

## **MBMBaM 643: Wet Out of 100**

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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. I see you. My name is Justin McElroy. I'm the oldest brother and I see you.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy and I assume that what Justin's saying is a reference to the movie we're discussing today. Your middlest brother, Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** My name's Griffin McElroy Unobtainium. I don't know—I have not...

**Travis:** Do they use that—

**Griffin:** Guys, it's happening, it's happening!

**Justin:** I can't believe it, it's finally here.

**Travis:** It's Travatar 2.

**Griffin:** Travatar!

**Justin:** Travatar! [laughs]

**Griffin:** We're here.

**Justin:** Seeing my own brother—

**Griffin:** Guys, I'm—

**Justin:** ... Cruising through the Na'vi... It's amazing. Amazing, seeing him on the back of a... a banshee.

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** Or an ikran, if you prefer the Na'vi tongue.

**Griffin:** Cruising.

**Travis:** Hey, can I ask a sincere question as someone who has not seen either?

**Justin:** I'd love that, Trav. I'd love to answer all your questions.

**Travis:** Okay. I've not seen either Avatar movie.

**Griffin:** Same.

**Justin:** Still wild.

**Travis:** And I know very little about them.

**Justin:** You guys have seen neither movie?

**Travis:** Correct.

**Griffin:** [chuckles] No.

**Travis:** Where does the title come from? Why is it called Avatar?

**Justin:** Are you kidding?

**Griffin:** This is not—You understand Justin's answer cannot be funny? Whatever it's going to be.

**Justin:** Yeah, it can't be funny.

**Travis:** No, it's a sincere—I said sincere, I preference.

**Justin:** Okay, the sincere... You know about the Na'vi aliens, right?

**Travis:** How can you not?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** They're on the beautiful blue planet of Pandora. Okay?

**Travis:** Sure.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** We can't live on Pandora.

**Griffin:** And they're just fucking constantly. They're just always, constantly always be fucking. Non stop.

**Justin:** Yeah, we can't live on Pandora—

**Travis:** Well, they take time out to make little charms for your bracelets. But other than that...

**Justin:** We can't live on Pandora.

**Travis:** Obviously.

**Justin:** So, we have these... basically Na'vi... like homebrew Na'vi that we pilot from a tube... the space tube. And we pilot them around with our Earth minds. We pilot a Na'vi body.

**Travis:** So... Okay and... Okay—

**Justin:** That's our Avatar.

**Travis:** So, this is like the answer movie. Like you had you, Deep Impact and Armageddon, right. And you had you know, Jurassic Park and...

**Justin:** Armageddon tired of you not seeing Avatar, actually.

**Griffin:** [chuckles] That's a good one. Great joke, Juice.

**Travis:** Okay. And you know, I like Jurassic Park and We're Back! A Dinosaur's Story.

**Justin:** Nice one. [laughs]

**Travis:** So, is this an answer—

**Griffin:** Yeah, no problem, man. That was a great joke. Travis, you gotta take a moment to stop and smell the flowers, buddy. Or you're gonna miss it.

**Travis:** Well, I was trying to make my own joke—

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Travis:** I was trying to make my own joke and now I know what it feels like to be interrupted.

**Justin:** Then do your joke. Do your joke. Do your joke. Joke time.

**Travis:** My thing was, so it's an answer movie to the Bruce Willis film, Surrogate, right. Where it's like you have an avatar body that's even sexier than your body.

**Justin:** Can I actually tell you why I interrupted you? Because you're riffing on an old ass movie by referencing another old ass movie that nobody cares about. While Avatar: The Way of Water is swimming to the top of the box office charts. I have to admit, here on the cast, I did it. I took the punch. [laughs]

**Travis:** You got wet?

**Justin:** I had the perfect viewing experience, actually.

**Griffin:** Oh, boy.

**Justin:** My... My kids were in school. So, at twelve PM...

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** Mm-hmm, the witching hour.

**Justin:** Twelve PM, I went to the mall. And I took an edible. And I timed it so that the edible would kick in right when the movie started. But I didn't... But it really raced through me. And I found myself high at the mall food court.

