even that. Even that. I can still just stand up leave anytime I want to.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: There are so few places in this world that you can't just, "Ah. Oops." Stand up, walk out.

Travis: Prison is the only one I can think of.

Griffin: Prison is about it.

Travis: And a locked room mystery. Those are the two I can think of.
[laughs]

Justin: I just had this moment of like imagining, like really imagining. As fun as it sounds to be in this scenario, I just imagine like showing up at one of these and I got all dressed. And just walking in the door and just the overwhelming like, "Um... So... The signs, do I go get one?"

Travis: "Yes, thank you."

Justin: "At the table over there, or are they on the chairs? Or is there a specific sign I need?" Like, I wouldn't even make it in this far. I would be gone already. I would've left. You know what I like? You know what I like? Sometimes, I end up at these for like Sydnee's functions. Sometimes there's a silent auction.

Travis: [in deep voice] Oh, yeah.

Justin: Ooh.

Griffin: Ooh, that's good.

Justin: Love a silent one. Love to scope for deals. [laughs] Someone brought a basket that they thought would fetch a high price. And no one's bidding on it. Maybe I scoop in there.

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Justin: Yeah, get a nice deal.

Travis: Then, you get your hover going. Where it's just like, "Oh, it's valued at \$250. I put down like eight bucks. And no one's signed yet. I'm just gonna stand by it. Oh, you're gonna bid on that? I wouldn't, if I were you." "You wouldn't? This is your name?" "Shhh. Silent. It's a silent auction. You're not supposed to say anything."
[laughs]

Justin: "They don't wanna carry that basket of fancy wines and golfs tees home. Let me help you."

Travis: Can you imagine the panic that anyone of us, any socially anxious person like ourselves, would feel sitting in the seat, holding the paddle, while the auctioneer person is scanning the room. And you're thinking, "Don't blink. Don't flinch. I can't. If I make any move..." This guy's horny for movement. He's gonna be like, "What?! You! What was that?"

Griffin: He is like a velociraptor, for sure. I saw an episode of Curious George one time.

Travis: Go on.

Griffin: Where George didn't understand the difference between 10 and 100. 'Cause he's a fucking monkey, guys.

Justin: [laughs] Every moment of his life is a miracle. Every moment's a miracle.

Travis: Everybody holds him actually way too accountable.

Justin: Super accountable.

Travis: Everyone's like, "George!" Like, "He's a fucking monkey, guys. Hold the yellow hatted man. The yellow hatted man brought him back."

Justin: There's a Christmas special that basically boils down to the yellow hat man screaming at him, [yells] "Tell me what you want for Christmas!" And it's like, it's a monkey.

Griffin: It's a monkey, buddy.

Travis: It's a monkey, dog.

Justin: He wants a banana.

Griffin: He wants two bananas, man. That's it.

Travis: He wants to go back to the fucking jungle where no one judges him for being curious.

Justin: Yeah, he hates it here. There's somebody who can't leave anytime he wants, there's George.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: There's an episode where he doesn't know the difference between 10 and 100 and he accidentally like spends \$100 at an auction for some mittens. And the man in the yellow hat is, [in old man voice] "I'm fucking ruined."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: 'Cause it's 2022 and he's like a docent. He doesn't have that kind of cash just floating around. And so, what they had to do, is they find like a rich old weirdo that then they sell the gloves to for \$100.

Travis: For why?

Griffin: So, you accidentally buy this painting for let's say \$15,000. And then you're like, "Ooh, fuck." And they'll be like, "All right, come on up. Bring your checkbook." You go up to the microphone and be like, "Actually, everyone, the auction's still going. Now, I'm auctioning it. The starting bid is—"

Travis: Ooh, turn it right around.

Griffin: "We're gonna start at \$15,000. But I'm gonna do a way better job of selling this thing than this fuckin' chuckle clown."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: If you are in the middle of the auction and it's like, "Going once!" Can you be like, "Wait! Time out. Time out. Time out." And you go over to the person you're bidding against and you're like, "Do you wanna split it?"

Griffin: "You get it on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays."

Travis: "Or like how about you bid \$1 over what I set, and I'll give you 1\$. Like, we'll just call it even."

Griffin: "You can have it at my price, please."

Travis: "I'll give you \$1 over. Please? Hey, please? Please don't do it. I bid as a goof. And, hey, why are you laughing? This is my fucking life. I work at a bank. I don't have this money, man. Come on."

Griffin: Hey, do y'all wanna approach the Wizard?

Justin: I'd love to, Griff.

Griffin: Okay. This one was sent in by Jennifer. Thank you, Jennifer. The Wizard's familiar, Jennifer. And it's a wikiHow article called "how to become a loving and caring Pokémon trainer with your plush."

Travis: Yes. Wait... with your plush?

Griffin: With your plush.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Your plush Pokémon. I don't think plush is like, some sort of like Gen-Z slang for a sexual partner or something like that. 'Cause I don't even know how that sentence would make any sense, if that is the case.

Justin: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: "So, you're a devoted Pokemon fan, right?" Yes.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, obvs.

Griffin: “And you wanna have a physical part of the game in your life?”
Yeah. “Well, this article’s gonna show you how with a Pokémon plush.”

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: “Stop one, making it real. Start out by getting your first or second Pokémon plush.”

Travis: Wait...

Griffin: Yeah, I don’t know like... Is the first one like a burner?

Travis: Oh, maybe you already have your first one and you’re like, “I didn’t make that one real enough. It’s too late to go back now.”

Griffin: Yeah, “Oh, I chewed way too much on my first one. It is so—it is so heavy with my slobber. There is—I have to get a fresh one to start over.”

Travis: “I can’t imbue you with any kind of reality at this point.”

