

## Wonderful! 244: No Time for Language Play

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[theme music plays]

**Rachel:** Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

**Griffin:** Hello, this is Griffin McElroy!

**Rachel:** And this is *Wonderful!*

**Griffin:** This is *Wonderful!*

**Rachel:** Can I ask you—so, you just recorded another show that you do, *Besties*.

**Griffin:** *Besties* is another show I do that I did just record.

**Rachel:** What do you do to switch gears and get in the *Wonderful!* space?

**Griffin:** Oh, I'm so glad that you asked.

**Rachel:** I was just curious!

**Griffin:** I like to take a little morning constitutional. Um, just to, you know—

**Rachel:** Bath—bathroom?

**Griffin:** N—no.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Like, I—I really immerse myself in the city, I guess?

**Rachel:** Oh!

**Griffin:** And I get some good D from the sun.

**Rachel:** I—I mean—

**Griffin:** Uh, reconnect with nature.

**Rachel:** You did just finish, like, 15 minutes ago.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I was very fast with my constitutional.

**Rachel:** Okay. Okay.

**Griffin:** Went out into the city, connected with nature...

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Fresh air, meditation. Prayer?

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** And then I look at myself in the mirror.

**Rachel:** [through laughter] Uh-huh?

**Griffin:** And I scream.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I scream and I scream. Mostly about... *Pac-Man*, *Tetris*, game stuff. Like, get the game stuff out—

**Rachel:** [simultaneously] Get it all out.

**Griffin:** —of my system. That's a big thing. Like, if we ever do this show right after we record TAZ, like, I'll take my dice and I'll, like, try to eat one of 'em.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Uh-huh?

**Griffin:** Um...

**Rachel:** Just to cleanse any last bit.

**Griffin:** Just to cleanse the palate, to get all the bits out. 'Cause I wanna be fully honest with you. I don't want there to be any, um, artifice in this show.

**Rachel:** Is it gonna be hard for you—so, I just got out of the shower and I'm wearing a little towel, a little turby-twist on my head.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Is that gonna be hard for you while we record?

**Griffin:** No, I think it's cute.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I like it.

**Rachel:** Okay, good.

**Griffin:** I mean, you're also wearing overalls.

**Rachel:** I know.

**Griffin:** You got a lot—you got a bold look going on right now.

**Rachel:** [through laughter] Uh-huh?

**Griffin:** But it's the look of our generation.

**Rachel:** I almost put on a yellow shirt again.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** It was very funny last time you did that, and Travis—I think it was Travis—said you were cosplaying as a Minion.

**Rachel:** It was Travis! It was Travis. And what was funny—we were on tour. And he was exactly right. I was wearing my little blue shorteralls and, like, a yellow t-shirt. And Travis told that to Griffin in confidence, and then Griffin immediately ran and told me.

**Griffin:** It was fucking funny.

**Rachel:** It was.

**Griffin:** It was so funny.

**Rachel:** It was undeniably funny, and then Travis was very embarrassed that you told me directly. [laughs]

**Griffin:** But he—I mean, he may have pretended to be embarrassed, but I also know the satisfaction he feels with a well-executed...

**Rachel:** The whole room got a laugh out of it.

**Griffin:** ... observational joke.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It was fantastic. Um, do you have a small wonder?

**Rachel:** I do! Actually, I wanted to shout out—speaking of tour, when we were at Dragon Con, one of the questions I got was like, "What new poet or poem are you into?"

And my first thought was like, I mean, every time that happens I immediately do it on the show. [laughs quietly]

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Rachel:** But I will recommend... there is a Twitter account, a woman named Nikita Gill, who constantly tweets poems and poets. And I started following her, and it's been a great resource for me to get new stuff.

**Griffin:** That's great.

**Rachel:** Uh, so I would recommend that. If you were like, "One Poetry Corner a month? That's not enough for me!" Uh, you should follow that account.

**Griffin:** I'm gonna—we've been watching *Severance*, the—the show that's got Adam Scott in it, directed by Ben Stiller, about a workplace where your memories are severed from the rest of your life, and the sort of implications of that concept.

**Rachel:** It's—it's, uh... it's kind of a bleak—

**Griffin:** Tough—tough watch.

**Rachel:** It's a bleak show, and I think Griffin and I were hesitant to dip in, 'cause our evening time is so limited. Uh, but then we did!

