

## Still Buffering 327: "Scream" (2022)

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[theme music plays]

**Rileigh:** Hello, and welcome to *Still Buffering*: a cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I am Rileigh Smirl.

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:** Uh, first of all, happy birthday, Rileigh!

**Taylor:** Woo hoo!

**Rileigh:** Thanks.

**Taylor:** Happy birthday!

**Sydnee:** Yay!

**Rileigh:** It's my birthday!

**Sydnee:** What birthday is it?

**Rileigh:** I don't know about you, but I'm feeling 22. [laughs]

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Oh, it's a Taylor Swift birthday.

**Sydnee:** It is.

**Rileigh:** It's only significant because of Taylor Swift. It's not a significant age.

**Sydnee:** I knew what it was, but I wanted to give you the opportunity to share some Taylor Swift lyrics with everyone.

**Rileigh:** I appreciate it, especially because— did everyone— did everyone see the good news? Good fortune?

**Sydnee:** Hmm...

**Rileigh:** Of what— what—

**Taylor:** She's— she's— again, she's doing an album again. Right?

**Rileigh:** She's doing an album again.

**Sydnee:** Oh! Now, is this a— is this a— like, another redo of an old album, or is this a new album?

**Rileigh:** This is brand new.

**Sydnee:** Ohh. That's exciting.

**Rileigh:** There's not been a brand new one since *Evermore*, December 2020, so two years ago, and it comes out on October 21st.

**Taylor:** Oh, wow.

**Sydnee:** Hmm! Maybe—

**Rileigh:** It's called *Midnights*.

**Taylor:** Ooh!

**Sydnee:** Maybe that'll be what Charlie starts listening to get ready in the morning to replace— right now she's rotating between "Crocodile Rock" by Elton John and "Don't Worry Be Happy". [laughs quietly]

**Rileigh:** Those are good.

**Sydnee:** So.

**Rileigh:** I'll be honest, based on the description of the album that Taylor released just when announcing it, it does not look like one that Charlie will want to listen to while getting ready.

**Sydnee:** Oh.

**Rileigh:** Um, it's— basically she described it as 13 tracks that, you know, she wrote in the middle of the night about all the things that keep you awake, and you're thinking about, and... yeah.

**Taylor:** Wait a second. So she— she— it's called *Midnights*... it's got 13 tracks... she's releasing it in October... and it's all spooky— is this her Halloween album? Taylor Swift did a Halloween album is what you're telling me. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Hmm, yeah. There is— can I tell you the theory? 'Cause there's always a theory, and it's my birthday so you have to let me. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Rileigh:** Um, when she released "Lover," there was— 'cause "Lover" was, like, all about her, you know, new relationship and how happy she is and in love she is and, like, the theme colors were pink and purple and pastels and stuff.

Um, there was a theory that she was writing songs that were, like, kind of teased, that people thought that she might add on to that new album before it came out, um, and were saying it would be like the Blue Side of it. And the last song in the album is called "Daylight," and that album was going to be called *Daylight*, and then it was *Lover*, so people think that *Midnights* is maybe, like, the opposite side of *Lover*. Instead of "Daylight," it's *Midnights*. So...

**Sydnee:** So that's the theory, huh?

**Rileigh:** That's the— that's the theory. Oh, wait. I'm— hold on.

**Sydnee:** Alright. Rileigh is having to go get...

**Rileigh:** [distantly] Hello?

[thump]

**Sydnee:** Oh, she's taking a phone call.

**Taylor:** They probably called her. Riley has a birthday surprise that Sydnee sent to be delivered in the middle of the recording.

**Sydnee:** Okay, in my defense—

**Taylor:** I think it's a bit.

**Sydnee:** —this was the— it's not a bit! It really isn't! That seems— there's too much—

**Taylor:** Gotta wait and see what it is.

**Sydnee:** Tey, I'm worried there's too much buildup. It's just some, like, yummy sweet birthday treats.

**Taylor:** Well.

**Sydnee:** 'Cause, like, normally Justin would bake something.

**Taylor:** Right.

**Sydnee:** For Riley's birthday. And, like, he loves to bake, and so that's— that is his love language: "Here's some things I made for you."

But we couldn't... bake anything. So we sent yummy treats. And the only time we could have them delivered today was in this recording window, 'cause she's gone the rest of the day!

**Taylor:** Well, I mean, no! I think it's— it's— it's very kind that you did. I just... you know. There is a lot of buildup now.

**Sydnee:** I know!

**Taylor:** I was expecting, like, a singing telegram or... Taylor Swift with a bottle of champagne. I don't know.

**Sydnee:** If I could've sent Taylor Swift to... [laughs] to Rileigh's apartment, I would've done that. No. Um, speaking of that, briefly I did want to mention— and Rileigh doesn't have to be here to mention this— did you notice how many listeners— thank you for telling us this— how many people informed us that sherbet punch is something that happens everywhere?

**Taylor:** Yes. Yes.

**Sydnee:** I re—

**Taylor:** I— I'm not surprised by that. I expected that.

**Sydnee:** Well, I really appreciated that though, 'cause I didn't know— sometimes— so, West Virginia isn't southern. But, like, sometimes southern stuff creeps up here, you know? Like, there are some things about our food culture and language that is kind of southern. And so I didn't know if it was a southern thing.

**Taylor:** No, that's fair.

**Sydnee:** And so I don't know. But people all over the country drink sherbet punch. Now, I don't— I did not get any emails, as far as I could tell, or tweets from people outside of the US. So there still stands that question. Like, do people outside of the US make sherbet punch commonly?

**Taylor:** They probably have a, like, different name for it.

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] Or is it a uniquely American delicacy?

**Taylor:** Maybe.

**Sydnee:** What do they call it?

**Taylor:** I don't know. Bri— British people have all sorts of, like, weird cute names for things.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Ole, uh—sher—sher—sherbie— sherbie swirl.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Rleigh:** So... so Sydnee did a bit.

**Taylor:** Sydnee did do a bit! [laughs]

**Rleigh:** Sydnee did a bit. And, um—

**Sydnee:** What'd you get?

**Rleigh:** So I was planning on being surprised and bringing it in and, like, having a moment, um, when I sat down to record again. But the guy who called me to tell me that my DoorDash was here said "You better hurry up, it's ice cream and it's hot out here!" [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, it's ice cream.