Griffin: “This will be your companion for the rest of your journey. You should make sure you will love them forever. So, choose a plush Pokémon character you like.” And in the picture here, they have chosen what I can only describe as an off brand, nose-less Pikachu.

Travis: Huh?

Justin: So, they don’t want—they don’t need that extra—the IP lawsuits and what have you.

Travis: No, no, no. This isn’t a branded partnership between Pokémon and wikiHow. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah. "Nicknames are important because that is what your Pokémon will go by. It may be determined by gender, but some Pokémon don't have gender. So, chose something that fits them best." That's cool.

Travis: What plush would you guys pick?

Griffin: Probably... I mean, Mega Rayquaza has the highest stats still, of all the Pokémon.

Travis: That's not the right answer. What about you, Justin?

Griffin: Okay. Wow. Well, Travis, you are famously the Pokémon expert of the family. So...

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: Gastly.

Travis: Ah, no. It's Eevee.

Griffin: I mean, that's...

Justin: We've had a lot of fun here naming Pokémon, but maybe we can move forward?

Travis: Eevee's the best one. Eevee has so much potential. What will it be? That's up to me, whatever I nickname it in Pokémon GO. And two, cute. Is it a dog? Is it a fox? Do you mean two of the cutest animals on earth?

Griffin: Clearly a fuckin' dog. Travis... just listen. Listen with your listening ears.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Nicknames are important. I do wanna say that I've played quite a few Pokémon games with Henry. And he has a delightful way of nicknaming Pokémon, which is that he wants them to have the strongest sounding name

ever. And so, every Pokémon that we catch—we caught one, it was a legendary Pokémon, in his defense. But he did call it King of Gods.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Yes! Yes!

Travis: Yeah, fuck yeah, dude!

Griffin: Which felt like an affront...

Travis: The same naming convention as like Godzilla movies, and I love that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And then, “Make your trainer name. This is what your Pokémon will call you.” Griffin is fine.

Justin: Yeah, I’ve been Justin for a while.

Griffin: Mr. McElroy.

Travis: Mr. McElroy. [laughs]

Griffin: Mr. McElroy is preferable. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: “Making a home. Find a secret place that pets and siblings can’t get to, for this will be your Pokémon's home.”

Justin: “Don’t get in my weed, Pokémon.” [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] “Hey, Vuplix. Get out of there. You're not ready for that.”

Justin: "Hey, Vulpix. There's one place my rotten kids can't reach. So, you've gotta keep an eye on my stash, pal."

Griffin: "It's daddy's high up stinky shelf. No one gets to know."

Justin: [laughs] [sings] We don't talk about stinky shelf, no, no.

Griffin: "Get a pillow and a light blanket. The pillow will be the mattress and the blanket will keep them warm." So, a blanket...

Travis: I mean, it's a plush doll.

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: So, what?

Justin: You ever try to lay on a pillow? That's not comfortable.

Griffin: It's not.

Justin: How about you just get a toy bed? [laughs] Go on.

Travis: Or a tiny Casper.

Griffin: Why don't you get a tiny, a baby, baby, baby, baby, baby Tempur-Pedic. Like, a little one. Like, a little guy. Maybe you find a Tempur-Pedic mattress at the mattress store. Bring a knife, cut a little corner off of it. And all of a sudden, that's a bed for your Wartortle. And then food. "Get some fake food to feed your plush. Such as clay poffins, Poké-blocks, berries and Poké-puffs. Or doll food."

Justin: Did you say clay poffins when you meant to say play coffins?
[laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, sorry, sorry. Feed your Snorlax some play coffins. Snorlax—

Travis: "Consume!" [laughs]

Griffin: He consumes. And his favorite food is he just sticks his huge, powerful arms deep in the ground and rips coffins out of `em. And then just eat—

Travis: But the fun ones. Play coffins.

Griffin: The fun, play coffins. The ones with toys and games on the outside of it. And he just fucking eats them. Happy Halloween. I do love the quick, just almost instantaneous abandonment of the concept of feed a Pokémon food. "Or just doll food." Which, I don't know what that is. Is that just—

Travis: I'll tell you exactly what that is, Griffin. That's the author of the wikiHow article realizing half way through the sentence, "Oh, wait. I just said sibling. This person would have to go ask their parents to go buy them some clay poffins and some fake berries. You know what? Anything you got lying around will be fine. Don't ask your parents about this."

Justin: "Let them make a nest out of detritus from your home."

Travis: "This is fine. You can just draw—Write the word `food' on a piece of paper and hand it to the Pokémon. It'll be fine, don't worry about it."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: The next step is, "You can spoon feed it to your plush." That's all it says. And that is where—I mean, I've taken umbrage with a few of the points in this article so far. But I do think that if Pokémon was real, like I pray to Christ every night, make wishes on stars... That that would be my reality. The idea that my considerable Pokémon collection—Because I'm not gonna be like—I'm not gonna be like Ash Ketchum out there where it's like, "How'd I do this week? Well, I got a Metapod. And that's it." Like, I would be out there like grinding it the fuck out, trying to like fill out the Dex.

Travis: Yeah, man.

Griffin: The idea that then like every night, my friends would be like, "Hey, Griffin, come out and party with us." And I'd be like, "I can't. I have to spoon feed every single one of my Pokémon. Or they will die. Just because they go into little balls doesn't mean that their body functions are suspended. They shit and piss in there, they need to eat."

Travis: Yeah, "And plus, guys. If I don't spoon feed Mr. Mime specifically, he gets angry."

Griffin: "He gets weird."

Travis: "He wakes me up, standing by the side of my bed. Just pointing at his mouth and holding up a spoon."

Griffin: That's good, Travis. That's another great point. You're gonna have to spoon feed even the dude-shaped Pokémon.

Travis: Yeah! [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: The one that looks like just a tiny blonde woman in a red dress.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: The one that's a dude who moves around.