**Griffin:** It's so damn fascinating!

**Rachel:** And we're *in* it now.

**Griffin:** The idea is so existentially kind of, like... I mean, horrifying. But also, uh, because the work selves basically are trapped, and are unable to

access their memories from outside. And so it's all about, uh—it really does explore the implications of that from both sides in a way that is, like... I don't know. It's amazing. It's really—every episode I feel like they add some wrinkle to it that kind of makes it hard to stop watching the show.

**Rachel:** Yeah. Yeah, for sure.

**Griffin:** So, difficult watch, but it's... I don't know. I think it's a cool—a cool show.

**Rachel:** It has kind of like a mystery, like, thriller element to it as you try and kind of figure out the whole situation and the consequences of it, uh, which really hooked us in.

**Griffin:** And the cast is outta sight.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Patricia Arquette, John Turturro, Christopher Walken...

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Adam Scott puts on a—a—a real clinic.

**Rachel:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Griffin:** Uh, it's fantastic. I really like it. It's on Apple TV plus, if that's something you use. Um, I think I go first this week. Wonderful.fyi has—has stopped updating.

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** I hope everything's okay with the folks who are operating that. It's a lot of work, I get it.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** So we're kind of just going on what feels right.

**Rachel:** [holding back laughter] What feels right.

**Griffin:** I think it's my—I think it is me.

**Rachel:** It feels right to me.

**Griffin:** I'm gonna bring music!

**Rachel:** Yes!

**Griffin:** The gift of music to the show. Which I haven't done in a while, but, uh, I have been listening to this artist just nonstop lately. Her name is Indigo De Souza. And she is, get this, an indie rock singer-songwriter, female vocalist.

**Rachel:** [laughs] So, you played this in the car the other day, this artist.

**Griffin:** Did I? Oh, probably.

**Rachel:** When we were, like, driving to Scramble. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And, um—and it sounded so familiar, 'cause it had that kind of indie rock energy of a lot of the artists that we've recommended on this show.

**Griffin:** I mean, I've talked about Snail Mail, I think—you may have actually talked about Snail Mail. You may have been to bring that.

**Rachel:** [simultaneously] Yeah, I think I may have, yeah.

**Griffin:** But yeah, this is very much to my type of music that I bring.

**Rachel:** But, like, I heard it, this song that you shared with me, and I was like, "I really like this song." But then I was kind of embarrassed, 'cause I was like, "Is this somebody I already know?" So I didn't say anything.

**Griffin:** I don't think so. So, our friend—

**Rachel:** Yeah, so I was—anyway, so I was glad when you shared this with me, 'cause I was like, "Oh, that's who we were listening to!" 'Cause I really liked to.

**Griffin:** Yeah. So, our group of friends in Austin—we have, like, a text thread going, and occasionally we'll all, like, drop music recommendations and stuff in there. So our friend Johnny actually is the one who turned—turned me onto this.

**Rachel:** Really? Johnny's got some number one hits for us!

**Griffin:** He really does. Uh, and I'll play the song that he sent here in a bit, 'cause it was the first song of hers that I heard. But she fucking rules. Uh, she's been making her own music since she was nine, self-producing her own albums since 2016. She has two albums out, the first of which, uh, was self-produced, and then re-released when she got picked up by a label called Saddle Creek Records, called *I Love My Mom* is the name of that album. Uh, which... is true. She does.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I believe the art for all of her albums is made by her mom.

**Rachel:** Aww.

**Griffin:** And it's, uh—it's pretty wild. Last year, though, she released her first full album with Saddle Creek called *Any Shape You Take*, and it is... it is spectacular. It is such a good album, front to back. It's one of those that I will just... I don't listen to full albums. Like, that's not really how—I've talked about this on the show before.



**Rachel:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** But this is one—*Any Shape You Take* is one that I will always dive into. So, before I talk too much about, like, what her music sounds like, I'll play it, and then you can hear it, and then I don't have to describe it as much! This is the first song of hers I heard. It's from *Any Shape You Take*. It's a song called "A Way Out."

["A Way Out" by Indigo De Souza plays]

**Griffin:** Uh, that song lived pretty rent-free in my head all—all summer. Most of this year, honestly, if I'm being honest.

**Rachel:** I love that kind of, like, moody, guitar-y, like... I don't know.

**Griffin:** It's very moody and guitar-y, yes, I would grant both of those things. And kind of gru—it has a grunge feel at times?

