

## **MBMBaM 632: Thank You Monster God for My Rockin' Bod**

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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 modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

**Travis:** I'm your middlest brother, [in announcer voice] Trrravis McElroy!

**Griffin:** I'm your sweet baby brother, Griffin McElroy. You took too long. You two, you put a little too much stink on it.

**Travis:** Griffin, we were trying to do like a [in announcer voice] "Your 1995 Chicago Bulls" kind of stuff.

**Griffin:** I wasn't on that team.

**Justin:** Travis Patrick McElroy, you are in [trumpet sounds] England!

**Griffin:** Ah... Ah, yeah.

**Travis:** Oh, what?

**Griffin:** And I think it sounds a little something like this: Go ahead, Justin. Go ahead Justin, what does England sound like?

**Justin:** Oh, like, around him?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** You want me to like—

**Griffin:** Yeah, do like what England sounds are all around.

**Justin:** Here's the horse clumps. [rhythmically taps on desk] This is like a village.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [in dopey tone] "Hey, gov'na. Your scone bread's ready, gov."

**Griffin:** That's good. Cool.

**Justin:** That's what it'll be like there. Travis, it's so weird that you're in England right now.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I mean, not while you're recording this. But like, when you're listening to this probably, you're in London.

**Travis:** Oh, wait when, when I'm listening to it? Justin, I don't listen to our own—

**Justin:** When the listeners are listening to it, you're in England!

**Griffin:** You're in England, dude. How lucky.

**Justin:** How are you preparing... Okay, this the thing about us that a lot of people— We don't talk about it enough.

**Travis:** No, we don't talk about Bruno.

**Justin:** It's like Bruno, [laughs] we don't talk about it enough. We all work out of our houses.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** And thus, are not acclimated to like, outside play.

**Travis:** Yeah, right, right, right.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And by outside, I mean outside our house, in the world.

**Griffin:** Where the sun, clouds—

**Justin:** So, we have to have extremely specific high-on hermetic conditions.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Justin:** ... That just sort of follow us around, if we are to perform in the ways which people have become accustomed.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** Travis, you are like... You're leaving the bubble in such a major way right now.

**Travis:** I've done a couple of things.

**Justin:** And I need to know how you're compensating.

**Travis:** Yeah, I've done a couple of things to prepare. Did you ever see that—

**Justin:** You can't— You're— Travis... I don't wanna get too worked up about this. But you're going into a situation where if you were in discomfort or inconvenienced, President Joseph Gordon Biden himself, could not intercede on your behalf.

**Travis:** Well, I have diplomatic immunity.

**Justin:** We are risking major geopolitical repercussions.

**Griffin:** Major issues. I moved to D.C. so I could be closer to the support of daddy. I mean, Joseph Gordon Biden, the president.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** So that like if I get hurt or uncomfortable, like daddy would be— I mean, Joseph Gordon Biden would be right there for me.

**Travis:** Yeah, no. JG Biden gave me diplomatic immunity when I get over there. So, that's gonna help a lot.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** That's gonna help a lot. And also, I learned, I don't know if you guys know this, every McDonald's in the UK operates as an American embassy. So, if I go there, I'm safe.

**Justin:** Okay, that's good.

**Travis:** Which is nice.

**Justin:** That's good.

**Travis:** So, the two things that I've done to prepare is one, I got those... They're shoes that are like rubberized and they're like toe socks. But they're like rubberized shoes. And that's gonna help me walk on the cobblestones a lot.

**Griffin:** Wellies.

**Travis:** What?

**Justin:** Did you really get the sock shoes with the toes in them?

**Travis:** Well, I got it, Justin, for the cobble stones.

**Griffin:** For the cobble stones. It helps with the grip. Did you see Free Solo? So fucking funny.

**Travis:** Yeah. Did you see Solo? It really expanded the canon a lot.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Now, the second thing I've done, did you ever read that children's book where the man sells hats by stacking all the hats on top of his head?

**Griffin:** Yes! I think it's called Come Get These Hats.

**Justin:** Ricky hat stack?

**Travis:** I've done that, but with masks. So, what I'm gonna do is I've got a stack of masks, about 10 masks deep, that I wear on my face.

**Griffin:** [laughs] Yeah.

**Travis:** Each one more powerful than the next.

**Griffin:** And did you say Sticky Ricky hat stack, Juice?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Is the name of that book?

**Travis:** Yeah, then the monkeys come and Sticky Ricky is like, "You took my hat stack. I don't know what to do now, I'm nothing."

**Justin:** I hoped to God that I had just said Sticky Ricky hat stack into oblivion. My track could be lowered at that point. So, I was a little inaudible in the file recording.

**Griffin:** No, bump the gain, bump the gain.

**Travis:** No, we're gonna have Rachel raise it up and lower us down.

**Griffin:** Really blow it out.

**Justin:** By the way, tricky Ricky hat stack.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Griffin:** Oh, sticky Ricky hat stack is the sequel.

**Justin:** Not sticky Ricky hat stack, that's the—

**Travis:** That makes a lot more sense, yeah.

**Justin:** That's the Vivid Entertainment version of it.

**Griffin:** It sucks that me and Justin are just stuck here in stupid ol' America.  
[fart sound] Gross.

**Travis:** It's okay, you can hold it down.

**Griffin:** I've been here— We've been here for so long and haven't gotten a break like you're about to get.

**Travis:** Hey, I also just days ago, just two days ago, remembered that I needed to dig out my power adapter for the plugs. Can we get this shit together? It's 2022?

**Griffin:** Can we figure this out, guys? It's metal and electricity.

**Justin:** Let's just agree!

**Travis:** I'm not saying it has to all be the shape of America's plug. I'm saying, how can we not, as a planet, universally decide on a plug shape?

**Justin:** Let's talk about it, okay?

**Griffin:** Let's get into this.

**Justin:** Let's get into it. Countries get electricity at different times. There's a chart, I'm sure.

**Travis:** Well, yeah. At night, you don't need it.

**Justin:** Can none of them... Are they so horny for electricity that they can't wait to ask the next country like, "How did you guys do this?"

**Griffin:** "How did you guys... What was your plan?"

**Justin:** "Cause we were just absolutely make it up."

**Travis:** Oh, you meant they get it at different times throughout history, not that everybody takes turns using electricity throughout the day.

**Justin:** [laughs] No! I mean like, there is someone who did it first and then there was someone who did it second, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And the person who did it second looked at the country that did it first—

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** And was like, "Well, fuck that. Absolutely not."

**Travis:** "We can do much better. We can do a better plug."

**Griffin:** But that's not how science works, that's not how tech works where you do one thing and then you rock with it. Although, that is how we've done plugs, I think it sucks. Every place has their own plugs and they all— Sometimes it's easy to get 'em twisted up 'cause there's different shapes of prongs. I want just one big prong on every plug.

**Travis:** Yes!

**Griffin:** One big prong. One big hole. Not, I guess, big enough for a kid finger. But like...

**Justin:** Trav, you're going to the promised land. 'Cause the UK just made a rule. Every plug's gotta be USB-C.

**Griffin:** Ooh, I love that.

**Justin:** No more lightning over there. They don't got lightning in England.

**Travis:** Oh, really?

**Justin:** Bring plugs. They threw away all the lightning cards, [laughs] you had to.

**Griffin:** Travis, you could be—

**Justin:** That's the weird thing, King Charles—

**Griffin:** King Charles did it.

**Justin:** The first thing... [laughs] The first rule that he made.

**Travis:** And the only thing. Then, he abdicated and handed it to William like, "That one thing was bugging me a lot, my dude."

**Griffin:** "That really was stuck in my craw."

**Justin:** [laughs] What people don't realize is that Queen Elizabeth made a law that it all had to be Micro USB. And actually, it was initially Mini USB.