Griffin: Yeah, Hitmonchan is just gonna be sitting in front of you. And he's gonna try to pick up the fuckin' spoon with his boxing gloves, but he can't. And so, he's just gonna have to sit there like, "Can you please? This is so humiliating."

Travis: Goro's brother, Maychamp, is there and he's like, "Feed. Spoon."

Griffin: "I'm big. Go faster!"

Travis: [laughs] "Give you big hug!"
"Yes, thank you, Maychamp."

Griffin: "Thank you, Maychamp, for that."

Travis: "I do want a big hug. [laughs] Thank you."

Griffin: "Bonding. Have fun together. Go to parks. Take it to every place you can. When you can't, wait until you can go back home and have some extra fun."

Travis: What?

Griffin: What do you think that means?

Travis: I don't wanna... I don't wanna...

Justin: Griffin, what Pokémon would you least like to spoon feed?

Griffin: What Pokémon would I least like to spoon feed?

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Muk.

Justin: Mine's Mr. Mime.

Griffin: Muk and or his terrible little brother, Grimer. One of those two. A lowland variant, traditional Muk, whatever, man. The last thing that I need is a living pile of slime in my house, bigger than I am. I spilled coffee on these carpets that we had put in when we moved into this house, in D.C., and that's like there forever.

And I have to struggle with that every time I look down below my desk, I see the big brown stain there and it looks like it could be dookie. And I know that like my friends are gonna see my cool office and be like, "Wait a minute, is that dookie?"

The idea that I would invite a big slime monster into my house, who would then not only destroy my carpets and get all my stuff all sticky. He would be like, [garbles] "Food!" Like, sucks. I don't want any part of that.

Travis: I was recently made aware of the Pokémon, Throh.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Who looks like just a large man in a karate gi. And the idea of this just like guy looming over me, like just, "Aaah." [laughs] Just opening his mouth and me having to spoon feed this giant in a human karate gi. Like, that... I'd rather have a slime monster in my house where I'm just like, "That's a monster in my house that I have to appease." As opposed to just a needy roommate.

Justin: Just a man.

Griffin: Yeah. Justin, did you have one?

Justin: I said Mr. Mime. I don't like Mr. Mime. I don't like the way Mr. Mime looks.

Griffin: Yeah, okay.

Justin: I don't like anything about Mr. Mime.

Travis: He has a title. Like, his name is Mister, it implies he has a first name.

Griffin: Yeah, "Mr. Jeremy Mime."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] I recently found out about Mimikyu and I don't like that one at all, either.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Travis, have you seen Mimikyu?

Travis: No...

Justin: Hold on, wait. I can show you Mimikyu. Hold on.

Griffin: I can't believe that you guys are sending each other Pokémon JPGs in the background.

Justin: This is just what you—this is what you dreamed, Griff.

Griffin: Yeah, it's like if—

Justin: That's Mimikyu.

Travis: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. No, no, no, no, no.

Griffin: It'd be like if a little monster killed Pikachu and took its skin and then wore it to try to scare children.

Justin: That's what it looks like.

Travis: "I'm Pikachu now. Pika-me."

Griffin: "Have sleepovers. It's fun and you can invite your friends and socialize." Probably not.

Travis: Obviously.

Justin: "Hey, can we all sleep below my Pokémon shelf tonight? Cool."

Griffin: "Cool. It's super sturdy. My dad put it in real good."

Justin: [laughs] "He said we can have the different shelves too 'cause I don't have that many Pokémon yet."

Travis: "Also, keep your grades up."

Justin: "Scoot over, Mr. Mime. I'm bunking with you." [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, it doesn't say to keep your grades up. But obviously, if you start to slip...

Travis: It's implied.

Justin: [laughs] It's implied.

Travis: "Hey, you gotta stop hanging out with Mr. Mime. He's a bad influence on you." [inhales and exhales, as if smoking] [in European accent] "Don't listen to that asshole!" [laughs]

Justin: "Keep your grades up!"

Griffin: We know that Pokémon will come—if you don't have enough badges, Pokémon will not listen to the shit that you say. And I love that. I think that's great. If you have a Pokémon that's stronger than you are as a person, and you don't have a badge, that Pokémon's like, "Get the fuck—" "Use Hydro Pump." "Fuck off. You're not my dad."

Travis: "I went to college."
"You did?"

Griffin: "I went to college. Blastoise is my dad. You're just Griffin, a dude who threw a ball at me *once*. And now you get to tell me exactly what to do? Show me your—"

Travis: "And I was pretty drunk on berries at the time, which seems unfair."

Griffin: "I was fucked up. I do not think this is a fair arrangement."

Travis: "Let me out of the ball!"

Griffin: Anyway, that's how to become a loving and caring Pokémon trainer with your plush.

Justin: All right, let's take a quick break. We'll be right back after this.

[theme song plays]

Justin: Would anyone like to do a very—would you like to hear a very professional ad read?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Hi. My name's Justin McElroy. And when I'm out podcasting, I don't have time to build a lot of websites. My kids and their friends, they all come to me, the tech dad. [laughs] And I don't have time to build them each a website about the different things that they like, like Pop It toys or Pringles. So, luckily, there is, for busy dads like me, Squarespace.

They will make whatever website that your kids want you to make in a fast way. It won't look like you did it, though, because they world-class templates created by the best designers. The best people in the game, easy. And if you can't figure it out, they've got the best customer service in the business, 24/7. I know what you're saying—

Travis: Hey, Justin? Sorry, just real quick. Can I give you a couple notes as you're going? One, when you said tech dad, it made you sounds like you're a robotic dad. Me, I actually love that. If you could lean into that a little harder with some beeps and boops.

Justin: [laughs] Okay, that's a good angle.