**Rachel:** Yeah. I'm always excited, 'cause you're into, like, a lot of electronic music.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And so I'm always excited when you bring an artist to me that's, like, kind of more in everything I feel is my wheelhouse, which is, like, kind of grungy.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I like—yeah. I mean, that is—I would say I oscillate these days between those two categories for the most part.

**Rachel:** Yeah, uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Um, it's just so... her music is just so interesting. And so, like, um... like, enthralling. She does the thing—and this is, like, incredibly, um... I don't know, such a surface level observation about music, and I acknowledge that. But the way that she kind of moves between, like, really

ferocious vocals and lyrics to, like, really vulnerable and tender vocals and lyrics, building to these, like, just grungy, rockin', like, surprisingly catchy riffs. Uh, and like, the subject matter of her songs are, like, really... another overused term, but confessional about, like, past relationships, and friendships, and death, and stuff like that.

Uh, and so that is very vulnerable, too. And then it gets, like, transgressive and kind of taboo sometimes. Like, she plays with extremes in a way that I know a lot of... you could make that observation about a lot of musical artists. But, like, I can't think of anybody who does it better than I have been listening to lately than Indigo De Souza.

Um, it's really, really affecting. It's really heavy shit sometimes, but I really love it. So I think the fact that while you're listening to her kind of go between those extremes, and she is talking about, like, deeply personal stuff, kind of amplifies how, uh... how you can't kind of put it down. It's like Pringles.

[pause]

**Rachel:** Okay. No, I'm sure she gets that all the time.

**Griffin:** Her music is a lot like Pringles.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh. That's, I think, what Pitchfork said.

**Griffin:** Um, I've seen a lot—just to sort of, like, encapsulate her vibe, I saw a lot of reviews refer to her music as nervy, which feels... good. Which feels apt to me.

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Uh, but like, I don't know. I feel like it is easy to, as I'm describing it, like, make her music sound, like, painful. Uh, but really, like, they're extremely catchy and use, like, repetition of different riffs and lyrics in a way that just—it cannot help but get deeply embedded in your skull. Which, like, I don't typically think of music like this as being catchy. Uh, but yet here we

are, which I think speaks to, like, a deft songwriting hand. Um, I want to play my favorite song of hers as we depart this segment together, called "Darker Than Death." Which, like, I can't stop humming? Which you wouldn't expect from a song called "Darker Than Death," but here it is.

["Darker Than Death" by Indigo De Souza plays]

**Griffin:** Uh, so yeah, I've just been listening to this album, *Any Shape You Take*, uh, nonstop for most of this year. And I just can't recommend it enough. I'll warn that some of the lyrics and subject matter of the songs get kind of troubling, particularly in what I believe is the final song on the album, called "Kill Me." Um, so be forewarned, but that's also kind of part of the thing, so, uh, yeah. That's Indigo De Souza. Just fantastic.

**Rachel:** I'm glad that you brought a music artist. It's been a while.

**Griffin:** Yeah, me too.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Um, I... I like—I guess I'm kind of a music guy.

**Rachel:** No, I know that about you.

**Griffin:** [hesitantly] I guess I could—I guess you could say that I'm sort of a music nut.

**Rachel:** I know that you're kind of, like, trying to put on an affect right now, but I think that is actually true.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, I'm a nut for music.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** I love the stuff.

**Rachel:** [laughs quietly] Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Can I steal you away?

**Rachel:** Yes.

[ad break]

**Griffin:** Got a bubble pop here, and I would love to read it, because it is for Loren with an O, and it's from, get this, Dorian... who says:

"Happy birthday! I hope you're enjoying your newly finished developing prefrontal cortex. I treasure your friendship dearly, and though you may have moved away by the time you hear this, I'm sure I'm still texting you nonstop about whatever book we're reading. Love you! Let's watch Na—Naruto soon."

Had to take a couple runs at that. I'm always unsure... where the emphasis in the word "Naruto" goes.

**Rachel:** Your commitment to correct pronunciation is admirable.

**Griffin:** Naru—Naru—I—Na-*ru*-to? *Na*-ru-to? Na-ru-*to*?

**Rachel:** [laughs] Uh-huh

**Griffin:** There's another take that you could have.

**Rachel:** That's probably it. That's probably it.

**Griffin:** So, Rachel, when you edit this, if you could just take—I'm just gonna say Naruto in, like, a bunch of different ways, and you just use whichever one...

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** ... you think sounds good. Naruto. Naruto. [quickly] Naruto!