**Griffin:** USB-A, yeah.

**Justin:** Yeah, it was Mini USB, the really chunky boy.

**Travis:** Yeah.



**Justin:** And Charles was sitting behind her like, "Mom, please!" [laughs]

**Travis:** "Please, mom!"

**Griffin:** "Mom, this sucks!"

**Justin:** "Please!"

**Griffin:** "I can't charge my Nintendo DS, mom!"

**Justin:** "Please make it so that it's USB-C!" The first thing he did when he's king, he's like, "What's up? Get me all your lightning plugs, they're going in a bonfire."

**Travis:** "Yes? And what is your second proclamation?"  
"I didn't think beyond this."

**Griffin:** "I didn't think, that was it."

**Travis:** "This was as far— I didn't have a lot of time to think about it. Just like the last 70 years. But I've decided I'm done now. William, take it home!"

**Justin:** "Also, the crown owns all the USB-C cords. So, those are all owned by the king."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "By the TV show, The Crown. Okay, bye!"

**Griffin:** "Bye!"

**Justin:** [laughs] Do you think— You know, the king now owns all the swans in England, right. You know this thing where the Queen that owns all the swans?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Now, the king owns all the swans.

**Griffin:** What?

**Justin:** I— The king— The queen— The monarchy of England...

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** The Queen of England.

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin:** She owned all the swans. They legally belonged to her.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Justin:** If you fuck with any swan in England...

**Griffin:** You'll be executed.

**Justin:** The queen can come to you and be like, "That's my swan. That sucked."

**Griffin:** Yeah, you're dead.

**Travis:** As long as we're on this note, I also wanna establish, Griffin, in case you didn't know it. At the Tower of London, there is someone whose job is like, "I take care of the ravens." And like that's his deal.

**Justin:** His deal is raven keeper.

**Griffin:** That's fine. That's one... One bird keeper is fine. I don't know that— Did the swans sign off on this?

**Justin:** [laughs] She also owns all the whales. People don't talk about that as much, but it's actually true.

**Travis:** It doesn't come up as often.

**Justin:** [laughs] She owns all the whales.

**Travis:** It's rare, Justin, that you're driving too fast down the motorway and hit a whale. [laughs] So like, she's not as worried about those. Well, she's not as worried about anything anymore, is she?

**Griffin:** Travis...

**Travis:** She's dead, Griffin! It's time that you accept it and move on.

**Justin:** Do you think when King Charles got the crown, he found some swans that he had particularly bad interactions with and was like, "What's up now?"

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "Now... What's up now? Now who owns you?"

**Travis:** Justin, I actually think what happened is he got the crown and he went to sleep. Heavy head, by the way, let's establish.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** And then, he was awoken in the middle of the night—

**Justin:** [in silly British accent] "Oh, I thought that was— Oh, I always thought was a metaphor. But this crown is quite heavy." [laughs]

**Travis:** It's made of lead or something. And he was awoken by a tick on his nose and there was just like a crowd of swans around him. And like, "All right, now that she's gone, we've got some demands."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "We wanna make sure that you're looking out for our whole deal. If you could bring back long necks as a beautiful thing, I think that has gone— Where are we at on this?"

**Griffin:** Love that. "There's a narrative that is spreading that you're not supposed to give bread to birds. And we hate that. We don't like that."

**Justin:** [laughs] "We hate that. Also, we want a new law—"

**Travis:** "So, if you could bring bread. And throw also peanut butter M&Ms in there. We love peanut butter M&Ms." [laughs]

**Griffin:** "We love peanut butter M&Ms and we never get to eat those."

**Travis:** "And we've wanted to declare war on geese for a while. And if you could like back us up on that? If we could form some kind of alliance of Britain and swans vs geese, that would be really huge."

**Justin:** They all have a straight face for a long time and then they all bust up like, "Ah, just kidding! Geese and swan are the same birds."

**Travis:** "Yeah, we got you. One of us is pretty and one of us is ugly, but that's just like humans, am I right? Look around. [laughs] Some you are prettier than others, right? We call them swans."

**Justin:** "Anyway, where's mom?"

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "What? What happened?"

**Justin:** [laughs] Anyway...

**Travis:** That was, I think, actually the most moving part of her state funeral. Is when all the swans in England showed up to pay their respects. That was really beautiful.

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** But Travis, you're in England. I hope you're having a good time. I hope you're enjoying yourself.

**Travis:** I hope I am too, Justin. It's the future me.

**Justin:** Do you think you'll come back with an accent?

**Griffin:** Ah, so fun.

**Travis:** I actually think I'll come back with less of an accent than I have now.

**Justin:** Oh, okay.

**Griffin:** And what's that gonna sound like, Travis? Like, more a non—

**Travis:** [in low tone] Hello, I am Travis.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** [in low tone] This is Travis and I am talking.

**Griffin:** Yeah... that's less British.

**Travis:** [in low tone] Is this more pleasant for you, Griffin?

**Griffin:** Kind of, actually.

**Justin:** Sometimes...

**Travis:** [in low tone] Okay, then. I shall do this from this point forward.

**Justin:** Here's the thing, folks. When Travis leaves the country, Griffin and I become functionally unemployed. [laughs]

**Travis:** This is true.

**Justin:** And such, we have had to record a lot of content in the past week.

**Griffin:** True.

**Justin:** And I, honestly, I'm feeling... Sometimes that goes one way where it's like, "I have nothing. I've never been funny. Reddit's right." And then—

**Travis:** [laughs] "Reddit's right about everything."

**Justin:** [laughs] Sometimes it goes the other way where I just start feeling loose.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I feel like this is my default state.

**Griffin:** The Juice is loose, for sure.

**Justin:** The Juice is loose on this one.

**Griffin:** On this one.

**Justin:** It's an advice show. We're gonna read advice. We're gonna do more than two questions this week.

**Travis:** We only did one last week.

**Justin:** Only did one last week. That's a huge... That's... I mean, 100%. You can't beat 100%. [laughs]

**Travis:** Well, I believe the conversation rate, Justin, is one American question to 1.2 British questions. I've been studying up a little bit.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** Ah, okay. By the way, though, I will say, exchange rate, you're going at a real great time, man.

**Griffin:** Real choice, baby. Stock up.

**Justin:** Real choice.

**Travis:** I don't acknowledge the importance of money. So, I guess that just doesn't matter to me. [laughs]

**Griffin:** One currency, one prong! One prong for all. Uniting us.

**Travis:** Thank you! Earth dollars, Earth prongs. That's what I always say.

**Griffin:** Earth dollars, Earth prongs.

**Justin:** Bit prong.

**Travis:** Bit prong!

**Justin:** There's one prong for the blockchain. [laughs] Okay... "I work the graveyard shift at a chain grocery store. Typically, my job is to put things on shelves and make said things on shelves look nice. I use a planogram, do some merchandising. I love it."

**Travis:** Ah, yeah. Planogram.

**Justin:** I used to love that. Ah, God, what I wouldn't do for a nice planogram right now. "However, I also find myself bringing damaged goods to the damaged goods pile." Choice. "So another guy can scan it and the store can get that money back. Most of the time, these are things like dented or leaking cans, crunched up boxes and exploded Jell-O cups.

However, sometimes, I will find an open box of granola bars in the back of a shelf with a few missing. Probably because someone decided just stealing one or two would be easier than stealing a whole box. My question is, would it be morally okay for me to also take a granola bar from that box?"

**Griffin:** Yes! Get that fuckin' granola! Yes...

**Justin:** "It's not like they can go back on the shelf, and the scanning guy just needs the box itself. But also like, it is stealing." That's from Conflicted in Colorado.