Travis: Also, you are kind of making it sound like you tell Squarespace what kind of website your kids want, and they'll build it. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And that is not the service that Squarespace provides. So, that's just a quick note from us. You do have to build it yourself.

Justin: [laughs] Okay. There's actually—I wish you'd let me finish the copy.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: So, can I get through the copy?

Travis: Yeah, please. But do lean in to the robot dad thing.

Justin: [laughs] Okay, listen. Travis, no more notes. Let me finish just reading what's here on the page.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Like a lot of cybernetic dads, whose hearts have been replaced with oil, I don't have the time to build websites for my kids. And neither does Squarespace. A lot of people get confused about this, [laughs] and this ad is to clarify that the cyber dads are the ones building the sites. That Squarespace is just, metaphorically speaking, the oil on the lubes and gears and typing wands. So, I mean, if you're not sold already, then the oil in your heart has gone staid. Because [laughs] it's all tech dad. More tech dad stuff.

Squarespace is the best way to make a website. That's the really serious, really solemn part about all this. So, head to [squarespace.com/mybrother](https://www.squarespace.com/mybrother) for a free trial. And when you're ready to launch, use offer code MyBrother to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Travis: Justin, I loved that. You read it word for word. I especially like how you hit the note that they put in here that was like, "When you get to the part about how Squarespace is definitely the best place to build a website, get really solemn and serious about it. Bring it down. That's the part we wanna make sure you drive home, like you're asking for money for hungry kids." Good job.

Justin: Okay. Okay, perfect.

Griffin: Bombas makes socks and clothes. And underwear and—that's clothes. Shirts is also clothes. And I think that's pretty badass.

Justin: Okay, great. Yeah, absolutely.

Travis: Do you wanna do the Bombas ad now or...

Justin: [laughs] Do you wanna do a Bombas ad? Slurpy? Or do you wanna just bloviate more about some of your favorite sock brands?

Travis: Oh, it does say, Griffin, I had a note back from the advertiser. They said, "We love how you listed off that they make clothes and then what kind of clothes they do make. If you would please clarify some of the clothes they don't make, that would really help it make sense for people."

Griffin: Yeah. Sure, sure, sure. They don't make rough, shitty, uncomfortable clothes that has tags in it, top to bottom. Because their clothes are soft, seamless, tagless and they have a cozy feel. But did you also know that socks, underwear and T-shirts are the three most requested clothing items at homeless shelters? That's why Bombas donates one for every item you buy. So far, Bombas customers like you have helped donate over 50 million items of essential clothing. That's so many.

Justin: That's so many. Thank you, Griffin.

Griffin: Bombas' mission is simple, make the most comfortable clothes ever and match every item sold with an equal item donated. So, when you buy Bombas, you're also giving to someone in need. That's fantastic, I love Bombas socks. I have many, many pairs of Bombas socks at this point. They keep my feet warm in these, harsh, unforgiving, nor'eastern winters. I was not prepared.

Travis: It's fall, Griffin?

Griffin: It is 51 degrees outside.

Travis: It gets colder.

Griffin: That's wild. And I need Bombas socks to keep my feet alive, or else the toes come off it in the boot. Go to bombas.com/mybrother and use code

My Brother for 20% off your first purchase. That's bombas.com/mybrother. And use code MyBrother at checkout. [Bombas.com/mybrother](https://bombas.com/mybrother), code MyBrother.

[Wonderful! theme music plays]

Griffin: And now, a live reading from Rachel's poetry corner.

Rachel: Elephants, Theremins, Clifton. Neopets, pore strips, gypsum. Heinzmel, jelly beans, goalie goals. Skittles, squirrels and the mole. Celery, chopsticks, pumpernickel. A Case Of You, by Joni Mitchell. Lullabies, tie dye, The More You Know. All of these things on our wonderful show.

Griffin: All these things and more wait for you on Wonderful! Every Wednesday on maximumfun.org, or wherever you download podcasts.

[Wonderful! theme music concludes]

[Judge John Hodgman theme music plays]

Jesse: Did your neighbor back into your car?

John: Bring that case to Judge Judy.

Jesse: Think the mailman might be the real father?

John: Give that one to Judge Matthis.

Jesse: But does your mom want you to flush her ashes down the toilet at Disney World when she passes away?

John: Now, that's my jurisdiction. Welcome to the court of Judge John Hodgeman. Where the people are real, the disputes are real, and the stakes are often unusual.

Guest 1: If I got arrested for dumping your ashes in the Jungle Cruise, it would be an honor.

Guest 2: I don't wanna be part somebody getting a super yacht.

Guest 3: I don't know at what point you wanna go into this, but we've had a worm bin before.

Jesse: Available, free, right now at maximumfun.org.

John: Judge John Hodgman. The court of last resort when your wife won't stop pretending to be a cat and knocking the clean laundry over.

[cat meow]

[Judge John Hodgman theme music concludes]

["Malibu" by Kim Petras plays]

Travis: [gasp]

Griffin: [gasp]

Travis: He's back!

Griffin: He's back!

Travis: And Justin waited until now to go get him.

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, I was doing that last ad read basically by myself. So...

Travis: Yeah, Griffin was—yeah, reading... Bombas had a lot of time.

Griffin: Wow, this is... Sailor Moon this ain't.

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: [in foreign accent] Hi, buddies!

Griffin: Hi!

Justin: [continues accent] Hello! It's me, Richard Stink! Hello! It's so good to see you.

Travis: Hey, Richard, you look great. I love the beard, Richard.

Justin: [as Richard] Thank you, it's fall. It's time for new spring into a new fall fragrance. What's up, buddy? What are you sayin'?

Travis: Richard, are you wearing the snake necklace from Never Ending Story?

Justin: [as Richard] The Aurn!