[Maximum Fun ads play]

**Griffin:** What are you working with over there?

**Rachel:** So, my thing this week was another thing I kind of stumbled into backwards? Uh—

**Griffin:** Did it—did that hurt, or...?

**Rachel:** [laughs] No, it was a soft fall.

**Griffin:** Oh, okay. Good.

**Rachel:** Um... I kind of knew what I wanted to talk about, but I didn't really know what it was called, and then I found what it is called, and what it is called is homograph.

**Griffin:** I don't think I know what that is.

**Rachel:** Uh, that is when a, uh—a word is spelled alike, but different in meaning or derivation or pronunciation. So, like, the bow of a ship, or a bow and arrow. Like a word that has multiple meanings.

**Griffin:** But it's the same damn word?

**Rachel:** Yeah. Exactly the same. Like, not one of those homonyms. Like, this—no, the word is the same. The definitions are different.

**Griffin:** That's... yeah. I can't imagine being a non-native English speaker and just how—how fucking cruel those words must be.

**Rachel:** [laughs] That's fair. Uh, so the word I wanted to talk about specifically was "run."

**Griffin:** Run. Yeah, huh!

**Rachel:** Uh-huh. So, are you familiar with the Oxford English Dictionary?

**Griffin:** I...

**Rachel:** Like, do you know the deal with it?

**Griffin:** ... love it.

**Rachel:** Yeah, uh-huh?

**Griffin:** It has everything.

**Rachel:** I mean, that is true.

**Griffin:** It's got it all, folks. It even has some of the dirty words.

**Rachel:** [laughs] It has 600,000 words. Uh, and I became familiar with it in grad school. I took some, like, Shakespeare courses. And, you know, a lot of times, like with Shakespeare he's, like, inventing words. Basically, like, the first written usage of a word is in Shakespeare.

**Griffin:** Yeah, he made up most of the words.

**Rachel:** [laughs] So we spent a lot of time with the OED, as we called it. You know, just casually.

**Griffin:** God, that's cool!

**Rachel:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Holy crap.

**Rachel:** I know, I know! Uh, but basically it just shows, like, the history of words, and different usages of the words. Uh, and they issue revisions every

so often. And you always hear about, like, "This word's now in the Oxford English Dictionary."

**Griffin:** Yeah, I feel like there's a big sort of social media grab that happens every year where it's like, "What's up, guys? It's us, Oxford. Yeet! Is in it now."

**Rachel:** [laughs] Yeah! So, the next print run is expected in 2037?

**Griffin:** Oh, God, I can't wait! Are you kidding me?

**Rachel:** [laughs] Uh, but we got a little teaser, uh, with "run," which is going to have 645 meanings.

**Griffin:** Shush.

**Rachel:** So it's gonna be the word with the most meanings.

**Griffin:** How big is this book?

**Rachel:** I mean, it's a big one. "Run" is gonna have 75 columns of type.

**Griffin:** God—

**Rachel:** Apparently it took a lexicographer nine months of research to complete "run" just by itself.

**Griffin:** I think I could tell you five, five "runs."

**Rachel:** Okay. I mean, do you want to?

**Griffin:** Go fast.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Computer... program.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Uh, a baseball score.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Wa—water can ru—water can run.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I think that might be—that might be just about all I got, actually

**Rachel:** Oh.

**Griffin:** That's just four. And how many did you say there were? 'Cause I did four.

**Rachel:** Uh, there are 645?

**Griffin:** Okay, so four is not bad.

**Rachel:** No, I mean, you're a percentage of the way there.

**Griffin:** What's other ru—what are some other runs?

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I guess you can run for office.

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** That's five. Okay, I feel good about five.

**Rachel:** You can run a fever.



**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** You can run a bath.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Um... you can run up a bill.

**Griffin:** God almighty, there really are a lot of ways to use the word "run"!

**Rachel:** [laughs] You can get a run in your stockings. Uh, you can run over on your budget.

**Griffin:** Run-DMC.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Run-DMC. I don't think that one's in there.

**Griffin:** Ha-ha, take that, Oxford!

**Rachel:** How would you use that in a sentence?

**Griffin:** "Hey, look! It's—is that Run-DMC?"

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** "Hey, look! I'm at the airport, and I think that that's Run-DMC on my flight."