**Rleigh:** I was like, "Okay! I'm coming!"

And he handed me the bags and he just said, "I didn't wanna leave that place. It smelled so good in there! I gotta go back there." [laughs]

**Taylor:** Nice.

**Sydnee:** Well, there is nothing—

**Rleigh:** There are many bags, though.

**Sydnee:** There is nothing that Justin McElroy likes more than in a place he's not familiar with, finding what sort of sweet delicious dessert-y treats they have. So...

**Taylor:** Is that just a box of cones?

**Rleigh:** [through laughter] There were three bags and this one's just a box of sugar cones!

**Taylor:** Oops, all cones!

**Rileigh:** Or waffle cones.

**Sydnee:** You better have some friends over.

**Rileigh:** I was gonna say, there's, like, a dozen in here!

**Taylor:** Did— did you send an ice cream party? Is that what you sent?

**Sydnee:** [laughs] I sent a lil ice cream party.

**Rileigh:** Do I need to put this in the freezer?

**Taylor:** Yeah, you should put that in the freezer.

**Sydnee:** I sent friends. I should've sent— I should've sent some partygoers.

**Taylor:** Oh.

**Rileigh:** I need Charlie to help me with all this ice cream!

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly] As Charlie will tell you, "Ugh. There's too much dairy in that for me."

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "It makes me—[through laughter] it makes me—"

**Rileigh:** [simultaneously] Who is she? [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "—regurgitate a little bit. I need the sherbet."

**Taylor:** What?

**Rileigh:** My God, this bag smells so good. It's also a nice little reusable, like, freezer bag.

**Sydnee:** Yeah!

**Taylor:** That's really cute.

**Rileigh:** Um, do I wanna... do you wanna know what I got?

**Taylor:** I wanna hear all about it.

**Sydney:** Sure.

**Taylor:** I'm gonna live vicariously through your ice cream.

**Rileigh:** Um, well, but would it have too much dairy in it? [laughs]

**Taylor:** For me, absolutely. This is my only way of enjoying it.

**Sydney:** Well, I would not send the same treats to you, Tey.

**Taylor:** No, you all have done this to me in the past, but— I mean, that Christmas that I couldn't come home because of COVID, you just sent, like, 12... pints of vegan ice cream [through laughter] to my house!

**Sydney:** Yeah?

**Taylor:** It was a depressing time, but I had ice cream.

**Rileigh:** This says dairy-free.

**Taylor:** Oh! Well, I can eat that one. You save that for when I visit.

**Rileigh:** So I've got six— six pints of ice cream. [laughs] I've got... buttercream birthday cake. That sounds delicious. Dairy-free Texas sheet cake.

**Taylor:** Ooh.

**Rileigh:** Brown butter almond brittle.

**Sydney:** Mmm.

**Rileigh:** And then... in this bag... I've got wildberry lavender, coffee with cream and sugar, and brambleberry crisp!

**Taylor:** Brambleberry?!



**Rileigh:** Brambleberry!

**Sydnee:** Brambleberry.

**Taylor:** I love brambleberry. What's the brand?

**Rileigh:** Jenny's.

**Taylor:** Oh, Jenny's is good.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, Jenny's is good.

**Rileigh:** I've had— I think you've... have you DoorDashed this before at home maybe? 'Cause I don't think it's sold at home, is it?

**Sydnee:** Actually at the Wild Ramp they sell some Jenny's, so you may have gotten it there.

**Rileigh:** Okay.

**Sydnee:** There's my plug for the local... [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** We are not sponsored by Jenny's.

**Sydnee:** No. Market— no, we're not sponsored by Jenny's or the Wild Ramp, but that is a great place. If you're in Huntington, it's just here. It's like a local place you have to go and they have, like, produce from local growers and all kinds of jarred and canned things.

**Rileigh:** Let me, uh—

**Sydnee:** And Jenny's. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Let me put these—[laughs quietly] let me put these in my freezer real quick. I don't wanna be recording and look down and have a puddle of ice cream at my feet. That would be very sad.

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] That would be very sad.

**Sydnee:** That would be so depressing.

**Taylor:** You put those— put those away safely.

**Sydnee:** I really like, sometimes, dairy-free ice cream. There was that one brand that we got for a while that we kept ordering from, and the best one they made was dairy-free.

**Taylor:** I think— you sent me Oddfellows, the assortment of the vegan stuff. Which is— I don't think Oddfellows is all vegan. They just have a really good vegan selection. Um, but yeah. I like— I mean, 'cause especially when it's made with, like, coconut milk. It just adds a whole other, like, texture and flavor—

**Sydnee:** Coconut layer.

**Taylor:** Yeah. It's really, really good.

**Sydnee:** I think so too. I— I have— I will say that I have— some of the best ice creams I've had were vegan, so... I don't think you're missing out, there.

**Taylor:** I don't either.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Just gonna keep this box full of cones, just right... just right here with me.

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Just in case you need them during our recording.

**Raleigh:** Just in case I need a little something to crunch on.

**Sydnee:** Happy birthday!

**Raleigh:** Thank you, Syd. This is great.

**Sydnee:** You have ice cream.

**Rileigh:** I was just thinking last night, I was like, "You know, it's al—" I was up late reading, of course. So I was like, "It's almost midnight. It's almost my birthday. I should have a treat."

And I looked in my freezer and I didn't have a treat! I mean, I had Hot Pockets. But I wanted, like, a sweet treat.

**Taylor:** Just put a candle in a Hot Pocket.

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Put it out with your tears. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** That's not sad or anything.

**Taylor:** No.

**Rileigh:** No, it's not sad. [laughs]

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Rileigh:** But now I have treats! So thank you.

**Sydnee:** Well, I'm glad you have treats. I was thinking about— you said Taylor Swift is making an album of things that keep her up at night? Things she thinks about when she can't fall asleep at night?

**Taylor:** Vampires.

**Sydnee:** I can't even imagine how bad an album would be if I made it about things that keep me up at night. It would be like...

**Rileigh:** That's a pretty loaded comment, Syd.

**Sydnee:** No. Well, I was thinking about— I was like—

**Rileigh:** There's a lot to unpack, there. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, I thought about that and I was like, "What keeps me up at night?" And it would be literally like... "[singing] There was that one time in fifth grade

during the Christmas show when I missed my cue and the music teacher stopped the show and called me out in front of everyone, and I was so embarrassed, and I think about it to this day." [laughs quietly] That would be my album!