**Griffin:** That's the worst possible—the worst imaginable place I think for that to happen, Justin.

**Justin:** No, it was—Well, it was bad—

**Travis:** Did you get yourself a Big Loafer?

**Justin:** No. 'Cause I had already eaten a Big Loafer before I got high, believe it or not.

**Travis:** Nice.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** But no, I wouldn't—I don't like the Big Loafer.

**Travis:** What?

**Justin:** I went to Charlie's Cheese Steak and got—anyway... The edible kicked in and I noticed that there was at the abandoned bank, they had opened up an airsoft booth. Just an airsoft gun place. So, you just come into this—

**Griffin:** Like a shooting range or a little arena for—

**Travis:** A shooting range?

**Justin:** Yeah, like a shooting—a shooting—

**Travis:** That rules!

**Justin:** Yeah. It's an airsoft shooting range in an abandoned bank, next to the Chik-fil-A. So, I go—I roll up and I'm like, "I've never done this before." And he's like, "I'll help you." And he gave me a hundred shots for 12 bucks.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** And I was pretty stoned at this point. And I just raised this airsoft rifle and I start firing at the targets, [spoofing shots] pa-pa-pa.

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin:** And then he's like, "You're doing really well." And I'm like, "Oh, thanks."

**Griffin:** Wow, cool. Gosh.

**Justin:** And he said, "Have you done this before?" And I said, "No, I haven't." He said, "But this is amazing." That's what he said after I finished.

**Travis:** Fuck yeah.

**Justin:** He said, "You hit 45 out of 100 shots." I hit these little tin targets. And that was amazing. And he said—

**Travis:** That's good?

**Justin:** "You're only gonna get better."

**Travis:** Nice.

**Justin:** So, then I was very high. So, I went to the movie.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Which is incontrovertibly three and a half hours long when you bring in the trailers.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Griffin:** Yeah. Any good ones—

**Justin:** Which were so happy—

**Griffin:** Any good ones, though?

**Justin:** Got Oppenheimer.

**Griffin:** Ooh?

**Justin:** Didn't get Barbie. But got Oppenheimer and got some other ones.

**Travis:** Did you get—was Cocaine Bear in there? It feels like Cocaine Bear would be a perfect—

**Justin:** Cocaine Bear I've watched on the phone so many times that I have it memorized.

**Griffin:** Not Avatar appropriate. Yeah.

**Justin:** Not Avatar appropriate.

**Travis:** You don't think it fits with Avatar? I've never seen Avatar but it feels like it makes sense.

**Justin:** So, I got... I was like... I slipped on the glasses and I was gone, man. I was in the world. Nothing could pull me out of it, except for my app that tells me when I can go pee during the movie.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Now, this movie had five built in pee breaks. Which was, mwah, chef's kiss.

**Travis:** When one of the Na'vi turns to the screen and says, "You can go piss now, Justin. If you wish."

**Griffin:** "Go now, Justin. Go, Justin."

**Justin:** I didn't wanna pull myself away but I did for every single pee break. To an extent where the woman working behind the counter around pee break four asked me, "Are you not liking the movie?" [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** It's like, I'm...

**Travis:** Too much.

**Justin:** I was—I was, by the way, solo mish at the Cinemark.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You have to.

**Justin:** No one in the room with me.

**Griffin:** For your first one—for your first one at the Avatar? You have to go solo.

**Travis:** No, wait. I'm sorry. You're saying the theater was empty.

**Justin:** Empty. No, Griffin. Empty.

**Griffin:** [gasps]

**Justin:** It was a pod. It was my own little Avatar pod, there at the Cinemark in Huntington Mall.



**Griffin:** Cool.

**Justin:** By myself. No one was in it. I could just start shouting, "I see you, Jake Sully! I love you!" And no one cared. And so I did! When the ikran would fly through the sky.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Can I tell you guys a quick spoiler about Avatar: The Way of Water...

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Yes. Sigourney's in it.

**Travis:** Hell yeah.

**Justin:** And I know what you're wondering, Travis. Sigourney's did die at the end of it. And the easy answer is that it seems like God got an avatar pregnant.