**Travis:** Okay, okay, okay. Griffin is right. Here's the thing. What you are asking is the wrong question, question asker. Is it morally okay? Yes, absolutely. Might you get in trouble if you get caught? Yes. That is because business practices rarely line up with morality.

**Griffin:** Listen. Listen.

**Justin:** Listen.

**Griffin:** They expect you, they almost want you to steal the granola bars. And I'm not even gonna say the verb stealing anymore. You are being— Your labor has value.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** And you understand that, and your employer understands that. And I can almost guarantee that you are not receiving fair compensation for that.

**Travis:** No.

**Griffin:** But they can't tell you like you're going to be paid 11.50 an hour... Which is like not enough money for anything. And also, wink, wink, if you want to swipe a—

**Justin:** Whatever's not nailed down, whatever you can—

**Griffin:** If you wanna take a— "Also, we offer vacation time to the Nature Valley." Wink, wink, wink, wink, wink. "Where you'll have a crunchy time." [exclaims weirdly]

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** They can't say that. You need to take the granola bars... You need to compensate yourself with everything that you possibly can.



**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** So, you... Okay, food dates, expiration dates, they're made up. So, we waste lots of food that way.

**Griffin:** Yes. Waste.

**Justin:** In Montana... In Montana, they made a rule to protect the dairy industry there, that you have to throw milk out 12 days after pasteurization. Which is a massive, incredible waste. You can't even turn the stuff into cheese.

**Travis:** That's ridiculous.

**Justin:** They can't even turn the stuff into cheese anymore because the processing plants for those have moved out of Montana. It's such a ginormous waste. And the people who— They were talking to a grocer on Planet Money who's in the system, and it's illegal for him to donate the milk to homeless shelters. *Illegal* for him to donate the milk. But— Psst, you know what he does?

**Travis:** He does it anyways?

**Justin:** He donates the milk 'cause it's the right thing to do. And the right thing for you to do is to not let these bars end up in a landfill. Unless that landfill is called Reggie's tummy. And your name's Reggie and your body's a landfill. [laughs]

**Travis:** Reggie, and then just like take all of 'em. Eat one of 'em. Hand out the rest to people you see who need some.

**Griffin:** Who need a granola bar. And can I tell you something? That's— Pretty much anyone could eat a granola bar at any time.

**Travis:** That's why they exist. I mean a granola bar, no one's ever like, "Ah, I'm starving. I can't wait to get home and eat a granola bar." You have the

granola bar with you because that's your moment to be like, "I'm not hungry. But maybe I could be hungry in the future."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That is the tagline of granola bars, absolutely.

**Travis:** Right?

**Justin:** It's like, "You don't want to eat this. But if you don't eat something, you're gonna throw up."

**Travis:** Right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "So, reach for Nature Valley."

**Travis:** "Nature Valley, it's literally better than nothing."

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Hey, do you all want to go on over to visit my friend and yours, the Wizard?

**Justin:** Absolutely.

**Travis:** I feel like we were just there.

**Griffin:** Okay. Well, were just there. We do this every week. Summer sent this in, thank you. And this another sort of scary—

**Travis:** It's just that like I see that Wizard more than I see our dad. And I don't know how I feel about that.

**Griffin:** I feel... I mean, our dad doesn't have magic wisdom?

**Travis:** Not magic wisdom. But I mean, he's seen a lot of shit.

**Griffin:** He's got regular...

**Travis:** He lived through World War II, I think?

**Griffin:** Yeah, he definitely did one of 'em. Right? Our dad did at least one war, right?

**Travis:** He was in one of 'em. Did he— Wait, hold on.

**Griffin:** Wait a second.

**Travis:** Is our dad a draft dodger?

**Justin:** No. Dad's not a draft dodger. He was extremely close to being drafted. And then, the war ended. So, he didn't get drafted.

**Griffin:** How convenient, huh?

**Justin:** As a result of this— As a result of this specific, one only thing, Dad used to extoll the virtues of Richard Nixon as a president.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] Because whatever actions he did take, did prevent Dad from going to Vietnam. Whatever else Richard Nixon did, there's one thing right.

**Griffin:** Sure, one of our worst presidents. Save for our daddy... Okay... So, this is—

**Justin:** Hey, listen. As a beneficiary, I must continue—

**Travis:** Yeah, there's a very good chance the three of us either wouldn't have been here or might've been raised by a very different man. [laughs]

**Griffin:** The different Clint McElroy.

**Justin:** [laughs] Ah, God.

**Griffin:** You okay?

**Travis:** You hit your elbow?

**Justin:** I'm just having some— No! I'm having—

**Griffin:** The idea of our dad on a battlefield is giving your stomach—

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah, same dude.

**Travis:** Doing his Spud Rimshot voice as he's getting shot at. [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] Stop. Stop. Ah, man... In at least one of the planes, Clint McElroy has probably been—

**Griffin:** Anyway, our dad's not a good solider. Summer sent this in, it's a wikiHow—

**Travis:** Or is he the best solider?

**Griffin:** How to take care of a Monster High doll. "If you have a Monster High doll, but you don't know how to take care of it, this article can help." Do you all have any of these in your house?

**Justin:** Yes, I have Monster High dolls.

**Travis:** No, I don't allow representations of demonic figures into my home.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** We just watched a Monster High movie. There's this thing now with kids' entertainment where they turn cartoons into real people.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** Like The Really Loud House?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** You know that uncanny valley real people as the cartoon characters, Loud House Christmas, that's a series now.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Justin:** Like, why do we need to bring cartoons to life with real people? It's very upsetting to me.

**Travis:** See, I thought you meant like where they were like, "You know how you love My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic? Let's make them into more people. Now, they're called Equestria Girls. And it's just like we're gonna ignore the fact that they were once horses and are now people. It's normal, it's fine. Don't worry about it.

**Griffin:** Yeah... I saw one of Hey Arnold! But it was—

**Justin:** It's the equivalent of them looking at Deviant Art and like taking one strap off the shoulder. Like, [in crying voice] "Is this what you want? Okay, we'll... we'll make it more human-like, I guess."

**Griffin:** Anyway... I was gonna hit a great Hey Arnold! joke but that time has passed.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Now, we're gonna learn how to take care of a Monster High doll. "Tending to your doll. Comfort the doll. Make sure she's not shy or afraid. Cover her eyes when something scary is happening. And read about her online to make sure she is comfortable with any activity you might do with her."

**Travis:** Wait. Wait. That last bit...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Well, that... Start to finish, sometimes it's a roller coaster of emotions in a thing. This is like a roller coaster of like questionable— Except, you just kept going down further and further. [laughs]

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah...

**Griffin:** If there's necessary care steps to the toy I've purchased at Target for \$15, I expect that documentation to be provided alongside the toy.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It's not like in fuckin' Gremlins, they're like, "Look at this little cutie pie. Real cute. You gotta take good care of him. Figure— Like, get online, call the helpline."

**Travis:** "Check the forums."

**Griffin:** "Check the forums, you'll get there." Not that it would've fucking mattered.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah, that kid... He had three fuckin' rules, dude.

**Griffin:** Three rules, not hard.

**Travis:** Get it together. Hey, you know what? I own a dog. There's ways more rules about keeping that damned thing alive.

**Griffin:** There's like a billion rules.

**Travis:** Like don't give it grapes. You know what I haven't done yet? Given my dog grapes.

**Griffin:** Yeah, you're crushing it.

**Travis:** You couldn't keep track of the fucking time to not feed them after goddamn midnight, you loser!

**Griffin:** I know, I know, I know...

**Travis:** Anyways... [laughs]

**Griffin:** "Change the doll's clothes."

**Travis:** Here's the thing that I don't like. Griffin, what I wanna acknowledge is something in that—

**Griffin:** Go ahead.

**Travis:** ... It says, "Make sure your doll isn't scared of things."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** But also, "Cover their eyes when something scary happens." And that just seems to me like I'm teaching the doll to be afraid. And also, aren't they monsters?