Travis: [laughs] Yeah, yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Very cool. I had it impregnated... [sniff] with Ambroxan. Aah!

Griffin: You can't actually take that long a pause after saying you've impregnated something.

Travis: [laughs] And Ambroxan also sounds like a chemical.

Griffin: Yeah, Richard, you have not been on this show since we started recording the video of it too.

Justin: [as Richard] Right. Yeah, buddy. Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [as Richard] Yes!

Griffin: I just wanted you to know that you are on camera right now.

Justin: [as Richard] So, you can see me?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, for sure.

Justin: [as Richard] Okay. You wanna say—

Griffin: You look great!

Travis: You look great. I said you look great.

Griffin: Yeah, you look good.

Justin: [as Richard] Anything specific?

Griffin: You look like you smell excellent.

Justin: Anything new?

Travis: I said I like your beard.

Justin: Aah, you like it, right?

Travis: I said that.

Justin: It's growing in really good. This is three days.

Travis: Whoa, Richard. It's amazing.

Griffin: Wait. I know for a fact that Justin has been growing a beard for much longer.

Justin: [as Richard] What does that have to do with me, buddy?

Griffin: Okay. Do you find that you need to apply more scent because the beard kind of drinks it up? Or how does that sort—how has that changed—

Justin: [as Richard] It's actually at maximum. If I grab my beard right now and squeeze, just [laughs] dripping fragrance, man.

Travis: Oh, that's horrible.

Griffin: That's bad, Richard.

Travis: Hey, Richard?

Justin: [as Richard] What's up, buddy?

Travis: And I know we don't always worry about continuity. But I was wondering, I believe when we last saw you, you were gonna get married to someone who did not like perfume and fragrance. Where are we at on that?

Justin: [as Richard] Right. Didn't work out.

Travis: Ah, Richard! I'm so sorry.

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah...

Travis: What happened?

Justin: [as Richard] She actually—it's actually really sad.

Travis: Oh...

Justin: [as Richard] But we can talk on it if you want.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, we wanna be here for you.

Justin: [as Richard] We just got so busy with different things in our life.

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: [as Richard] She has a place where kids paint pottery and then they buy it. And I have fragrance.

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: [as Richard] You know what it's like. And my walk with—

Travis: Christ.

Justin: [as Richard] The big man.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Jesus Christ. [laughs] And my walk and her walk were just so different. And it's like, there's a lot of love there, for sure, still. Like, I think of her as my best friend.

Travis: Oh, you guys still like hang out and talk and stuff?

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah. The time that we had was really special. It kind of breaks my heart a little bit that we're not... 'Cause she saw me, man. You know? She saw through all this.

Travis: Well now, hold on, Richard. I'm not sure why you're here. But do you want us to try to patch it up with her for you? You want us to talk to her?

Justin: [as Richard] No, no, no, buddy. It's kind of like a lucky break for me.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] 'Cause the fragrance game is very strong, still. And it's like, I fell off.

Griffin: There is a lot happening.

Justin: On to several releases. There's like one Yves Saint Laurent, just like completely bypass. But guess what?

Griffin: What?

Travis: What?

Justin: [as Richard] Good news.

Griffin: What's that?

Justin: [as Richard] I got a game this time.

Travis: A game?

Griffin: Oh, we fuckin' love those, Richard!

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, I know. They always are funny are good. And I got a game for you. My man, Travis Patrick McElroy suggested it to me, it's a good idea. And I thought—

Griffin: Wait a second. Wait, wait, wait. How did you—how did you contact—

Travis: Richard and I hang out.

Griffin: How did you contact him?

Justin: [as Richard] We text.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] We text. Not text, I use Signal.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] I can't have 'em on me, man.

Travis: Yeah. Well, now that Joe Biden's trying to kill me... Yeah, we gotta be careful.

Justin: [as Richard] And the frage cops are always looking out for me for looking too good, you know?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Just a man's small. Too musky, too fresh, too sensual. He's not safe on the streets.

Travis: And while I was sick, Richard came in a hazmat suit, he was very careful, and spoon-fed bowls of hot cologne. [laughs] Which really helped bring me back.

Justin: [as Richard] Yes. Like, lots of—it was like a bone stock mixed with notes of terrapin.

Griffin: Is the idea that you got sick because the inside was too stinky?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] [laughs] Can we play this game?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] All right, here's the game. It's a celebrity fragrance guess-'em-off. And here's what we're gonna do. I'm gonna say to you the description of a fragrance and the name of a fragrance. You have to tell me the celebrity whose fragrance that is.

Griffin: I love this.

Travis: Okay, yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Now, Travis, are you looking at your phone right now? Like you're cheating?

Travis: No.

Justin: [as Richard] All right. Griffin?

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: [as Richard] Look at your camera hole so I know. There it is. Fenty Eau De Parfum. Picking up hints of hints of magnolia, blueberry, geranium, patchouli, Bulgarian rose and tangerine. This scent combines musk and—I thought you had it memorized—femininity. Rihanna's—Oh, I spoiled it. It's Rihanna.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [as Richard] Inspiration stems from a beautiful garden walk and it's a perfect for a warm, summer day. Rihanna.

Travis: [buzz sound] I'm gonna buzz in.

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, you got a guess?

Travis: Rihanna?

Justin: [as Richard] One point for you.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [as Richard] Good job. My failing is your gain. Early Morning Breeze, eau de toilette.

Griffin: [laughs] Early morning breeze, eau de toilette?

Justin: [as Richard] Eau de toilette. You guys don't know this, but it's a French way of saying near the toilet.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [as Richard] That's where you keep the fragrance.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] Laughter, love, friends and family. All the wonderful stories from [beep] front porch. Straight from the [beep] tour hearts. [beep] Joy and positivity inspires us to chase a firefly. Dance in the mountain mist and enjoy every sunset. Share your dreams, have some fun, create your stories.