**Rileigh:** That sounded pretty good to me.

**Taylor:** Yeah! That— that's... you know, relatable. You might need to rework the— the lyrics a little bit.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Pretty good, though. See, I thought—

**Sydnee:** Is that normal? [laughs]

**Rileigh:** I thought it was pretty good.

**Taylor:** I thought what keeps you up at night, it was gonna be all like a— like a— a ghoulish album, I was assuming.

**Sydnee:** No.

**Taylor:** The monsters?

**Sydnee:** It would be stuff like [laughs] "[singing] I haven't been to the dentist. I hope my teeth aren't rotting out."

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Do you wanna just keep going on this, Syd? It seems like you have a lot that's kind of coming out.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] No, this is— this is Candlenights this year. It's gonna be a whole parody album about what keeps us up at night, and it's just... anxiety! [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Oh, I don't wanna sing about that.

**Taylor:** Oh.

**Sydnee:** Taylor's will be about monsters, though.

**Taylor:** That's fine.

**Rileigh:** Now... now anymore I wake up with court cases in my head, and the facts of them, and the parties, just to try to remember it in case I get cold called, which did happen to me Monday, the morning after Taylor Swift announced her album and said, you know, "Stay up until midnight and I'll tell you what my album's gonna be." So I stayed up until midnight, then I was distracted and I didn't get good sleep, and then I got cold called on in class at 9 AM.

**Sydnee:** How'd it go?

**Rileigh:** Um... not gre—[laughs quietly] great. It seems like law school professors like asking trick questions that there is no right answer to, and then you're left in a room of 120 people. That's— that's what keeps me up at night. Trying to answer questions that don't have an answer in front of 120 people.

**Sydnee:** I'm sorry.

**Rileigh:** It's okay.

**Sydnee:** That does not sound too dissimilar from med school, frankly.

**Rileigh:** Yeah. I mean, I figure if I'm constantly worried about me getting called on, everyone else is constantly worried about them getting called on, and their probably always thinking about the wrong answer they gave, so it's— no one's thinking about me. It's fine.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. You're learning.

**Rileigh:** Um... anyways... you know what else keeps—

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] Speaking of things that keep us up at night—

**Rileigh:** —me up at night...

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Spooky movies! Ooh!

**Sydnee:** Um— go ahead. What are we— what did we watch this week?

**Rileigh:** We watched *Scream*. But *Scream* that came out this year, 2022.

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Rileigh:** Um, also just called *Scream*. But it seems like since Taylor Swift is ushering in the fall era now, um, it's allowed to watch spooky movies.

**Taylor:** Well, and I think we're recording this on the first official day of the, um—the pumpkin latte too, correct?

**Rileigh:** The pumpkin cream cold brew came out today, on my birthday, and I haven't gotten one but I'm getting one tomorrow.

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Is that at Starbucks?

**Rileigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** 'Cause they have something like that at Dunkin, and I would... not recommend.

**Taylor:** Well, I think the Starbucks launch was today. Which, I don't know. Something about a pumpkin spice latte being a Virgo makes sense to me. I can't explain that. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** You know, I really think it's the pumpkin cream cold brew they made, because it's got just the black coffee, like the cold brew, but then just that little bit... of, like, "Hmm. Just a little bit of something— something sweet and not serious on the top." But the rest is— once you drink, you know, the first third of it, the rest is just gonna be black coffee. [laughs] That seems right for Virgo season.

**Sydnee:** Are you comparing this to yourself? [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Yeah!

**Sydnee:** Oh, okay! [laughs]

**Rileigh:** That seems right for Virgo season. Like, you get a little bit that's like, 'Oh, that's a tasty sweet treat that I'm gonna let myself enjoy.' And then the rest is like, "Hmm. Uh, black coffee."

**Taylor:** "I'm sophisticated and structured. Just a little bit of cream on top!"

**Rileigh:** "[baby voice] Just a little bit." It's really good, though. You should get the one from Starbucks. Anyways, we're talking—

**Sydnee:** I should. I should.

**Rileigh:** —*Scream*.

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Can I say— so, I hadn't seen the new *Scream* movie until you assigned it. And so the first opportunity I had to watch it was after the girls left for school, and before I went in to Harmony House. I watched it, like, first thing in the morning.

**Taylor:** That's a great time to watch a horror movie.

**Sydnee:** It was, like, how I start—

**Rileigh:** That's an interesting time.

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** It was—[laughs] it was, like, literally 7:45 AM and I was starting *Scream*. It— it was a weird way to start a day.

**Rileigh:** Yeah?

**Sydnee:** Like, it left me, like, driving in my car sort of, like, dissociating. Like, "What is it all about? I don't know. This isn't—" like— and it was like a rainy, grey— I don't know. Anyway, good movie. I would not advise watching horror movies at, you know, 8 AM.

**Rileigh:** Yeah. Um, my question for you all— and perhaps the thesis for this episode— is *Scream*'s always been meta. I mean, like, from the first *Scream* movie they were talking about the rules of scary movies and all that. So it's always been a meta scary movie. But this one is, like, ultra ultra meta. Like, breaking the fourth wall, essentially. Talking about why they made this movie and the thoughts that went into making this movie. Um, 'cause they call it, what? A I— legasequel? Is that right?

**Taylor:** Requel?

**Sydney:** It's a requel, right?

**Rileigh:** Requel? Requel? 'Cause it's like the people that are either family members or know or are related to people from the original— well, they call *Stab* movie, like, case, are the ones that are getting killed in this movie. Um, and they talk about, you know, introducing the new characters and getting rid of the old ones, and making a reboot that has old themes but brings in new stuff. So I guess my question is, do you all think *Scream* has finally gone too far? [laughs quietly]

**Sydney:** Um... I don't think— I don't think there is a too far, is my— I don't know. And Taylor, you may disagree with me. I don't think there is a too far, because it is meta, it is supposed to be a little bit, like, winky, tongue in cheek. Like, that's part of it. Um, but there— it's also, like, I didn't know— I didn't figure it out towards the end. Er, until towards the end. Like, I didn't know the whole movie who did it. I had... thoughts, and I had suspicions, but I hadn't figured it all out. And, um, I enjoyed it. I thought it was suspenseful, and I thought it was clever, and there was some really good performances, and they brought back some of the favorites. So, like, I don't know. You know? I mean, is it a little ridiculous? Maybe. But is it, like— is that the whole spirit of the arrangement? That's kind of my feel.