**Justin:** Yeah, they're Frankensteins and Draculas and mummies. Like, why, they're not scared? You don't need to cover their eyes?

**Griffin:** Yeah, Frankenstein, famously not afraid of anything. Except for like, fire.

**Justin:** Fire, fire, fire.

**Griffin:** And like a little girl one time. And water and a shadow and a bug he saw.

**Travis:** Is a werewolf afraid of the moon or silver bullets or fire? Like, does a werewolf acknowledge that those things are scary?

**Griffin:** It's afraid of how much it loves the moon. It's like, "Aw, there's that thing again. I need it. I need it!"

**Justin:** "What would I do without you?"

**Griffin:** "Change the doll's clothes. You don't wanna be in the same outfit for two days and neither does she." That's two assumptions you've just made there that are both equally incorrect. "Buy her new clothes at a toy or other shops. You could also use other doll clothes that fit. You can even try to make your own. Also, have a container or such to keep her clothes in. You don't wanna lose 'em."

**Justin:** As a parent, that last bit is actually clutch. They should listen to that. Get a container, folks.

**Griffin:** Get a container and make sure you keep all the clothes in the container. Somehow, my children have like sort of shorts dead drops all around the house. So that if they—

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** If things go wrong and they need to bug out...

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** They have—

**Travis:** Shorts?

**Griffin:** They have options available in every room.

**Justin:** [laughs] They have shorts within reach.

**Griffin:** Yeah. "Take her outside."

**Travis:** I would say that one of the things that I was not expecting as a parent, is how many different spaces you need throughout your home for Barbie shoes.



**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [laughs] Yeah. Yes.

**Travis:** Like, every room... It's like a fire extinguisher. Except for like Barbie feet.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Travis:** Right. And she's like, "Well, yeah. In case there ends up being a Barbie within six inches of any place to make sure that there's at least one pair of shoes in there."

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** At least according to my children, that's the deal. Also, for some reason, ChapStick has to be fucking everywhere. [laughs] Kids love the shit. You guys heard about this? Kids love ChapStick and acorns.

**Griffin:** I mean, what if, you know—

**Travis:** If we could make acorn flavored ChapStick, or ChapStick shaped like acorns, rich men.

**Griffin:** 'Cause what if Skipper drops a glass? And it shatters and now all of a sudden Barbie don't wanna get cuts on her feet.

**Travis:** Right.

**Griffin:** You need shoes everywhere. "Take her outside. They need fresh air like we do." They don't. "If you bring Draculaura outside, make sure she has a toy umbrella. Or sunscream, so she doesn't burn. If you bring Lagoona, make her—"

**Travis:** They misspelled sunscreen, how embarrassing.

**Griffin:** "If you bring Lagoon, make her wade in water. Make sure you always keep an eye on your doll, as not... As not-not lose it during your excursions."

**Travis:** That's true because if you're not careful, a hawk swoops down and picks it right up. Carries it away.

**Griffin:** A hawk swoops down and will eat Dracula whole. I don't... It's fucked up that in the same paragraph is like, "They need to go outside." But Dracula will die outside? It's a high-risk game for Dracula. She needs it, but she will die if you do it wrong. She'll burst into flames and that'll be on you. The wet one must stay wet.

**Travis:** Hey, can we agree, since it's the spooky season, right. I feel like more and more these days, vampire Laura's getting pretty loose with the ability to go outside. If I could take an umbrella out, it's not that restrictive as a vampire, right?

**Griffin:** Not at all.

**Travis:** If that's covering it, then it's just like, "Oh, okay... I guess I'm fine now. I can wear a big hat and some—" I believe the word was suncream, and just... Never once in Vampirina do we ever see her feast on human flesh. And I know that seems like a big jump, but it's something I've been thinking about a lot lately. And now, my almost six-year-old daughter is starting to question like, "She's a vampire, right? So, she drinks blood?"

**Griffin:** Yeah...

**Travis:** And I don't know how to answer that.

**Griffin:** She needs to know, if she's outside, Dracula won't get her.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Like, that's why we love summertime. "Treat the doll like a child. You are her mom. So, you need to take care of her. Give her food, baths and

basically follow these instructions to make she sure is a happy doll. Keep the doll safe... Keep the doll safe, she might get broken if you don't, or worse." What's worse?

**Travis:** Dead.

**Justin:** Dead.

**Travis:** Yeah. Lotsa Love Bear might throw her into a big, fiery pit with all of your childhood toys and then they die.

**Justin:** Down a grate where you can see her but you can't get to her.

**Travis:** Oh, that would be the worst.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's bad.

**Justin:** That would be bad, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah, feed her to a Pennywise. Pennywise eats your doll right up.

**Griffin:** Another kid takes her from your hand to the playground, 'cause the kid's bigger and stronger than you are. But they don't know to go to wikiHow to find out how to keep that Draculaura alive. So like, that's a fate worse than—

**Travis:** Yeah, and then you don't keep you grades up.

**Griffin:** "Undress the doll in a private place like a bathroom or closet, or she might get upset that other Monster High dolls saw her naked." Thank you. That's basic decency.

**Justin:** Thank you. You actually should not be there either. You should leave the doll on the floor and then leave the room until you think the doll's changed.

**Griffin:** You need to use the tool. You gotta use tools that like mechanics use to like get into your car when you locked your keys in the car, to change the doll's clothes from like under the crack of the door.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Now, I think though, there should be a like step above that. Where it's just like ask your Monster High doll, does she want the other Monster High dolls to see her naked? Because maybe she's just like, "I love this. I'm proud of everything that Monster God gave me."

**Justin:** [laughs] "Thank you Monster God."

**Travis:** "Thank you Monster God for my rockin' bod." That's what I say every day when I wake up. I step out of the shower and I loudly announce, "Thank you Monster God for my rockin' bod."

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And then, I lotion up. This is me talking, by the way. Not a Monster High doll. That would be weird.

**Griffin:** No, this is important.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** That's Travis saying how he does his moisturization.

**Travis:** Loudly and proudly and, devoutly.

**Justin:** [laughs] And resoundingly.

**Travis:** And resoundingly.

**Griffin:** It's kind of like the opening scene—

**Travis:** Praise Monster God for my rockin' bod, and then I flagellate myself, probably. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Travis:** Then, I apply the lotion.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah. It's basically like the opening to American Psycho, except there's like a swamp blob outside. Like, [in deep voice] "Yes, my child? Blblblblbl."

**Travis:** [in deep voice] "You're welcome." [laughs]

**Griffin:** "Good, good, good, good!"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "Anything else? Pancakes?"

**Griffin:** "Create a home. Where is home for your doll? In your drawers, under your bed? Well, imagine this; A nice house for your doll to sleep in at night, a place to have parties with friends, or just eat pizza!"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** In this economy?

**Griffin:** I'm not gonna— This is such a big part. This paragraph is way too big for me to read and have it be funny. But basically, if it's a water doll, make it look like water. If it's a wolf, do a moon.

**Travis:** Oh, in the home?

**Griffin:** In the home, yeah. "And then, make sure the doll likes her home. Fill it with furniture and make sure there's a bathroom. You may also choose to give it a theme. If you have Draculaura, you can make the walls

black/pink and make sure she doesn't have any windows. Design the house depending on what the doll is like.”

I’m worried about what you’re doing to the resale value, what you’re doing to your equity in the home if you remove the windows so that your vampire doll doesn’t die. Like, that’s the... You are assuring at that point, the house will only be sold to other Draculauras. Which, you’re really limiting yourself.