**Rachel:** Lo—*Logan's Run*. That's another one.

**Griffin:** *Logan's Run* is another great one.

**Rachel:** Um, there's also, like, when something runs out. Uh, when you run over a nail in a parking lot.

**Griffin:** Why is there so many?!

**Rachel:** When you run amok.

**Griffin:** That doesn't feel right to me.

**Rachel:** [laughs] No?

**Griffin:** No.

**Rachel:** Should we get rid of that one?

**Griffin:** Yeah, get rid of that one.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Uh, so it used to be "set" back, like—I guess that was a more popular, like, in the English—like, or on the European side. Uh—

**Griffin:** The word "set"?

**Rachel:** Set, yeah.

**Griffin:** I could see that, yeah.

**Rachel:** You set something down, there's a movie set. There's your watch set.

**Griffin:** Things come in a set of something.

**Rachel:** Yeah, exactly. Uh, but now "run" has surpassed it.

**Griffin:** Congratulations, "run"! I knew you had it in you.

**Rachel:** I read a few articles about this, and they kept citing this author, Simon Winchester, who I guess has written specifically about, like, usage and the Oxford English Dictionary. And he's—they asked him directly, like, "Why do you think "run" is being used to often?"

Uh, and he suggests that it's just kind of the, quote, "feature of our more energetic and frantic times."

**Griffin:** Wow.

**Rachel:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** That's deep.

**Rachel:** So, other words with, like, a lot of meanings, uh, "Go."

**Griffin:** Yeah...

**Rachel:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** That one feels...

**Rachel:** Like, how does a song go? Where did you go? You know, that kind of thing.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Uh, take, stand, get, turn, put, fall, strike, all those. Verbs. I mean, verbs, mostly. You know, if you think about it, that would—I mean, that would do it.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Rachel:** Uh, yeah. So I like—I like—I mean, as somebody who likes poetry and likes language play, like, this is a really—kind of a fun—

**Griffin:** You love language play.

**Rachel:** —kind of a fun—[laughs]

**Griffin:** A little too much, if you ask me. Sometimes it's like, "Babe. I'm tired."

**Rachel:** [laughs loudly]

**Griffin:** "Babe, I'm s—it's been such a long day. The baby's been keeping us up. I don't have time for language play. I don't think I have the energy for it."

**Rachel:** [laughs] It's not unusual for me to do this thing with Griffin where we'll be, like, kind of working out a bit, just for us.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And I'll go quiet for, like, 20 minutes, and then I'll just [through laughter] say something, and Griffin will be like, "Have you been thinking about this the whole time?" And I will say "Yes."

**Griffin:** Yeah. It's great.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Okay.

**Griffin:** It's good fun for all of us.

**Rachel:** I'm glad that you like it as much as I do. Uh, yeah. So, I don't know, it's just a short one, but I—

**Griffin:** This is a short epi—it's starting to seem like it may be our shortest episode ever.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Should we, like—should we do more japes?

**Griffin:** Um... I guess we—I guess we can. You got any—what el—what else has been going on in your life?

[both laugh]

**Rachel:** This is really the only time we have that's dedicated to talk to each other, so we could take advantage of it, I suppose.

**Griffin:** That is true. Uh, how are you liking that big city life? That big city lifestyle?

**Rachel:** I do actually like it. I still—and I think this will be true for, like, the next year. I still, like, have these moments where I'm like, "I'm in the city. I'm a city person."

**Griffin:** Yeah. I have had those less, I would say, since I feel like once Henry started school and work kind of got buck wild again—

**Rachel:** Yeah, you haven't really—yeah.

**Griffin:** —I haven't been just going on train rides to go get boba tea.

**Rachel:** Once you get that bike, that's the thing. Like, I ride my bike to work and, like, I rode it to the bank today, and it feels very much just like...

**Griffin:** I feel like once I get a bike, everything else just kind of—all the other city stuff falls into place. Like, I will start really enjoying boba tea. I don't know why that's a city thing in my mind?

**Rachel:** Yeah, I don't either. It surprises me that you like that, actually.

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

**Rachel:** Oh, okay. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Well, maybe I've just never had good boba tea.

**Rachel:** I feel like texture is important to you, and I feel like the texture of that is...

**Griffin:** The, like, squishy ball—squishy balls in there, yeah.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You remember Orbitz?

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Wild stuff, man.

**Rachel:** [through laughter] Uh-huh, for sure.

**Griffin:** For sure, for sure. You watch anything else good lately, or...?

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Tried to watch that new *Lord of the Rings* show last night.

**Rachel:** Oh yeah?

**Griffin:** I couldn't get—couldn't crack into it. Couldn't break—couldn't crack in. I was like, "Where's—where's Viggo?" You know what I mean?