Griffin: Can I get buzz?

Justin: Early Morning Breeze eau de toilette is a floral scent with notes of jasmine sambac, orange flower and sandalwood. Griffin, you buzzed first. What's your guess, buddy?

Griffin: I believe there's a Dolly Parton song called Early Morning Breeze. Is it Dolly Parton?

Justin: [as Richard] It's Dolly Parton! We're tied up.

Travis: Ooh, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] Next one. Kim Kardashian, glam up any evening look with a spritz of Kim Kardashian eau de parfum.

Griffin: You said the name of it?

Justin: [as Richard] It's a fancy way—The name of it is Kim Kardashian. This alluring woman's scent was first launched in 2009—

Travis: Wait, but that's not the celebrity?

Justin: [as Richard] ... By its namesake, fashion icon, [beep]. Juicy mandarin orange at the top is reminiscent of a warm summer's day. Got honeysuckle, notes that—honeysuckle notes dance around you. Florals compromise the heart of this scent. Including clean jasmine, captivating gardenia. Which if you can get the gardenia captivating, that is always a choice note.

Griffin: It's so hard, yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] And it's got base notes with seductive musk. What's your guess?

Travis: [buzz noise]

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, Travis?

Travis: Is it Kim Kardashian?

Justin: [as Richard] It's is, man. You are kind of a nose already. I knew you'd be good at this. I hope you haven't been researching.

Travis: No.

Griffin: You said the name of—you said her name, Richard.

Travis: No, that was just the name of the perfume.

Justin: [as Richard] God is a Woman.

Travis: Oh, [buzz sound].

Justin: [as Richard] Incorrect. No, it's tempting to buzz in. God is, of course, a beautiful man.

Travis: Whoa, Richard.

Griffin: [laughs] Richard...

Justin: [as Richard] All agreed on this. I've seen him. He's visited me. He's a beautiful white man.

Travis: [laughs] Whoa, Richard.

Griffin: Richard!

Justin: [as Richard] He has hair and he speaks normal [laughs] and he's—

Travis: [laughs] Richard!

Justin: [as Richard] He speaks normal, he's a tall, white man.

Griffin: Stop, Richard.

Justin: [as Richard] Good build.

Travis: Richard...

Justin: [as Richard] [laughs] Good build, cool moves. God is a Woman. He's not. Eau de parfum. Empowered. Breathtaking. Natural. A breath of fresh air for the senses. Including God is a Woman eau de parfum. The fragrance by [beep]. Fragrance family, kind of a fruity musk. You got ambrette juicy pear. In the middle, there's orris with Turkish rose petals. At the base, you got that Madagascar vanilla and creamy cedar wood. Who is it?

Griffin: Boop, beep, buzz.

Justin: [as Richard] Yes, Griffin?

Griffin: He named them after song titles, that's Ariana Grande.

Justin: [as Richard] Wow, that's good! You're tied, 2-2. You are very good, I'm really impressed.

Griffin: It's just, they keep naming 'em after song titles. So, that's—you just have to know who did the song.

Justin: [as Richard] This one's harder... This one's harder. French Waltz is dozing off in the garden.

Travis: What?

Justin: [as Richard] Using the sun as a—

Travis: Wait, no. Hold on. [laughs] Just repeat that sentence one more time.

Griffin: Say the name of the—say the name of the—only say the name of the perfume and nothing else.

Justin: [as Richard] French Waltz.

Travis: French Waltz?

Justin: [as Richard] French Waltz.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: [as Richard] ... Is dozing off in the garden—

Travis: Is this a perfume by Christoph Waltz? If so, you have to tell me. [laughs]

Justin: [as Richard] I wish. Everyone thinks I'm French. [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [as Richard] But I'm not French.

Travis: It was an ironic nickname.

Justin: [as Richard] I do a Christoph Waltz, I meant to tell you guys. It's for show.

Travis: [laughs] It's really good. It's really good.

Justin: [as Richard] I meant to do him for a joke. French Waltz is dozing off in the garden, using the sun as a towel to dry off the leftover beads of lake water.

Griffin: Whoa.

Justin: [as Richard] The smell of damp jasmine petals sails in the air, while hints of mandarin and magnolia amplify luminous sandalwood. Sweet, yet floral, French Waltz is a rose-musk made for everyone. And there's a heart with mimosa and jasmine and rose and muguet.

Travis: Holy shit. Okay, this is a good one. Hold on.

Justin: [as Richard] This is a hard one.

Griffin: Has any musician ever written a song called French Waltz is Dozing Off in the Garden?

Travis: I mean, definitely.

Griffin: It sounds like a—

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, it's a tough one. I'll give you a hint. A famous person created it.

Travis: Ooh.

Griffin: Okay... Can you give us any other hints, Richard? Or...

Justin: [as Richard] He's famous and he made a scent once called French Waltz.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, it's a dude.

Griffin: Okay, okay, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Shaquille O'Neal.

Justin: [as Richard] He does raps.

Griffin: In the movie, Shazam, he did.

Justin: [as Richard] No, not Shaq!

Griffin: Or Kazaam.

Justin: [as Richard] The creator of the fragrance does raps. He creates lots of thing.

Travis: Oh, I'm gonna say Lil Nas?

Justin: [as Richard] No, no. Lil Nas didn't create this fragrance. It's a different rapper, he created it.

Travis: Jay Zed?

Justin: [as Richard] No, no, no. A different rapper *created* it.

Griffin: Oh, Tyler, the Creator?

Travis: Oh!

Justin: [as Richard] There you go, French Waltz, Tyler, the Creator. You're really good, Griffin.

Griffin: Did he write the copy of French Waltz is Dozing Off in the Garden? 'Cause I don't follow Tyler, the Creator's work so much anymore.