**Justin:** It’s a much-limited market. Are they talking about like in your actual home? In a doll house?

**Griffin:** No, this has got like a shoebox. They got like a shoebox. And they’ve taped up some pictures of scary stuff inside the box. Which is basically—

**Justin:** Ah, yeah. They love that. But not too scary, you need to be careful.

**Travis:** Not too scary.

**Griffin:** “Brush the doll’s hair—”

**Travis:** Give your Draculaura gallons of blood. Dump blood all over her, she’ll love it.

**Griffin:** Yeah, do it right over its head. I’m gonna shoot through this next section real fast. “Brush the doll’s hair. Style it to make sure it matches her outfits. Give the doll a bath.”

**Travis:** Obviously.

**Griffin:** “Remove grime with nail varnish/polish remover and get some Q-tips.” Do be careful with that `cause you might also remove... eye and mouth and face parts of it. [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** “Change the clothes.” We already did that, thank you. “Clean the doll’s clothes routinely and clean the doll’s hair.” Just one more time, gotta

get in there and make sure that hair is very, very clean... This is a baby.  
This is a baby.

**Travis:** Oh, what you're doing is taking care of a baby, is that what you're saying?

**Justin:** Yes. Yes. That is... yeah.

**Griffin:** This is a baby. And maybe there's something to that 'cause it's like, that's part of the simulation and that's what's cool. But also, the baby is you know... can turn into... you know, some sort of lich or something.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Also, I just wanna say, we're all three parents—

**Justin:** If one of the girls from Monster High could turn into a lich, what would her name be?

**Griffin:** Hmm...

**Travis:** Uh... Yeah, this is a good one... I don't know the naming conventions of Monster High, I think is the—

**Justin:** Lichina?

**Travis:** Sure, sounds great.

**Justin:** Sounds just like Regina. Well, I'll come back to it.

**Travis:** Okay. The author of this wikiHow article, we're all three kids... Well, we're all three parents at this point, we got kids. And the author of this wikiHow article is assuming that what children love most about toys is the amount of restriction and responsibility that come with them.

**Griffin:** Maintenance, yeah.

**Travis:** I don't think that's the case. Like, my daughters both like having like dolls and baby dolls. And then, they mostly spend a lot of time swinging those around and dropping 'em off stuff and like just really kind of fuckin' 'em up. [laughs] In a way where I don't think they're like, "Better be careful of the sun. Ah, gotta make sure I bathe these things." So much as they're like, "Look, it's a slide!" And then drop 'em from like four feet off the ground.

**Justin:** Which is scary for them.

**Griffin:** This article is so much longer. The next segment is all about individual tips for each monster high doll. So, maybe we'll just like shoot through. "If you're playing with Rochelle Goyle, make sure you give her a good pet." I assume that means like a familiar or a creature and not to like pet the doll hard or something like that.

**Travis:** That's a good assumption.

**Griffin:** For with Frankie Stein... this is an important one, and don't get these switched up. "If you play with Frankie Stein, you can give her a boyfriend if you want. But if you're playing with Abbey Bominable... Abbey Bominable... If you're playing with Abbey Bominable, don't make Abbey flirt with any boys she says is not honorable." That's...

**Justin:** Abbey Bominable says it's not honorable?

**Griffin:** Or don't make her flirt with any boys that she says is not honorable. Like, "That boy's not honorable. Please don't make me flirt."

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Okay. Oh, like, "This boy is dishonorable."

**Griffin:** "This trash bag over here, leave that one for Frankie Stein who will eat up the trash. 'Cause she will date whatever."

**Justin:** [laughs]



**Travis:** Can we... If you're gonna give Frankie Stein a boyfriend, you should make it out of spare parts of other Kens, or something, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Like, I think she'd really appreciate that. That feels like a thing Frankie Stein would be into, "Make me a boyfriend."

**Griffin:** This is a huge one, "If you are playing with Clawdeen Wolf, make sure that when you turn off the light, Clawdeen goes crazy. And you may be wondering..."

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** "How would I go about accomplishing that?" And the answer is I guess you tape her to a Roomba.

**Travis:** [laughs] A light-sensitive Roomba.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** And then you shout the command word that makes the Roomba go just like fucking ballistic.

**Justin:** Just ape shit.

**Griffin:** Just absolutely ape shit. I mean, if you're playing with Cleo de—

**Travis:** By the way, Justin, speaking of Roombas. I just watched Hocus Pocus 2. You did not tell me what a significant plot importance Roombas have in that movie. [laughs]

**Justin:** Yeah, Roombas are a huge part of the plot.

**Griffin:** "If you are playing—"

**Justin:** If I told you that in Hocus Pocus, at one point Kathy Najimy can't find a broom. So, she duct tapes two magical Roombas to her feet like a hoverboard.

**Griffin:** I love that.

**Justin:** Would you think that I was making that up as a joke for our show? Or that I'm saying a part from the movie Hocus Pocus 2?

**Griffin:** That's good, and a good joke. And I bet you— Can I say something? I bet you Kathy fuckin' sold it. I bet you she made you bust up with that.

**Justin:** Oh, she's having the time of her life.

**Griffin:** Yeah, and so are you.

**Travis:** What I told you, Griffin, that there is one prolonged shot in the movie, as the characters on screen are very minimal in the foreground. And mostly, the focus of the shot is just a glowing Walgreens. And it is a Walgreens and it lingers on it for what feels like 30 solid seconds. And then, Walgreens is referenced multiple— There are multiple scenes in a Walgreens. [laughs] Walgreens once again plays a pivotal role in Hocus Pocus 2.

**Justin:** And every shot is framed so it's like, Kathy Najimy, Bett Middler and a huge, red W in between them. Like, always separated and framed by a Walgreens logo.

**Griffin:** They replaced Sarah Jessica Parker with a Walgreens logo?

**Travis:** [laughs] Yeah.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Hey, guys, if you're playing with Cleo de Nile, feed her grapes. And it may seem like she can't. But if you push the grapes into her face hard enough, you can make pretend anything.

**Justin:** [laughs] They will go away.

**Griffin:** They will go away eventually. "If you're playing with Toralei, sometimes she might scratch the furniture." That's it. Like, you know that's what you're gonna with. If you're playing with Ghoulia Yelps— This one's great. 'Cause if you are playing with Ghoulia Yelps— This will be my last tip for this Halloween segment. You've gotta feed her brains and fast food. Kill—

**Justin:** Oh.

**Travis:** Ah.

**Griffin:** Kill living things that have a brain in it to give to your doll. And/or hit up Arby's.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** If Arby's sold brain meat, which their motto would make you think that they do...

**Justin:** They got the meats.

**Travis:** They got the meat.

**Justin:** Yeah, you'd think?

**Griffin:** You should be able to go into an Arby's and be like, "For me? I would like a big cheddar boy. A number 16 cheddar boy combo meal. And for this one, Ghoulia Yelps..." And you put her up on the counter and you say, "You know what to do with her. You take her back to the backroom where you keep the bad meats. The meats that you maybe don't want people to know that you do have on offer? And you make sure she is sated."

**Travis:** "Yeah, of course."

**Griffin:** "Thank you. She'll die without it, and she's my best friend."

**Justin:** What about cauliflower?

**Griffin:** The doll, Cauliflower...

**Travis:** The brains?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Fuck off.

**Griffin:** Oh, I thought you were saying there's a Monster High doll called Cauliflower. That's awesome. All the other dolls are like a pastiche.

**Travis:** No, Griffin, it would be Carla Flower, thank you very much.

**Justin:** But what would that be referencing, Travis? What great monster is that—

**Griffin:** That's fun, if there was one of 'em that's just like vegetables.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah. It could be anything, Justin. It could be Swamp Thing, it could be Man Thing, it could be Audrey II, from Little Shop of Horrors. It could be man eating plants all over the fucking place. Read a book!