**Taylor:** Mm-hmm.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Well, I kind of have to— 'cause I'll be honest, I saw this when it first came out in theaters, and I don't wanna say I was disappointed. I just— I kind of was expecting to, like... enjoy it as much as the original. But what I— I



recently rewatched all of them. And the thing is, there is a big difference between the first *Scream* movie and the subsequent *Scream* movies. They really leaned in to the meta and the sort of parody of themselves more, and they kind of— the original one I think you have to kind of remove from the equation. Because I don't think anything can come close to that. It was a complete reset of how we looked at horror movies, and it's okay that that will always be better than [through laughter] I think any *Scream* movie to come.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** But, I mean, I think this falls perfectly in line. I mean, like, what? The— is it the third one or the— the third one, where they're shooting the movie and, like, they're in sets that are replica sets, so a set within a set fighting. You know? And it's like— and it's her long-lost brother. [laughs] Like, it's such a ridiculous plotline! And I think this— yeah, this is just— it's more of the same, just with a little bit of a fresh coat of paint and some really really talented, engaging, younger actors.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, I was impressed with the performances. And I don't know... I mean, we're gonna spoil this I guess, right?

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** Like, we're gonna spoil this, so let's just put that out there right now.

**Raleigh:** I mean, it's not brand new.

**Taylor:** It's been out for a while.

**Raleigh:** It's been out for, what? Like... four or five months now, maybe longer?

**Sydnee:** So I thought—

**Raleigh:** So you can stop listening now if you wanna go watch it first.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, 'cause we are definitely gonna spoil it. Um, I don't know what they're planning on doing next. Like, if this is a next— like, if we've reset the franchise and we're gonna carry on with these characters, the ones that are left. [laughs quietly] I don't know if that's the thought, but if that is, the way that they've set up the main character who turns out to be Billy Loomis's daughter... to be, like, she saves the day? But it's— it seems like towards the end of the film, her having to, like... you know, kill the killer, has unlocked some sort of thing in her, and unleashed some sort of... badness or something. Like, the Billy Loomis within her. I feel like they sort of hint at that. And that maybe she's gonna flip. I feel like they're doing something really fascina— like, I'm excited about it.

**Taylor:** It was a weird message. I mean, also, just, like, the weird presence of the ghost of Billy Loomis [through laughter] like, in—

**Sydnee:** That was very weird. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Skeet Ulrich was there.

**Rileigh:** That was definitely, like, CGI'd to make him look the same age he was in the first movie, right? 'Cause it was looking weird at times, where I was like, "Hmm... he's not just ghost. This is, like, weird younger ghost now."

**Taylor:** I mean, don't get me wrong. He looks good for his age. Like, that's a very handsome actor. But they definitely, definitely did some...

**Rileigh:** It was still, like, what? Almost 30 years ago?

**Taylor:** Yeah. But I— 'cause if the idea is she had to sort of, like, let loose her inner Billy Loomis to finally win, and he kind of stands there in the corner, like, nodding. Like "That's right. [through laughter] Murder that boy!" Or girl—

**Sydnee:** Stab that guy. Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Yep.

**Taylor:** Oh, it was a dude, yeah. Uh, so I don't— I don't know what that's trying to say? But I do think, like, they're gonna... if they just drop that storyline and then just move on with another random killer, I feel like that would be less rewarding than if they somehow work with that.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Didn't they— didn't you get, like, a *Dexter* dark passenger vibe at the end there? Like— like there's something in her that's finally about to... I don't know.

**Rileigh:** 100%. 'Cause I feel like even for when she finds out, I think maybe if I had found out that my dad was really someone who was a serial killer... like, I maybe would've been a little bit more upset about that? [laughs] She was like— she was upset, but then also pretty quickly was, like, talking back to these visions of Billy Loomis [through laughter] she was having.

**Sydnee:** Well, and that's... [sighs] I don't know. I don't know too if, like... it... I don't know what to say about that from is it problematic standpoint. You know what I mean? Like, is she hallucinating and we are supposed to believe that this is a psychosis, and that she needs more effective treatment for mental illness? Or is this supposed to be not an actual mental illness as much as, like... supernatural, the ghost of her dead father, talking to her. You know what I mean? Like... I don't know. Sometimes movies play fast and loose with that, and it makes you a little, like, "Ooh... I don't know. What are you doing here?"

**Rileigh:** I guess I hadn't really thought about the realistic, like, logistics of that, because with *Scream* I just— you never take it, like, seriously.

**Sydnee:** Right.

**Rileigh:** So you never know what they're doing for the people that are watching, because so much of it is service to people that are watching, because they're aware that they're making a movie. Um... or actually happening. I don't know. I always have a hard time taking anything too seriously, although I do want to talk about the one thing in a *Scream* movie that has ever made me cry. [pause] Do you all— do you all know what—

**Taylor:** Oh, I—

**Rileigh:** The— the death in this movie that made me cry.

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] I— yeah.

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] Yeah.

**Taylor:** I mean, I'm assuming.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Dewey.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** I did not— I thought for sure— I was like, "They're gonna... he's gonna come in in the third act and still be alive, just absolutely decimated after how many times that man has been stabbed, but he will be there." And they're like— and they wheel him out with, like, the— the coroner's jacket, you know? Like, "No, seriously?"

**Sydnee:** I know. Well, and that's why—

**Rileigh:** That really got me.

**Sydnee:** That's why I think they made his— his killing particularly brutal, too. To make it so clear. Like, there is—

**Rileigh:** [holding back laughter] He is not coming back.

**Sydnee:** There is no—[laughs quietly] like, we watched his... guts fall out. Like...

**Taylor:** Yeah...

**Sydnee:** I think they were trying to send the message. Like, "Don't get your hopes up. He's gone."

**Rileigh:** I haven't looked into this, so I could be wrong. I have to imagine part of that had to have been David Arquette, like, "I'm done." Right? Like, it couldn't have been an easy, off the bat decision. Like, this one? This is when we kill Dewey.

**Taylor:** Maybe he did— that was like a— what was it? Harrison Ford coming back to play Han Solo. He's like, "I'll come back if you kill me. If you kill me, I'll do it." [laughs] Maybe it was one of those things.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Well, I wonder too. Because I was thinking about, like— and I don't know. This is just— again, these are— I don't know if this is anything. As I was watching, and I was watching Courtney Cox and David Arquette interacting, 'cause like, they're not together anymore, right?

**Taylor:** No.

**Rileigh:** Right.

**Sydnee:** Like, the actors?

**Taylor:** I don't think so.

**Rileigh:** Right.

**Sydnee:** And I was thinking that that was all— that must've all been rough to play out, right? Like, 'cause it's sort of this, like, "I miss you, but also like, things fell apart for a reason and I want you to be happy, but I still am— my life has never been the same since you're gone." I don't know! It just— I found it all particularly heart wrenching, like, to watch. And the scene was shot almost like edging into this sort of, like, David Lynch melodrama kind— you know what I mean?