**Travis:** Wait, that's the easy answer?

**Justin:** The easy, quick answer is it seems like the god, Eywa, got Sigourney's avatar pregnant. And then she had a teenage daughter.

**Travis:** At the end of what?

**Justin:** Played by Sigourney Weaver.

**Travis:** Wait...

**Justin:** Who Jake Sully adopts.

**Travis:** Wait.

**Justin:** That's the east answer is it looks like God got her pregnant. [laughs]

**Travis:** It looks like... [in Southern accent] Well... Well... What are you gonna do?

**Justin:** The clean answer is—The clean answer is it looks like god got her avatar pregnant.

**Travis:** Okay?

**Justin:** Is what happens in the movie.

**Griffin:** Like Judeo-Christian god? He asks, hoping—

**Justin:** No, Eywa. Eywa.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** The god from home tree. The god, Away.

**Travis:** Wait, got her avatar. But the avatar's not a real—The avatar's like a suit or something?

**Justin:** And baby, it's got all the right pipes. You know what I mean? It's got all the right pipes!

**Travis:** No! Wait, I don't know what you mean.

**Griffin:** Yes, I didn't—I didn't think that they needed to Bicentennial Man the Avatar aliens.

**Justin:** Yeah, they gotta grow the avatars. They're really expensive and they got all the right pipes. And god doesn't... When god sees a door, he opens a pipe in Sigourney Weaver's avatar.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** To put a baby there. It doesn't matter if it is right or not. And by the way, this is—I am getting into a little bit of speculation with this god got

Sigourney Weaver's avatar pregnant. But I'm pretty sure that if the more times I say it, the righter it sounds.

**Griffin:** It feels righter.

**Justin:** And that is what happens—can I—can I tell you guys also, like, first three minutes of the movie takes about 20 seconds. Jake's just like, "And one weird thing is that Sigourney Weaver's avatar's pregnant and it seems like maybe God did it, I don't know. Anyway, bye."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** So...

**Justin:** The other—the other possibility...

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin:** There's no other possibility. God got her avatar pregnant.

**Griffin:** God got Sigourney Weaver's avatar pregnant.

**Travis:** Wait, so—Wait, if Jake Sully says that's what happens, Justin, it's not speculation.

**Griffin:** I don't know why they—Yeah.

**Travis:** If Jake Sully's like—

**Justin:** He doesn't say it in so many words. James, Jim to his friends and me, we... you know, his words are obviously much more poetic than that. It probably something about the life stream and home tree. You know, that kind of stuff.

**Travis:** Whatever, yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** But anyway, beautiful. Once we're under water? Oh!

**Griffin:** Yeah, that's when it starts to happen.

**Travis:** Oh, the movie goes under water?

**Justin:** Oh, baby. It doesn't just go under water, it goes through, it goes above water. It's got whales, where if you drink their brains it makes you live forever. I mean, it's like, it's a great film.

**Travis:** What?!

**Griffin:** Ooh? This sounds good. Hey, Juice, can the next hour just be you explaining everything you know about Avatar to me and Travis? 'Cause it feels like that's the direction the episode's moving in. And it's been a while since we've done one of these. I think it would be a hoot and a half if you would just sort of regale—We're already 10 minutes in, Juice. This would not be a bigger commitment than what you're already doing. Just 50 more minutes of us—

**Justin:** I don't wanna—I don't wanna spoil the entirety of Avatar: Way of Water for people. And honestly, I can't remember which is one and which is two. It's like one seamless six hour opus to me at this point.

**Travis:** Now, Justin, you don't think... Who... Who feels about Avatar in such a way that they have not already seen it, but do intend to see it at some point. It doesn't seem like that kind of movie to me. It seems like the kind of movie that either you're there like camping in line to see it day one. Or like myself and Griffin, you just never have the time.

**Griffin:** I'll see it. I will see it.

**Justin:** Or there's one person on the call that saw it three weeks after it opened.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** It's me, and I'm here. [laughs] Talking to you, now.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** He's not a parenthetical person. He's our blood.

**Justin:** I think everyone in the audience is feeling a lot of relief that they don't have to listen to me talk about Avatar. If I'm—

**Travis:** Wait, Justin. Counterpoint, hold on. You were the only person in the theatre. So, I think my point actually stands. You were the last in America who hadn't seen Avatar, who wanted to see it.