**Justin:** [laughs] Charlie got these toys for her birthday. Rileigh got Charlie this stuffed guinea pig in a cage. And the thing about it is that it's pregnant with other, smaller baby guinea pigs.

**Travis:** Oh, cool.

**Griffin:** Great.

**Justin:** But the birthing happens automatically.

**Travis:** Huh?

**Justin:** So, on a certain timer, over a certain— You turn it on and eventually, the first baby... Well, what it does is it pops out of the top and then just kind of lands on the mom guinea pig and rolls off, and then she had a baby.

**Travis:** And the mom eats it.

**Griffin:** Yeah, normal.

**Justin:** No, mom does— You know, you open that and it's like a surprise toy, right. You see what kind of guinea pig you have.

**Travis:** Just like real life.

**Justin:** And it's set to do this over a 24-hour period. Where periodically, over this 24 hours, this thing will just give birth.

**Griffin:** Does it at least make a noise? Can you at least set it in a corner until you hear it go like, [in old man voice] "Hyee-ai!" And then you know like, "Oh, honey, there's a new—"

**Justin:** Oh, it does— Yeah, there's noises.

**Travis:** "Not again!"

**Justin:** There's 100% birthing noises, 100%. But if you bought this gift for somebody who does not have that kind of attention span, like say, a child. [laughs] There is a switch on it that's basically like—

**Griffin:** Hold up.

**Justin:** ... Turbo mode. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Oh, woah! [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] It's like, "Kids, here we go!" [laughs] You like, you flip the switch to make this guinea pig just go into like turbo child birthing.

**Travis:** [popping sounds]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** And it's probably the wildest option that I have seen on a toy. It's like, "Let's just kick this birth cycle into overdrive!" [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** And crank it up.

**Griffin:** Let's go to the Money Zone.

**Travis:** I think it's Money Zone time.

**Justin:** Yeah, let's go to the Money Zone.

[theme songs plays]

**Travis:** You know guys, with my international travel, I have been studying up a lot using Babbel. And I have been studying English.

**Justin:** Ooh!

**Travis:** So, I now say— Yeah— I've learned how to say like bangers and lift. And I say like biscuits and flat.

**Justin:** How did you pull this off, Trav? I know that you don't really apply yourself to stuff. And certainly, this kind of—

**Travis:** Well, I already said, Justin, I used Babbel.

**Justin:** Mm-hmm?

**Travis:** That's a—

**Justin:** I guess I was going to drill down on like maybe what even is that at all.

**Travis:** Oh, okay. Well, it's like an app. It's a language learning app that's sold like more than 10 million subscriptions. And it's not just English, I should point out. You can also do like Spanish or German or Italian or French or Portuguese or Swedish or Turkish or Dutch, Polish, Indonesian, Norwegian, Danish, Russian and yes, English.

**Justin:** We need to get the Animaniacs at this point, there's too many. They gotta come up with like a fun jingle.

**Travis:** I mean, I just said... Okay. With Babbel, you only need 10 minutes to complete one of their bite sized lessons, so that you can start having real life conversations in a new language, in as little as three weeks. Now, this is a problem 'cause I did just start learning English two days ago.

**Justin:** Right.

**Travis:** So, but by the time I get back... Now, other language apps use AI, the movie, for their lesson plans. But Babbel lessons were created by over 150 language experts. Those are human beings. Not some phony baloney computer brains.

**Griffin:** Yeah! Fuckin' Jude Law over here, just like, "Repeat after Jude Law." [laughs] From AI.

**Travis:** Yeah. You know how Jude Law went around telling lonely ladies about language and stuff?

**Griffin:** Yeah, man.

**Travis:** And it's voiced by real, native speakers, not computers. Who needs 'em? With Babbel, you can choose from 14 different languages that I've already listed. Right now, get up to 55% off your subscription when you go to [babbel.com/mybrother](https://www.babbel.com/mybrother). That's [babbel.com/mybrother](https://www.babbel.com/mybrother) for up to 55%, that's a lot of percent, off your subscription. Babbel, language for life!

**Benjamin Partridge:** Hey majesty served Great Britain and the Commonwealth loyally for over 70 years. And while of course we feel a

profound sadness, we must remember she lived a long life and died in such a way that I think many of us would want for ourselves.

She was at home, surrounded by her family. And of course, she was listening to the Beef and Dairy Network Podcast. [airhorn meme sound] The Beef and Dairy Network Podcast is a multi-award winning comedy podcast and you can find it at [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org) or wherever you get your podcasts.

**Jordan Crucchiola:** You're in a theater, the lights go down. You're about to get swept up by the characters and all their little details and interpersonal dramas. You look at them and think, "That person is so obviously in love with their best friend. Wait, am I in love with my best friend? That character's mom is so overbearing. Why doesn't she just stand up to her? Oh, God. Do I need to stand up to my own mother?"

If you've ever recognized yourself in a movie, then join me, Jordan Crucchiola for the podcast Feeling Seen. We've talked to author Susan Orlean on realizing her own marriage was falling apart after watching *Adaptation*. An adaptation of her own work. And comedian Hari Kondabolu, on why *Harold and Kumar* was a depressingly important movie for South East Asians. So, join me every Thursday for the Feeling Seen podcast, here on Maximum Fun.

**Justin:** [hum Munch Squad riff]

**Griffin:** Understated, yeah.

**Travis:** Oh, I really thought we were gonna do a second question. Okay...

**Griffin:** That's okay. We'll get there maybe one day.

**Justin:** No, I'm doing the second question now.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Justin:** That's what I— That's how it is.

**Travis:** Just a little flourish for you.



**Justin:** Nope. Now we're doing the second question. Maybe I'll change my mind.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Now I have to think about it. "My six-year-old son recently discovered Pokémon."

**Griffin:** Hell yes.

**Justin:** "And is obsessed. My husband and I know nothing about the cards, the game or the universe." The headspace, the experience.

**Travis:** Yeah...

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The feeling.

**Travis:** The lifestyle.

**Justin:** The lifestyle. The agenda. [laughs] If I may be so bold.

**Travis:** Oh, yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "Recently, my son got a mew—mew—mewtwovstar— Griffin?"

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** Mewtwo—

**Travis:** V-star?

**Justin:** "... VSTAR Rainbow in a pack."

**Griffin:** Oh, fuck. Oh, man!

**Justin:** "Our googling says it's a pretty valuable card."

**Griffin:** Uh, yeah! That's putting it lightly.

**Justin:** [laughs] "It's power charts are..."

"The thing is, he's six and he's mostly into the game for the trades. If we let him keep this card, he will trade it for lord knows what."

**Griffin:** God, yeah.

**Justin:** "What's the protocol here? Let him make his deals? Protect him from older kids taking advantage? Sell the card now and buy him a bunch of other packs of cards with the proceeds?" That's from Poké Perplexed in Pittsford.

**Griffin:** You've come to the right place.

**Justin:** Indeed.

**Griffin:** The economy...

**Justin:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** Oh, okay.

**Griffin:** ... Is fueled by suckers.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And it's that there's a circle of life in this whole thing.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm, yeah.

**Griffin:** You are correct in that if you do not intervene, one day, your son's gonna leave the house with a Mewtwo VSTAR Rainbow, worth—

**Travis:** A hawk is gonna swoop down, take it.

**Griffin:** If my—[laughs] Put it in its nest with its Monster High dolls.

**Travis:** Put it in its nest.

**Griffin:** According to the— I mean, the recent sort of like, you know, Pokémon trades that I've been reading, values that one at about \$5,500.