**Taylor:** Mm-hmm.

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Like, overwrought, dramatic, hyper-emotional thing. And it really got me. That scene actually— like, them sort of talking about their lost relationship and then he dies and she says she lost her best friend. That all really just, like, "Oh. Oh!" I don't know.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Maybe that was tough to revisit for them.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** It also made me feel like the scene where they go and convince Dewey to help them. Because— okay. The plot of this *Scream*, much like all the other *Screams*, is it's in the same city. What is that city called?

**Taylor:** Woodsboro.

**Sydnee:** Wood— Woodsboro.

**Rileigh:** Woodsboro? It's in the same one with all the other ones, except now there's another ghostface that's killing teens that are related to people that were part of the first *Scream* killings, stab killings, whatever. Ghostface killings. Um, so the two main characters are sisters, and one of them almost is Drew Barrymore. You know?

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Uh, almost is the one that gets killed right in the opening, but survives. And then the other one is— her sister is the daughter of Billy Loomis, doesn't know that's her dad. But then, you know, finds out it's her secret dad. Um... when they go— the two sisters go and try to get— is it sisters or is it— no, it's the sister and her boyfriend.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** From college. Go and try to get Dewey to help. And they're convincing him to help, and it takes so much, like, talking him into it, and he says he's not gonna do it. And as I was watching that, after I finished and saw that he died, I was like, "Is that just... how they got him to do it? Is that like a replication of them coming to him again, like, "We gotta ask one more time, David. We got one more movie." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "Please!"

**Rileigh:** "Please!"

**Sydnee:** "Please! We promise we'll kill you." [laughs]

**Rileigh:** "We promise this will be— we'll really kill you this time." That's what it felt like.

**Sydnee:** Um, I liked the, uh— I was wondering how they were gonna explain in the opening scene, the Drew Barrymore-like scene, how are we going to explain this landline? Like, it's 2022. Why does she have a landline? What's it about? And it's not explained. It's just referenced. "Someone's calling on my landline." And I'm still going, "We— you gotta give me something." [laughs] Give me a reason! Why is there a landline?

And then I think, it does— there's this, like, strange conundrum that it adds where, like, people have cell phones, but they're on landlines, but they still have cell phones. I don't know. I thought that was a weird—

**Rileigh:** Well, but the cell phone was being used, too. To text the friend. And she was getting videos on her phone of her friend.

**Sydnee:** Well, yeah.

**Rileigh:** And doesn't she say when it's ringing, like, "Why do we even still have a landline?" [laughs] Is that what she says, or something like that? Like, "Why is the landline ringing?"

**Sydnee:** She references the land— well, and her friend thinks it might be, like... a guy? And then I'm thinking like, there's no way a guy's calling her on the landline. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** On the home phone.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] What is happening? I don't know. I mean, it's throwback, I understand. It's homage. But I thought the presence of the landline was funny.

**Taylor:** It is interesting that I feel like one thing that this movie did not do as much as the older *Scream* movies always did, was because that initial setup for *Scream*, that the new thing it did was the killer spoke, and it was over the phone. Like, that was kind of, you know, the— it— the phone, which had kind of become a thing that was a way of reaching out and getting help now was weaponized against the victims. And then in each subsequent movie there was always sort of a comment on how technology had changed, and how the killer had to work around that. You know? Like, uh, the caller ID in the second *Scream* that, you know, Sidney uses to see that she's being prank called by just random people. Like, they always— or, like, a— I think it was the third and the fourth, they both

included, like, video aspects. You know? Like, so there was always, like, the killer is keeping up with technology and using it against the victims. And this one just dropped that. Like, it just kind of, like... it's not— we are just going classic here. They call on the phone, they use a voice cloner, and they clone phones, and that's it. Which, I don't know. Like, I don't know what you would've done. Like, I don't wanna see Ghostface doing TikTok dances to, like, [through laughter] scare people. But maybe I do?

**Sydnee:** Sending Snapchats to people.

**Taylor:** [laughs] [through laughter] Like, I don't— I don't know how you'd do that exactly.

**Rleigh:** I got excited, 'cause I thought the same thing when they used the security system for the home. That he's, like, turning off as soon as she turns it on from his phone, and you know, she has her iPhone turning it on. I was like, "Oh, okay. They're using an iPhone from the get-go in addition to this landline. What are they gonna do with all this 2022 technology in *Scream*?" No. 'Cause I think— it'd been a while since they've done a *Scream* movie, right? Like it'd been a lot of technology advancements ago.

**Taylor:** 2011? Is that the one with, uh...

**Rleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** The... oh, gosh. Emma Roberts? Was she in that one?

**Sydnee:** I don't even remember.

**Rleigh:** [simultaneously] Yes?

**Sydnee:** They all get fuzzy after the first three.

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] There was a four.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Rleigh:** Oh, and then there was the series.

**Taylor:** Yes.



**Rileigh:** But I guess that was separate?

**Taylor:** Yeah, the series does not relate to the Woodsboro murders. It's just people using the *Scream* imagery, yes.

**Rileigh:** It's a little Halloween-y, yeah. Um... yeah. Not a lot of that modern technology being used. But all of the modern internet discourse lingo culture is, like, the whole basis for the killings. 'Cause isn't their whole thing, like, "We're real stab fans, *Scream* fans, and we aren't satisfied with all these sequels, so we're gonna bring it back to its roots and make a movie that the fans will love. This is for the fans."

**Taylor:** Right.

**Sydney:** It— yeah. And I think that that helps explain— I think that you could use that to justify, like, the lack of new technology. Because you have two people who are obsessed with the original, and trying to, like, remake that feel of the original. Because they're obsessed movie fans. I don't know what they're trying to— I mean, when they say that they were radicalized by... whatever subreddits... [laughs]

**Rileigh:** [laughs] That's where they met! Right?

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydney:** They— yeah. They met on a subreddit and then they were radicalized by... isn't that how she puts it? It radi— radicalized her?

**Taylor:** Yeah, she— she does. Well, that's a consistent theme. Because you had, like, um... oh, gosh. In two it was Billy Loomis's mom had the college-aged kid that she met in a serial killer forum. So that's where— and then the whole story comes back in three where the brother, the secret brother explains that he kind of urged Billy Loomis on to, like, begin the whole killing thing with, like, an internet connection of some kind. So the internet's to blame for all of this, really. [laughs quietly]

**Rileigh:** It really is.

**Sydnee:** I love the idea that all of this is just, like, this huge argument against any technology. Not just modern, because, like, the landlines are to blame, too. [laughs] It's all bad! Don't— don't communicate. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Just...