**Justin:** Okay, Travis. I'm gonna flip this on you again. The other person I didn't see in there was any of our listeners saying, "Man, I can't wait to hear you talk about this for an hour."

**Travis:** That's fair. That's fair.

**Justin:** [chuckles] Okay. All right, good. Avatar: Way of Water, I do wanna give it a plug just 'cause Jim's a friend. I love to see—

**Griffin:** Score it. Score it out of eight—Score out of 100.

**Justin:** [stammers] W- w-

**Travis:** Well, that's one out of 100.

**Griffin:** Don't be a—Hey stop it. Don't—Don't—For once in your life, take a stand.

**Justin:** Is it—

**Griffin:** And tell me what score you would give Avatar 2: The Way of Water... Tell me out of 100 so it'll show up on Metacritic. I want your review to end up on Rotten Tomatoes. People will post MBMBaM and then the pull

quote of Justin saying like, "It got me so fucking wet. I loved the part we all—they all just had sex, nonstop."

**Justin:** I guess what I'm saying is it's contextual. That's what's hard for me.

**Travis:** So, out of 100, you give it 'contextual'?

**Griffin:** Give me—Say a number right now.

**Justin:** What's hard for me—What's hard for me is that if I had not been under the influence...

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Justin:** It would've been basically unwatchable. How's that?

**Travis:** Mm-hmm...

**Griffin:** Hm...

**Justin:** But that's not my fault.

**Travis:** So, out of 100, you give it 420??

**Justin:** [chuckles] Out of 100, I give it 420. Thank you. Yes. See it with someone you love. Don't see it by yourself. Probably other people, I don't want people to think I didn't like it. Not unwatchable, that was harsh. It's just so long, Jim.

**Griffin:** That seemed harsh. It's really long, Jim.

**Justin:** Jim, it's so long, bud.

**Travis:** Hey, and Jim, make it easier on yourself. You could take less time between movies. If you release an hour 45 movie...

**Justin:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** That's two movies, Jim.

**Travis:** In the space like you could do a three-and-a-half-hour movie—

**Justin:** He could've done that six hours ago. Like, six years ago.

**Travis:** Right.

**Justin:** And we could be on Avatar 3 by now.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Yeah, Avatar like 5 or so.

**Justin:** Hey, the next one—

**Travis:** He could be on Abattoir 3.

**Justin:** Shh, shh. Shh. Listen, the next one... Shh, listen. [whispers] Fire avatars.

**Travis:** Well, now you're getting into Avatar: The Last Airbender territory.

**Justin:** Fire Na'vi—

**Griffin:** Yeah—

**Justin:** There's fire Na'vi in the next one, Jim said maybe.

**Travis:** No, they have to stick with water or they're gonna get into some copyright—

**Justin:** Jim said maybe. If Jim said maybe, there's fire—

**Griffin:** Jim made a promise, Travis. Jim made a promise.

**Travis:** Okay?

**Griffin:** He said, "Maybe—and listen—" When he came to Justin in a dream last night, he whispered into his ear, "Fire Avatars, Justin. Tell the people."

**Justin:** And he also said—

**Travis:** "Is that anything? What do you think about that?"

**Justin:** The other thing he said is, "I don't know if the Na'vi are good."

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** [laughs] What?

**Travis:** "Justin, if you wanna learn more, I'll be in my secret base inside the Titanic. Come find me."

**Justin:** "What I'm saying is not all of them are good. Some of them... The fire will be represented by the ash people. I want to reveal the Na'vi from another angle. Because at the moment, I have only shown their good sides." "Jim, if you're worried you might be headed into some thorny racial territory, don't worry, man! It sounds like you're on super solid footing."

**Griffin:** "Keep on trucking!"

**Justin:** "This is gonna go great. Bon Voyage, James!"

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "Have a—Have a wonderful film, my man! Sounds... No problems there!" [ding sound]

**Travis:** "You've been down too long, James. James, you've been down too long! You've gotta surf this, bud."

**Justin:** "James, James! Come away from—Come away from the abyss, James."

**Travis:** "You've been down too long, James."



**Griffin:** "James, you've got—You got the fuckin' bends, James. You came up way too fast from the deep, deep waters, James."