Justin: [as Richard] They actually don't credit who writes the descriptions of the fragrance on here, man.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] I pushed for that legislation for years.

Griffin: Yeah...

Justin: [as Richard] We need to credit these artists that are painting the word paintings of a smell. That's incredible talent and we need to credit them.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] And they need to be unionized.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: [as Richard] Unionize the fragrance description writers.

Griffin: I genuinely did not think that would be a cause you felt particularly strongly about, Richard.

Justin: [as Richard] I feel strongly about only one thing. Fragrance and Jesus.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Blue Seduction, eau de—I can't separate them. Blue Seduction, eau de toilette. Exquisite. Exquisite and perfectly masculine. The Blue Seduction eau de toilette spray has a scintillate—

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [as Richard] Griffin, do you know what eau de toilette means?

Griffin: Near the toilet?

Justin: [as Richard] Wow, so impressed.

Griffin: Thanks.

Justin: [as Richard] Crafted by somebody in 2007, the top notes of this eau de toilette spray features an alluring blend of mint, bergamot, melon and black current. There's an intoxicating aroma of cappuccino, nutmeg and cardamom. Coupled off with a sweet scent of green apple. Makes a sensual fashion of the heart—a sensual fusion of the heart. It dries down until you get the dry down with the oak moss, woods. I probably wear this one every day.

Travis: Richard, is this a musician?

Justin: [as Richard] No, it's an actor.

Travis: Actor?

Justin: [as Richard] Very sexy, close friend.

Griffin: Javier Bardem?

Justin: [as Richard] No, no, no, no.

Travis: Idris Elba.

Justin: [as Richard] You're so close. These are a lot of sexy men that you guys have at the tip of your tongue. But he's—no, like the sexy legend. You know?

Travis: Well, let me rule out like eight people. Was he in Ocean's 11?

Justin: [as Richard] No, not to my knowledge. But I haven't seen that movie for a long time.

Griffin: That's so many dudes.

Travis: A sexy legend, you say?

Justin: [as Richard] Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and this guy.

Travis: Ooh, okay. Is he an older gentleman?

Justin: [as Richard] No, he's—well, I don't see age. He's an actor, sexy, ah! Intoxicating.

Travis: Can you name he was in, Richard?

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, I'll name a movie he was in. Spy Kids. [laughs]

Travis: Ah!

Griffin: [laughs] Is it Antonio Banderas?

Justin: [as Richard] It's Antonio Banderas! Yes, sexy, exquisite, close friend. [laughs] Got two more. This one's called Manifesto.

Griffin: Whoa.

Travis: Whoa.

Justin: [as Richard] Alight your senses with Manifesto. A distinguished fragrance from [beep], this sophisticated eau de toilette. Travis, eau de toilette? Gotta get your vocab.

Travis: It means on the toilet.

Justin: [as Richard] Correct. Introduced in 2000, designed with the glamorous woman in mind. Got juicy notes of bergamot, a nuance of basil and there's an elegant sweet orange blossom and clean jasmine.

Travis: It's Rachel Ray. A scent by Rachael Ray.

Justin: [as Richard] [laughs] You spritz on this sort of fine fragrance to elevate your style before date night or a special event. Here's clues: she's an actress, very sexual, close friend. There you go.

Travis: What year did this come out?

Justin: [as Richard] Manifesto, Travis. You know it's 2000. Manifesto!

Travis: Oh, 2000?

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah.

Travis: Angelina Jolie.

Justin: [as Richard] Very interesting. Sexy, confident, close friend. But no, [laughs] not this time. Griffin, you got anything?

Griffin: Julia Roberts?

Justin: [as Richard] Sexy. Close friend.

Griffin: Yeah. But not the right answer.

Travis: What movies? Name a movie she's in, Richard.

Justin: [as Richard] Death Becomes Her. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Was it...

Griffin: Richard, can I Google Death Becomes Her, IMDB?

Justin: [as Richard] You ordered me, Travis! Death Becomes Her!

Travis: Oh, is it Meryl Streep?

Justin: [as Richard] If I Name a second one, you get—yeah, it's Meryl Streep, has a perfume called Manifesto. Like that wouldn't have been top story on New York Times.

Travis: Goldie Hawn.

Justin: [as Richard] Come on, bud. Dig deep.

Griffin: Isabella Rossellini.

Justin: [as Richard] Congratulations, Griffin.

Griffin: Oh, man. That was just the next person on the IMDB for Death Becomes Her. Excellent.

Justin: [as Richard] Congratulations. Isabella Rossellini. I got one more.

Travis: That does actually make a lot more sense, yeah.

Justin: [as Richard] Adam Levine. This irresistible fragrance—

Griffin: Oh, shit. Did you hear about his thing?

Travis: Richard, did you hear about this?

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, I hear about everything in his life. Close friend. Very sexy. Strong, confident man.

Travis: You checked on him?

Griffin: Have you checked on him?

Justin: [as Richard] No, I don't—

Griffin: When was the last time you talked to him?

Justin: [as Richard] With what? He's not on Signal. I can't get added—

Griffin: Hey, bud. He might be now.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: He might be there now.

Justin: [as Richard] Listen to this—I don't—I'm just telling you about perfume. I don't wanna... Okay. Adam Levine. The irresistible fragrance of Adam Levine, eau de parfum spray for woman. Plays with joyful notes and alluring femininity. [laughs] Adam!

Griffin: Adam...

Travis: Now, we don't know it's him yet, Griffin.

Justin: [as Richard] I don't wanna give any clues. It's introduced in 2013. But I'm sure it's just as good now as it was then. [laughs] No doubt about it, it's aged perfectly. Perfume opens with the sweet and zesty notes of saffron, marigold, citruses and spices. The heart is enriched with a sense of elegant rose. Sandalwood adds a milky, soft touch.