**Rileigh:** It felt like to me a little bit of— not a serious, like, attack, but like a funny attack on people my age. Like, my generation of people that discovered *Scream* and where like, "Oh my gosh. This is the golden standard of horror. I love Billy Loomis. Like, I'm in love with, you know, all the people in *Scream*, and it's such a great—" like, you know what I mean. Like, the people that kind of romanticize, like, serial killer stories. That's what it—

**Sydnee:** Wait, is that a thing? Like, in your generation?

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I mean, with *Scream*. Like, specifically did *Scream*, like, do that? With—

**Rileigh:** I think *Scream* is closer to people probably my age and a little bit older that either would've had a closer exposure to the original one or had older siblings that would've been around at the time of the original one. Um, 'cause, I mean, it came out in the 90's, right?

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Rileigh:** I feel like people even just a couple years younger than me, you know, in their teens, may not have been as exposed to the original one whereas I know I was aware of it when I was younger. But, um, I mean, not even just with *Scream* but with true crime, or horror, or whatever in general. It seems more and more popular for young *women* especially on the internet to be, like, all about... that kind of stuff.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. And I do like that—[laughs quietly] that there was a— a young female killer. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] I guess that's nice. Is that empowering? I don't know.

**Rileigh:** Well, okay. I don't know how old these people are supposed to be. Um, I will say at least they look like they were probably teenagers when in the original one they definitely do not look like teenagers in any way, shape, or form.

**Taylor:** No, that's true.

**Rileigh:** Um, but the main— well, not the main girl. The female killer, the girl, to me I thought was supposed to be same age as the younger sister who's, like, 16 or 17? Not 18, right?

**Sydnee:** She's not 18, is she?

**Rileigh:** I don't think— I don't know if they say.

**Sydnee:** She's in high school. I mean...

**Rileigh:** She's in high school, so I guess I assumed she was 16 or 17. But the guy that she is in love with that is the other killer... is fake-dating her older sister, who is several years out of high school and has moved away in, like, her early 20's. Did that not feel weird to anyone else that it was, like, this 16, 17-year-old girl whose been radicalized through Reddit and is now dating, like, a 22, 23-year-old guy?

**Sydnee:** It... I mean, I don't know that it— okay. I think it's probably, um, realistic?

**Taylor:** [laughs] I mean, they— they murder people, so I don't think that the most disturbing part about their relationship is [through laughter] the age gap! Yes, I think that these are not great people for that reason.

**Rileigh:** I was wondering if that was supposed to be, like, part of it. You know? Like, is that intentional—

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] That he was so much older?

**Rileigh:** —to show this weird, like, power dynamic thing between them that you would think he's the one in control and calling all the shots, but...

**Sydnee:** This is maybe the only thing that's sort of, like... um, bothered me about it, I think. 'Cause, like, something... it got in me and, like, bothered me a little. And I think part of it is that dynamic. And I feel like, could that happen? Yeah. So I guess that's not, like, far-fetched to show. But is that the kind of thing you want to think about when you're engaging with, like, a... slasher flick? You know what I mean? Like, is that the kind of thing I want to think about? No.

**Rileigh:** Yes. I didn't think *Scream* ever was one to speak to, like... real uncomfortable issues. You know what I mean? Like, it's always been a little bit silly, as opposed to some other horror movies. So I guess that's what struck me about it was that scene, like, it was like, "Oh, hold on. *Scream*. You're a horror movie but I'm supposed to be able to casually enjoy you."

**Taylor:** Well, I mean, they kind of kept it vague maybe for a reason then. Because you couldn't pin down anybody's age.

**Rileigh:** That's true.

**Taylor:** I don't— the older sister... she moved away, so— when she was 18, so she's older than 18, but we don't know how much.

**Rileigh:** And I think they said that she was... thirt— the younger one was 13 when she moved away? I think she said something about "I was 13 and you left," or something like that.

**Sydnee:** Well, but it's been— it's been five years, though. So she could theoretically be 18.

**Rileigh:** That's true, that's true.

**Sydnee:** And then the— if the friend is 18—

**Rileigh:** [simultaneously] Her friend I guess would be...

**Sydnee:** —then I guess— I don't know why we're justifying this, but I guess—  
[laughs]

**Taylor:** No. I just —I think— I think that it was not— I don't think it was intentional to include that. Like, "And then this is real creepy, huh?" Like, no. [laughs] It's just...

**Sydnee:** I think—

**Rileigh:** I guess that's why it got my attention, was because it felt... like something I couldn't *not* pay attention to, but I don't know if that was their intention with it.

**Sydnee:** I think that it's just, um... I— for whatever reason— and this— again, this could be just me, so I don't wanna, like, say this is the way things are. This might just be me, because I'm older now, because I'm a parent. I don't know. But for whatever reason, I think that, like, a lot of— a lot of this— a lot of using teenagers and kids in these sorts of films, it has a different feel to me now than when I watched *Scream* when I was younger, or than when I used to watch, like... I mean, all of the movies where teenagers engage in quote-unquote "bad behavior" and get killed by serial killers. You know what I mean? Like, it always was sort of like this, "Oh no, ooh, bloody, gory!" kind of thing. And now I watched this, and I found it a little bit, like... sad? And a little upsetting. And I don't know why. And I don't know if it was just because of where I am in my life that it bothers me more. It might just be that.

**Taylor:** Well, I feel like— I mean, it's just an unfortunate truth of the world. Everything feels a little bit... it's not as— as removed, fantasy, as it used to be. I mean, one, I do think that there's a certain choice in choosing actors that look the age their supposed to be. Younger actors, that— like, the *Scream* show does that. The actors look very young on the *Scream* TV show, and I found that kind of disturbing, because you're watching people that look believably 16, 17 years old in horribly violent situations. So that kind of brings it closer to reality. And then the other thing is, I mean, we just unfortunately live in an age where, you know, when *Scream* 3 came out the idea of— or *Scream* 2— of, like, a serial killer forum on the internet and finding people to, like, be your murder buddy, that seemed a little far-fetched. And now I think we're just so aware of, like...

**Rileigh:** It's a little scary.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Like, kids being radicalized on the internet, it's a joke, it's a throwaway line in the movie, but it's a real thing. And, like, that's— it's a little closer to home than it ever was before.