**Travis:** Wow.

**Griffin:** If he leaves the house with it, he's gonna come back with a fuckin' scratched up moldy ass Dewgong. With fuckin' bent ass corners and people have written like custom attacks with marker on it.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Like, "One water energy, 150 damage. And this always hits." Like, fuckin' like... your dumbass friend's nephew, Kyle, is just gonna like walk away whistling, \$5,500 richer.

**Justin:** I congratulate you on having the clarity of mind as a parent to look at your six-year-old child and say like, "Hey, this kid's a rube."

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "I mean, look at this kid. He's 100%— He's got mark written all over him. I did my best but I raised an absolute maroon. This guy's absolutely—"

**Travis:** And listen, I love that he's so wide eyed and open to the world. But this kid's gonna get taken to the fuckin' cleaners.

**Griffin:** And Kyle's gonna have a little nice day for himself, you know what I mean? Like, it's a service that your son is providing to Kyle. I was the recipient— I both gave away some real beauties, and also benefited from some real donies. But that's the way of things, isn't it?

**Justin:** Griff's been the Kyle and he's been the your child.

**Griffin:** I've been the Kyle, I've been the your child, I've been all over this great world of ours.

**Justin:** But he's never been the me. That's one the things—

**Travis:** That's deep.

**Griffin:** I've never visited Justin, even once.

**Travis:** No, Griffin. He meant he's never been to Maine. It's ME.

**Griffin:** Oh, he's using the abbreviation.

**Justin:** You've never been to—

**Griffin:** I have never been to Maine.

**Travis:** No, we went to Maine. Didn't we?

**Justin:** Doesn't it feel like we should've gone to Maine by now?

**Travis:** Foxwoods? Is it Foxwoods? No, Foxwoods is not in Maine.

**Griffin:** Foxwoods? Yeah, that was somewhere else.

**Justin:** No, that's in Massachusetts, I think.

**Griffin:** So...

**Travis:** The answer's simple, you let him make the trade to shitty Kyle. And then, you bump into Kyle as he walks away. And he's like, "Ha, another great deal." But then he goes to check his pockets. "What? The card's gone." That's right, you got it because you've been taking pickpocket classes at the Y.

**Griffin:** Yeah, and child pockets are the toughest ones to pick. So little, so tiny.

**Travis:** They're little. So, you did have to— You had to study for a couple of years to get good at it.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Luckily, you saw this coming a mile away because of your son's easygoing demeanor. And you looked at him when he was like three and you were like, "Hm, someday, this kid's gonna get taken to the cleaners. So, I better start pickpocketing now."

**Justin:** Long con. Long con.

**Travis:** I think—

**Griffin:** Oh, wow.

**Travis:** I think—

**Griffin:** Hold on, wait. Let's hear Justin out.

**Justin:** No, I just meant it's the long grift. Like, you've been planning for a long time to rob this kid.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Whenever Kyle, whoever Kyle ended up being.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The deck was stacked against him from the beginning.

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah. Kyle thought he was in charge. No, no, no, no. No, no, no, no. You're the director of this little play. Now, I would s—

**Justin:** [laughs] Kyle is really your puppet.

**Travis:** Yes. And this is all to teach your just so, so naïve son a lesson. I think... You know, my kid's almost six. And if I said, "If you give me this, I can then turn it into a lot more of the things you like." That feels like a slam dunk explanation, right?

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah.

**Travis:** That if I say, "This one card, I could use this to buy you many, many packs of cards."

**Griffin:** Wow.

**Travis:** Right? Like, that feels like something that kid would be way into. Right?

**Griffin:** Yeah. You can also just take a picture of the card and let him carry the picture around.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** There you go.

**Justin:** Print it out and cut it.

**Griffin:** Print it out.

**Justin:** Cut it out—

**Griffin:** Because then you can print— You can have a bunch of those. You know what I mean?

**Travis:** And just trade those to Kyle?

**Justin:** Sell the card, buy a laminator. Print it out, make a new card.

**Griffin:** Woah.

**Travis:** You know, there's nothing illegal about making your own fake Pokémon cards and selling them.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** It's not illegal. [laughs]

**Travis:** There's no one— They're not legal fucking tender.

**Griffin:** It's not money, yeah.

**Travis:** What are they gonna get you on, counterfeiting? Come on. Take the granola bars, sell the fake cards.

**Griffin:** Sell the fake cards.

**Travis:** This is America, baby!

**Griffin:** 'Cause it's good. 'Cause sometimes you have an idea like, what if there is an even smaller Pikachu named Squeakachu.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** And then you can make him. You can make him be real with a printer and a laminator. And he's got an attack that costs no energy and does 300 damage.

**Travis:** And ruins someone's credit score.

**Justin:** [laughs] And if it's a card game, then it's not fan fiction. It's a mod.

**Travis:** There you go.

**Griffin:** It's a mod.

**Travis:** "Oh, this is DLC."

**Justin:** [laughs] "This is Velma and Shaggy kissing. This is an expansion on the Velma and Shaggy universe."

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** Exactly.

**Griffin:** A modification. An upgrade.

**Travis:** If you will.

**Griffin:** If you will.

**Travis:** Also, I gave Shaggy big pecks. 'Cause I love that. I like his Shaggy pecks.

**Justin:** Could we do a shirt... Do you think we could sell a shirt that had a Shaggy?

**Griffin:** With a strong Shaggy on it?

**Justin:** [laughs] Just like a strong Shaggy.

**Travis:** The just underneath says, "It wasn't me."

**Griffin:** I think it's a meme. I think actually strong Shaggy is a meme. Like, for whatever reason kids like Shaggy if he was like, really strong.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I don't know why. But this guy keeps popping up on my YouTube videos. And every time I see him being very strong and you know, beating Huggy Wuggy or any of the other sort of fuckin' video game degenerates. And the kids go crazy. And it's like, that dude is high on drugs. He is Casey Kasem.



**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** He has no friends. He eats dog food.

**Travis:** He steals people's sandwiches.

**Griffin:** He steals people's sandwiches. Please do not aspire to be this man.

**Travis:** What if—

**Griffin:** He has wasted his potential.

**Travis:** What if we made a T-shirt that was just a series of pictures of like Shaggy on a sofa, Shaggy on a counter, Shaggy in the shower, Shaggy being caught on camera. What do you think?

**Griffin:** In the shower?

**Travis:** Yeah. [singing] But we saw him in the shower. It wasn't me.

**Griffin:** Oh, I— Oh, okay. Ah.

**Travis:** 'Cause he's Shaggy, right. But he's on the sofa. Then he's in the shower.

**Griffin:** No, I get the joke now. I guess in my mind when I heard you say let's do a T-shirt with a nude cartoon character— licensed character on it.

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. And I should know, this isn't like a joke. This is a separate business I wanna start where we are selling these at like a Hot Topic or something. I think that these would actually do really well in that market. Not as like a McElroy Brothers joke thing, but to like branch out into actual like, more like memetic T-shirts.

**Justin:** Hmm...

**Griffin:** You couldn't sell it at a Hot Topic. You could sell it at a kiosk, outside of the Hot Topic.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** 'Cause as far as I can tell from mall kiosks, anything fucking goes.

**Travis:** Anything goes.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah can have Shaggy's dong, fully on display in the shower.

**Griffin:** You fully, fully can. It's like international waters, if you're in the mall hallways.

**Travis:** Yeah. "We've got Shaggy nude on T-shirts and Pelotons. Come on in."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "This just says Pelican Ton?"

"Yeah, it's my version of it where you're riding the bike and there's a video behind you of a pelican chasing you."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "It's an expansion to the Peloton. It's not a rip off, it's an expansion."

**Travis:** Yeah, "I trademarked it myself. I wrote the idea on a piece of paper and I mailed it to myself, and I haven't opened it. So, see you in court."