Travis: Ooh, okay.

Justin: [as Richard] This Adam Levine perfume trails with the sweet and distinct notes of vanilla and benzoin at the base, for an enchanting and sensuous feeling. Adam Levine eau de parfum. Not eau de toilette. Different. Different body, different notes.

Griffin: Right. So, this means near the perfume. So, how would you describe the body of this perfume, Richard?

Justin: [as Richard] Yeah, you're gonna have a nice jasmine flower, sandalwood with the milky, soft touch.

Griffin: All right.

Justin: [as Richard] We all know the body of Adam Levine. I know it better than I know my own name. I've explored every corner of the body of Adam Levine and I love every note of it.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [as Richard] So, but who made it?

Travis: I'd say—I'm gonna buzz in here.

Griffin: Yeah, you need the points, Trav.

Travis: It's Adam Lavine by Adam Levine.

Justin: [as Richard] There it is! Yes, good. Adam Lavine by Adam Levine. Why did he choose to do it like that? Nobody knows. Thanks for having me on the show. Bye!

Griffin: Thanks, Richard. Bye, Richard!

Travis: Yeah, it's absurd.

Griffin: Wait... Okay.

Travis: Wait, hold on. Oh, I see. The camera turned off.

Griffin: I don't know why—

Justin: [yells]

Griffin: Yeah. Oh, God. Yeah, he had to turn the camera off 'cause—

Travis: Oh, yeah. I forgot.

Griffin: The bones come out, Trav, when the retrans—

Travis: Oh, Jesus.

Griffin: When he shifts—the shift into Richard is painless. But the shift out of Richard is uh...

Justin: [coughing]

Travis: Yeah. I actually was thinking Justin turned his camera off. But I think it might just be like a kind of—

Griffin: Like black smog has filled the room.

Travis: Oh, yeah. A darkness.

Justin: [exclaims] [coughs]

Griffin: You okay, Juice?

Justin: Oh, God. Oh, God. Guys, the smell in here.

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: Yeah, Richard...

Griffin: Richard was here.

Travis: He's back.

Justin: That explains the clothes on the floor.

Travis: What?

Justin: God, I wish he'd ask. Just ask permission.

Travis: How would he ask? He's in your...

Griffin: He's in you.

Travis: Like, he's just a spirit that—

Justin: I mean, he's on Signal.

Travis: That's true.

Justin: He could just Signal chat. Sheesh. Hey, thanks so much. I'm sorry that I did Richard Stink for so long. Some people...

Travis: Hey, no. You had a lot of stink pent up.

Justin: Not me, but I'm sorry he came over for so long. I thought that um... I know some people don't like him... And I'll talk to him about it.

Travis: Those people can fuck off.

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: Whoa. Whoa!

Travis: He's my best friend.

Justin: Now, Travis. Seamlessly pivot from that into asking people to do things. [laughs]

Travis: Okay. Those people can fuck off. But you know who can't fuck off? People who go and check out mcelroymerch.com, where we have a lot of cool merchandise for cool people who like cool things. That merchandise, you ask? Well, that includes... let's see, we got a—

Justin: Oh, it's really good right now.

Griffin: It is really, really good out there.

Travis: A Garyl blanket. It's a very like tapestry looking Garyl from The Adventure Zone: Balance. Designed by Lin Doyle. We got a Candlesnights wrapping paper, that's back. From Justin Gray.

And 10% of all merch proceeds this month go to the Fair Election Center. Which uses litigation and advocacy to remove barriers to registration and voting. Particularly those disenfranchising, under represented and marginalized community. And to improve election administration.

All that merch and 10% to the Fair Election Center at mcelroymerch.com. And don't forget to get your 20 Rendezvous Fancy Takes Flight tickets for November. Where we'll be in Cincinnati, D.C. and Detroit. With Brennan Lee Mulligan DM'ing over there in D.C.

Justin: Whoa.

Travis: Yeah, we're doing Dad Lands 2. And sorry again about having to delay San José and Denver. And mask and proof of full vaccination or negative COVID test within 72 hours of event start is required. Speaking of events, I'm gonna be at D&D in a Castle, coming up at the end of this month.

So, we're gonna have a Halloween special coming out, which is very exciting. And you can go find out all the details on D&D in a Castle at, I believe, dndinacastle.com. And I don't know, maybe I'll see you there. Let me know if you're gonna be there.

Let's see what else. You can preorder TAZ: Eleventh Hour, which is out now. And the setup episode and the first episode of Steeplechase are out now. GM'ed by one, Justin McElroy. They're excellent. Go listen to them.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I'm very proud of you, Justin. You're doing a great job. I think you're awesome.

Griffin: Yeah, it's a hell of a thing to have Steeplechase. Go listen to it.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: Hey, thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life is Better With You. If you live in the sort of Australian region, she's on tour right now.

Travis: Ah yeah.

Griffin: And I would love to be at one of those shows. I saw a clip of Montaigne performing My Life is Better With You in front of a crowd and they were all just screaming and they were shouting like, "Yeah, MBMBaM is so funny still! It got even funnier over time!"

Travis: "Better than ever. Like a fine wine."

Justin: "You gotta pick it back up you bailed."

Travis: "Yeah, it's definitely good again."

Griffin: So, that's fantastic. And that's gotta be it, right?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah. So, just something to motivate the people, Griffin.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Tap into the energy inside of—tap into the energy inside of your skeleton.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: A lot of people think about muscle health. Think about all the bone—all the energy you have in your bones. You don't have to use it, but know it's there.

Justin: [laughs] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy. That's good advice.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy. Thanks.

Justin: [laughs] This has been My Brother, My Brother and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

[theme song plays]

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