**Rileigh:** That's a good point.

**Sydnee:** She says at one point— or he says— one of the two killers, when they're monologuing about, like, how bad the movies were and how, like, the last one was just this reboot where they wanted to do social commentary and all this kind of stuff. Um, which I think is intentional, right? 'Cause, like, this is also that.

**Rileigh:** What this is, yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. And they are, I guess, doing social commentary? But I think that's— I think there's a danger in when you're like, "We're going to reference... the situations in the world." But you don't really have anything to say about them because you don't want to alienate anyone, and you don't want to take too hard a stance on anything, 'cause you want to make a movie that everybody can watch. So instead of, like, making a statement about anything, you just sort of acknowledge its existence. And I never think that that's very successful. And like a lot of movies and TV shows will do that where they're just like, "You know, like this thing?" and then move on. And it's like... now what? Like, yes, like that thing. What do you want to say about it?

**Taylor:** I mean, that's true. Because they almost get there when, like, towards the end when Gale Weathers said "If I had never written that book none of this would have happened."

And then Sidney's quick to be like, "No. Like, that's not true."

But it's like, well, no, but the whole... the consistent story in *Scream* is— I mean, past— I mean, actually even in the first one, kids committing murders so they can have fame, because then they know there will be movies and books produced from their stories. And that is their way of seeking fame and immortality. And that is driven by people like Gale Weathers, who write the books. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** So I don't know. I don't know what the takeaway— maybe they don't want to lean too hard on that, because, you know...

**Sydnee:** Well, I don't think they want to lean too hard on that. Because at some point, if the characters learn these lessons, they have to stop.

**Rileigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** And then there's no more movies. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Which I guess, you know, there at the end Gale's like, "No, I'm not gonna write this story. I'm gonna write a story about a good man who helped people." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Aww.

**Taylor:** Which is very sweet.

**Rileigh:** Um, I enjoyed— I figure you all did too— that the— one, I noticed right away, you can ask mom and dad. I will give mom credit. Mom called that that one guy was one of the killers pretty early on. Um, when they're in the hospital and he comes and attacks them, and all that guy gets is, like, a cut on the arm. Mom was like, "Oh. He's one of 'em. He would've been killed if he wasn't one of 'em." Mom did call that early on. Um, but I noticed that was the house from the first one, when they went in for that party at the end. 'Cause it's set up exactly the same. I mean, the kitchen is the same where, like, the ending happens, and the party where they're all crowded around the TV watching the movie. Like, all of it's the same. Um, but I loved that at the end, instead it's, uh, Gale Weathers and Sidney that take down the teens. Thieves.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Rileigh:** In a very violent way! But, um, it felt like—

**Sydnee:** Yeah, they set her on fire. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Yeah. It's not always just them. Like, usually you get, like, the new young girl or whatever brought in that, like, you know, saves the day. And she did help do that, but also, like, the two of them together... did a lot of the— the work there at the end, too.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Well, and that's real— I mean, the— the interaction and the dialog with the older cast members was really so enjoyable. That moment where the girl killer comes running out and is feigning, like, to be afraid, and they look at each other like, "Is that— is that fake or is that real?" And they're like, "Ah, it looks fake." [through laughter] And then she starts shooting at them! It's just so good!

Like, my favorite evolution of a character is Sidney Prescott. From just, you know, final girl, scrappy but, you know, just constantly in a state of terror, to old mom Sidney Prescott who is, like, just so over it and just ready to, like— [laughs] she will murder whoever she needs to murder to get this done with, and quickly, because her kids need to be fed. Like, I love it. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. [laughs] "Quick, shoot that one in the head!" [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah. She's just so over it. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** I will say, I'm surprised that they already have decided on doing another one. Because the ending of this and all of this felt... I know it always feels final, and it always feels like an end. But, I mean, all of it felt like this is the actual end this time. Um, but I saw that Neve Campbell is not returning. For the next one.

**Sydnee:** It's interesting, 'cause you... I mean, I can see where an actor would just be like, "I'm just done with this."

**Rileigh:** Well, they weren't— they weren't going to pay her what she thought was fair. So I don't— I didn't see any more details beyond that of, like, what she was getting paid compared to others or previous movies.

**Sydnee:** That sucks.

**Rileigh:** But I know there was some payment issues.

**Sydnee:** That sucks.

**Rileigh:** But yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Well, I'm just glad— I hope that they don't try to retroactively kill her.



**Rileigh:** I know.

**Taylor:** Oh, yeah.

**Sydnee:** 'Cause I think it's nice to see a movie franchise where, like, you don't have to kill somebody off. Like, you could just imagine that they're... done with this, and they're off, you know, living their life.

**Rileigh:** And I think it would be pretty easy to believe that Sidney would be done with this.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. [extended pause] Sydnee's done with this.

[all laugh]

**Taylor:** Sydnee is done with this.

**Rileigh:** Is Sydnee done with this?

**Sydnee:** Sydnee's done with this. No, but I— I certainly hope they're gonna do some— that last scene where... Tara is the little one, and Sara is the older one?

**Taylor:** They're Tara and Sara?

**Rileigh:** Is that really their names? That's not right.

**Sydnee:** Am I— am I confused?

**Taylor:** I gotta pay attention.

**Sydnee:** What's the older one's name?

**Rileigh:** I feel like I would've remembered if their names were Tara and Sara.

**Sydnee:** The little one's name is Tara, right? The younger sister.

[pause]

**Rileigh:** Ye—ye—ye—e—yes? Yes.

**Sydnee:** Am I making all this up?

**Rileigh:** Sam. Tara and Sam.

**Sydnee:** Sam, Sam.

**Taylor:** Yeah, it's Sam.

**Sydnee:** Okay. Well, close. Anyway...

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Whatever. Sydnee's over it. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Now, Sydnee, not all siblings' names rhyme.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Sam. That last scene where she looks at her reflection in the car and sees Billy Loomis standing next to her and she smiles, that cannot be—there is no way we're supposed to read into that like, "My dad's proud of me. I feel good." And, like, moving on! You know? It has to be a premo— it has—

**Rileigh:** It kind of felt like that, though.

**Taylor:** It did!

**Sydnee:** Right? But no, it has to be, like, this ominous... you know, what the future will hold.

**Taylor:** See, I was conflicted on that. Because I agree with you, that has to be the setup moving forward. Like, I don't know what you could use with the old, like, lore at this point. But also, with how it's shot and how they present his character, it kind of felt like a weird redemption arc for Billy Loomis. Like, and in that case, maybe just knowing how much the young teens crush on Billy Loomis, did they just give the kids what they want? It's like a sexy Joker moment. 'You know what? This is a psychopath, but you kids like him so we're gonna make him hot.' Like, is it just that? [laughs] I don't know!