**Griffin:** "This is legally binding."

**Justin:** "My neighbor recently removed the hedge on their side of the fence between our properties. This fence is around two feet from my house and is

not very tall. This means that the neighbors now have an unobstructed view through my window, into my bed.

Even though I keep the blinds low, I still prefer to keep a fan in the window. Which requires them to be open far enough that I'm certain my neighbors will have a line of sight from their window straight to my junk. Am I still good to sleep in the nude?

Should I let their decisions to remove the privacy hedge decide how I dress at night? Or do I give this provenly nosey neighbor an eyeful and hope she plants a new privacy bush?" That's from Bedtime Bush in Bremerton.  
[laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs] You chose to use the word bush.

**Justin:** You chose it.

**Griffin:** You chose it. You could've said something else, but you didn't. This feels tricky to me.

**Travis:** Oh, it does?

**Justin:** It feels fraught. Travis, don't just... Travis, tell me what they should do and don't just say plant another, taller bush next to their bush.

**Travis:** No, just, it strikes me as like... If you are not bothered by it, right. If you're not like, "Oh, no. What do I do now?" If it's just like, well, you made some decisions and this is where your choices have brought you. I will continue on my momentum, like... unless acted upon by an outside force. You know what I mean?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** There are two different kinds of naked.

**Travis:** Okay?

**Justin:** There's you don't have clothes on and you're worried there's any chance on Earth someone might see you.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Justin:** Or there's the times when you're naked and you're just like, you... that's who you are. You're in your body.

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** You're feeling you're sexy. You know what I mean?

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. And you're saying thank you Monster God for my rockin' bod.

**Justin:** [laughs] Thank you Monster God for my rockin' bod. And this person is never going to be able to get into that second headspace.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** Because there's always the possibility that you could be being perused. It's not about the neighbor, it's about you. You need to be able to be not just nude, but indescribably, perfectly nude.

**Griffin:** Deeply.

**Travis:** Oh, a nude soul as well, if you will.

**Justin:** Yes! Emotionally nude.

**Travis:** Okay? So, what do you do then, Justin?

**Justin:** You plant a second, taller bush.

**Travis:** Okay. Now, hold on. [laughs] I was explicitly told—

**Justin:** I just didn't want you to take mine.

**Travis:** Oh, okay. [laughs] I didn't know we could do that. We've been doing this show for over a decade!

**Justin:** I know!

**Travis:** I didn't know we could say like, "And I call dibs on this answer."

**Justin:** [laughs] I just came up with it.

**Travis:** Fuck, that's good, man.

**Justin:** I was like, I don't wanna interrupt him, I'll just put a bookmark in so he doesn't take mine.

**Travis:** That's so good, dude!

**Justin:** I should've... If I was gonna invent that rule, I wish I had done it for— I was about to say a better joke, but like a joke.

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** You know what I mean?

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** It was the idea you get—

**Griffin:** What about— Are any of us truly nude in the dark?

**Travis:** Huh... yes?

**Griffin:** If you're in the dark, in the darkness and no one can see your privacy...

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Griffin:** Are you even nude?

**Travis:** Huh?

**Justin:** [laughs] Do you think when The Darkness band was in the greenroom, and everyone leaned in and just like shut off the lights real quick and slammed the door. And the band's like, "Ah, here we go again."  
[laughs]

**Griffin:** Busted up. Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** And so, there's always a joker, isn't there?

**Griffin:** Yeah, for sure.

**Justin:** Thank you so much for listening to our program. I'm sorry that my brothers denied you that wonderful Munch Squad I was definitely really maybe gonna do.

**Griffin:** Save it, baby. Save it. Do two next time.

**Justin:** But you know, I hope you had fun regardless. That's all we ever hope for, is that you enjoy yourself.

**Travis:** Is that all?

**Justin:** Trav, what's going on?

**Travis:** Wait, is that all we ever hope for?

**Justin:** It's all we ever hope for.

**Travis:** Oh, man. Okay, I'm learning so much on this episode.

**Justin:** And maybe would it kill you to buy a shirt from time to time, you know what I mean?

**Travis:** There we go.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** There it is.

**Justin:** Maybe a deluxe blanket, I don't know.

**Travis:** And you know, speaking of that, Justin, it's so funny you should mention that?

**Griffin:** What?

**Travis:** We have a Garyl blanket on sale in the merch store, designed by Lin Doyle. And this is like a beautiful— I mean, it's a tapestry-esque Garyl blanket over at [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com). We've also got our Candlenights wrapping paper back, designed by Justin Gray. And 10% of all merch proceeds this month go to Fair Elections Center. And listen, it's not just that, it's all the other merch there. And it's time to start thinking about the holiday season. Order now.

**Griffin:** It's creeping in, I feel it. I feel it creep.

**Travis:** My children have now each gotten a Garyl. The Garyl stuffie.

**Griffin:** Same, same.

**Justin:** So cute.

**Travis:** And they're really enjoying talking to each other. And then constantly forgetting that he's a bi-nicorn. Which is fun. They keep calling him a rhino-corn. Which I enjoy immensely.

**Griffin:** Let's explore that.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I mean, a rhino is already kind of a rhino-corn.

**Travis:** Exactly. But imagine if you said, "This is a unicorn, except it looks like a rhino."

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure. So, this is gonna be thanks for Montaigne.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Thanks Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. It makes you stronger to hear it.

**Travis:** That's true.

**Griffin:** And if you have fear, any fear, any weakness, this song makes it go away.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Yeah. In the like scariest times, the song makes you strong enough to face it.

**Justin:** [laughs] Wow.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That's cool.

**Travis:** Yeah, it's amazing. How do they do that? Is it like a binaural... or like an under— you know, like a subconscious thing?

**Griffin:** Yes, both of `em.

**Travis:** That's amazing. Hey, big news on the tour front. The shows in San José and Denver that were postponed have been rescheduled.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Nice.

**Travis:** April 27<sup>th</sup>, San José, California. Adventure Zone, that's still with Aabria, which is very exciting. That's gonna be super great.



**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** April 28<sup>th</sup>, San José, My Brother, My Brother and Me. And April 29<sup>th</sup>, Denver, My Brother, My Brother and Me. All existing tickets will be honored for the new dates.

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Travis:** If you can't attend the rescheduled dates, keep an eye out for an email from your venue or AXS. And you will have 30 days from when you get that email to request a refund. And if you don't have tickets but want to go, we will be selling those tickets. You can get those on sale now at—

**Griffin:** Travis promises that he won't get COVID this time, also.

**Travis:** Yeah, promise. Cross my lungs. November shows in Washington D.C. with Brennan Lee Mulligan, DM-ing Dad Lands 2. We got the shows in Detroit and Cincinnati. And mask and proof of full vaccination or negative COVID test within 72 hours of event start is required. And don't forget to preorder TAZ: 11<sup>th</sup> Hour now. Go to [theadventurezonecomic.com](http://theadventurezonecomic.com) to preorder it. And those are coming out February 21<sup>st</sup>, fast than you think.

**Griffin:** Yup. That's it. Everybody, stick to your guns. I'll do it. I feel like I didn't contribute much this week. Stick to your guns.

**Justin:** No, that's not we— We had something different. What was our new thing?

**Griffin:** I think it was whoever didn't contribute the most has to—

**Justin:** No, we decided— Travis ruled that out, fairly, wisely.

**Griffin:** Oh, okay.

**Justin:** Then we had a new thing. What was our new idea?

**Griffin:** I don't know, I don't know...

**Travis:** I don't know, but it's also from a future episode for the Halloween special I don't think people have heard yet.

**Griffin:** Okay. Well, then I'll just say— Let me do it anyway.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** 'Cause I have to go in 30 seconds. Don't ever compromise for any reason.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] My name's Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

[theme song plays]

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