**Rachel:** So, is this, like, the kind of thing like Marvel where they're, like, really plumbing the depths of what characters they haven't covered?

**Griffin:** Well... in—not insofar as, uh... Tolkien really plumbed those depths pretty hard himself. [laughs quietly]

**Rachel:** Yuh-huh, yeah. No, I'm wondering if there's, like—if they're pulling stuff that wasn't in the films, and they're now like, "Oh, what about this guy that had 17 pages? We could talk a whole show about him.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I mean, that's sort of the whole gimmick. That's more or less what the *Hobbit* films were too. Where it was like, "Y'all like Tom Bombadil?"

You know, Tom Bombadil! Let's go! We're gonna have a whole hour-long Tom Bombadil sequence, and you guys are gonna eat that shit up."

**Rachel:** To my father's great dismay, I have never read *The Hobbit*.

**Griffin:** No. Or seen any of the films.

**Rachel:** Yeah, I've tried to watch a *Lord of the Rings* film, and it didn't work.

**Griffin:** Yeah. I think after watching Lord of the—I think over the last... at some point over the last year, uh, I watched all of the *Lord of the Rings* movies and the *Hobbit* movies, which I had never seen anything but the first one, which I didn't care for, and they weren't great. And then I've watched a little bit of the show, and it's really just made me appreciate the *Lord of the Rings* movies more, 'cause I think that those are great, and I cannot really hang with any of the other stuff.

**Rachel:** I think I will watch those movies once Henry is old enough to watch them.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's interesting. That'll be awhile. There's a lot of beheading. Like, way more than you would think.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Well, it's just the amount of time, the commitment.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Rachel:** Like, I'm not gonna commit to something like that unless, you know, it's like a family activity.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Um... I mean, I think that this is just gonna be a short one, folks.

**Rachel:** [simultaneously] Is that a show? [laughs] Is that a show?

**Griffin:** Listen. I'm not gonna make excuses. But... and so I won't.

**Rachel:** We're running late.

**Griffin:** We're running a little bit late. We're running a little bit ragged. Um, and...

**Rachel:** And so we're expediting the recording process to get the show to you quicker, like a Jimmy Johns. [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs loudly] Only without all of the sort of deeply problematic big game hunting associated with that sandwich brand.

**Rachel:** That's fair.

**Griffin:** Uh, this has been the show. Thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our th—s—our song—for the use of our thong. Um...

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** It's comfortable, sexy...

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Really... squishes 'em together.

**Rachel:** Oh, is that—okay.

**Griffin:** Is that a feature—

**Rachel:** Not typically.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** [laughs]



**Griffin:** Um, "Money Won't Pay" is the name of the song, and you can find a link to that in the episode description. And thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network! There's a lot of great shows on there.

We have some tour dates coming up, and boy howdy, if you live in San Jose or Denver, it'd be great if you bought tickets to come see our show. We announced them pretty late, and ticket sales have not been blowing up. Uh, so don't be shy, you know? 'Cause there could be a run, and maybe you'll miss out if you don't do that.

But just go to [bit.ly/mcelroytours](http://bit.ly/mcelroytours), or go to [mcelroy.family](http://mcelroy.family) and come see us. It's gonna be a fun ol' time. And then we're also doing Cincinnati, Detroit, and Washington, DC, which I believe we're gonna do *Wonderful!* to open up in Washington, DC.

**Rachel:** Yeah! We're gonna have to develop some expertise real quick.

**Griffin:** I mean, I'm already right there, man.

**Rachel:** Oh yeah?

**Griffin:** Yeah, I know where all the good stuff is.

**Rachel:** Okay. The boba tea?

**Griffin:** The boba tea.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Uh, hot dog. Uhh... the—where the *good* Target is.

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** The—I mean, the *real* good Target.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** The one where the dog—that dog... and that old lady with the big glasses? They're there.

**Rachel:** Whoaaaa!

**Griffin:** Isaac Mizrahi?

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Working the registers.

**Rachel:** That's your go-to. I don't think he has a line at Target anymore.

**Griffin:** Oh. Well, I don't... that's all I knew about that man. That—that man. So I can just set him aside—

**Rachel:** Well, you still have the dog. The dog I think is still relevant.

**Griffin:** The dog and the old lady who were in commercials 20 fuckin' years ago. We love them. We love them.

[theme music plays]

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