**Sydnee:** And now we're just—

**Rileigh:** I think the youths finally discovered him. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Now that— and the next movie is just gonna go full *Dexter*. You're gonna have Sam as the main character who really wants to murder people, and she's going to be haunted by the ghost of Billy Loomis, who is on the show and appears constantly—

**Rileigh:** [simultaneously] Her dark passenger.

**Sydnee:** Yes, her dark passenger, Billy Loomis.

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Skeet Ulrich. Who tells her to murder people, and she has to, like, try to find a way to work— so I guess she'll murder bad people? I don't know. And it'll just be *Dexter* again.

**Taylor:** I just want—

**Rileigh:** I—

**Taylor:** Oh, go ahead.

**Rileigh:** No, go ahead.

**Taylor:** Well, I was gonna say, I just— is there— can Stu have a child, a secret kid out there—

**Rileigh:** I was gonna say.

**Sydnee:** Right?!

**Taylor:** —and they can team up, and they each have their dad as their dark passenger? 'Cause I was very much missing Matthew Lillard in this whole situation. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I agree! I want Matthew Lillard. I mean, I— Skeet Ulrich is very dreamy.

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** But I want Matthew Lillard in there!

**Rileigh:** Everyone forgot about him. Like, he was a killer too!

**Taylor:** I know.

**Rileigh:** He was— he was right there. You can't give Billy Loomis all the credit.

**Taylor:** First bits of the movie, they couldn't remember who the other killer was. I'm like, "Stu!"

**Sydnee:** I suspected somebody related to him at first.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Because— because of that moment. Like, "Ohh, everybody forgets him." And this is, like, his kid, or something. Well, it couldn't be his kid. I don't know, somebody! [laughs] Who's, like, out for revenge. But no.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** [unintelligible]

**Rileigh:** Well, thank you all for watching this with me. I do— I am guilty of being a part of the Gen Z group that is just a big— big fan of the *Scream* movies. Um... so I— I really enjoyed myself.

**Sydnee:** I love the *Scream* movies.

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** So I— I was happy to watch it.

**Rileigh:** I just— I like horror movies, and I like ones that I can watch anytime without being worried about, like, whether or not I'll be able to sleep at night. And I never watch a *Scream* movie and then am like, "Ooh, I'm scared!"

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. No, I— thank you for— I wanted to watch it anyway, so I was glad for the opportunity.

**Rileigh:** Good.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Um, what's next, Sydnee?

**Sydnee:** Uh, so for a complete departure...

[all laugh]

**Sydnee:** ... from slasher movies... uh, I want you all to listen to Carole King, please.

**Taylor:** Okay.

**Rileigh:** Alright.

**Sydnee:** Um, specifically the album *Tapestry*, because it was the first... [laughs] it was the first album I bought.

**Rileigh:** What about *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical*?

**Sydnee:** Uh, I mean, a lot of the songs from *Tapestry* I think are in it, at least from the bits and pieces I've seen.

**Rileigh:** I'll probably end up listening to it as well, but.

**Sydnee:** You will— you will recognize— if you listen to *Tapestry*, you'll recognize a ton of songs from it. I guarantee.

**Rileigh:** Well, were.

**Taylor:** I feel like that's a good early fall album, too. You know?

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Alright. Well, everybody can vibe on Carole King. And, um, in the meantime, check out the new *Scream*, which is just called *Scream*. So look for *Scream* 2022.

**Rileigh:** I— the internet keeps calling it *Scream* 5 when you look it up on google, because it is the fifth one, but it's just... *Scream*. It's on Paramount Plus?

[pause]

**Sydnee:** Yes?

**Taylor:** Oh. Oh, was it? Aw, man. I paid for it.

**Rileigh:** Aww.

**Sydnee:** Aww. I don't—

**Rileigh:** It's on one of the streaming service things. I think Paramount Plus. I watched it—

**Sydnee:** I can't remember.

**Rileigh:** —a while ago, but I think that's right. Well, I'll listen to Carole King while I eat all this ice cream.

**Sydnee:** Well, have fun. Have a happy birthday. Thank you, listeners. If it's your birthday, you can have a happy one, too. That's... you know. We'll share. [laughs] I guess.

**Rileigh:** Sure?

**Taylor:** Sydnee's not gonna send you ice cream, though.

**Sydnee:** No, I'm sorry.

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I don't have—

**Rileigh:** It's all here. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I don't have your address, and it'd be really weird to ask. Especially in light of discussing the *Scream* movies. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah. "[sinister voice] I just wanna send you some ice cream."

**Sydnee:** "That's all."

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Um, thank you to Maximum Fun. You should go to [Maximumfun.org](http://Maximumfun.org) and check out all the great shows there. You can tweet at us @stillbuff. You can email us at [stillbuffering@maximumfun.org](mailto:stillbuffering@maximumfun.org). Thank you for everybody who told us about sherbet punch. I'm glad to know that everyone all across the United States is enjoying it. Um, and thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, "Baby You Change Your Mind."

**Raleigh:** This has been your cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I'm Raleigh Smirl.

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Raleigh:** I am still buffering...

**Sydnee and Taylor:** And I... am... too.

[theme music plays]

**Sydnee:** Which ice cream you gonna eat first?

**Raleigh:** All of 'em.

**Sydnee:** Ooh!

**Raleigh:** Just put a scoop of each in one of these cones in this box.

**Sydnee:** You've got the cones!

**Raleigh:** I've got the cones.

**Sydnee:** Don't forget about the cones.

**Rileigh:** Couldn't.

**Sydnee:** It's all about the cones.

[music plays]

**Annabelle:** Hey there! It's Annabelle Gurwitch.

**Laura:** And I'm Laura House. We host *Tiny Victories*, the 15 minute podcast that's about the little things.

**Annabelle:** Getting into the Tiny Victory frame of mind is about recognizing minor accomplishments and fleeting joys.

[message beep]

**Speaker 3:** Isn't it a wonderful day when the first password you try actually works?

[message beep]

**Speaker 4:** When it's freezing cold outside and toasty as all get out in my shower. My tiny victory is that I turn off the water and get on with my day.

[phone hanging up]

**Annabelle:** We can't change this big, dumb world, but we can celebrate the tiny wins.

**Laura:** So join us on Maximum Fun, or wherever you listen to podcasts.

**Both:** Let's get tiny!

[music and ad end]

[chord]

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