**Travis:** "James, James, come up. Surface, James. Slowly!"

**Griffin:** "Come up slow, James."

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "You got too wet, James."

**Griffin:** "Repressurize!"

**Justin:** James... [laughs]

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Justin:** "I am a professional saxophonist. When this comes up in conversation, 9 times out of 10, someone will say, 'Oh, I love jazz!' That'd be fine, except I'm strictly a classical saxophonist and do not play jazz. How do I break the news that I'm not as cool as they think?" Thanks from Uncool Clinton Whistler in the Country's Capital.

**Travis:** You've never played any jazz?

**Griffin:** You've never played one jazz?

**Travis:** You've never played *any* jazz?

**Justin:** A little jazz.

**Travis:** Just a little jazz?

**Griffin:** Just a little jazz.

**Travis:** I'm not saying... You're not a professional jazz saxophonist, I get that.

**Justin:** I can scoot out a few beats for you, no problem.

**Griffin:** I think I've—I've done a little bit of music theory learning. I think if you wanted to turn your stuff into jazz, there's just like one note that you have to take it down a little bit every now and then.

**Travis:** Yeah, you don't play one note in classical music. That's jazz, baby, it's about the notes you don't play.

**Griffin:** Well, no. You do still play the note, but it's... make it go... Make it just a little bit lower. And then that turns it into jazz.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And maybe faster.

**Travis:** Yeah! And funkier?

**Justin:** Well, now you're—That's a little amorphous. I think it's easy to achieve—

**Griffin:** Right—

**Travis:** Funky Bach. Play me some funky Bach.

**Justin:** As somebody who's... I'm a saxmonica player.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Which is not the same as a saxophone, but it sounds not unlike it, once I start tooting around. And I kind of—

**Griffin:** I am fooled every time. I'm like, "Whoa, is that a real reedy saxophone that you have." But it's the saxmonica.

**Travis:** Now see, I'm more of a sax-Chandler player and Griffin's more of a sax-Phoebe.

**Griffin:** Okay... Oh, I'm a sax-Ross, if I'm being honest.

**Travis:** No, Griffin, I would never put that on you, bud. I would never—sax-Joe at worst. But a sax-Ross? I would never—

**Griffin:** What if there was a character—What if there was a character on Friends who was called Sax Ross and he—or Sex Ross—

**Travis:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** And he would come in every season maybe. And then that would be the sax—

**Travis:** Like a Stephan or a Kel version of Ross?

**Griffin:** Yeah, sort of—

**Travis:** That was like cool Sex Ross?

**Griffin:** Cool Sex Ross.

**Justin:** There was a—This is—We're talking about Ross and I have to relay this. There was a company called Long Table Pancakes that was on Shark Tank. And they make pancakes out of popcorn. They—

**Griffin:** Good.

**Justin:** Yes, good. They emailed and they were like, "We are big fans—" They emailed the Sawbones address and they were like, "Hey, y'all. We're— We just wanna let you know, we're gonna be on Shark Tank. We're like big fans of you and we know you like Shark Tank." And I'm like, whoa, this is—I'm gonna watch this live. Watch what happens live.

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin:** Without Andy Cohen, with Kevin O'Leary and all the gang. And they are doing they spiel and the cat from Long Table's like, "And I got a friend who wants to—who's such a big fan, who wants to help me with 'em." And out comes fucking David Schwimmer. And David—And I'm seeing—I'm watching this and I'm seeing David Schwimmer just like, "Who wants [??]?" [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Justin:** And then David Schwimmer's like handing out popcorn pancakes to the sharks. And it's like, guys, I'm glad you're a fan. But is this all an extended bit for my enjoyment?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Did you—This is all part of the show? Then they're like, "I know what will really bust Justin up a next level, is watching Roos come in." And then Ross is like, "P.S. Not an investor. Not in any way benefiting!"

**Travis:** "Just a friend."

**Justin:** "Just love these cakes!" Yeah... I think that has answered your question.

**Travis:** I think so too.

**Justin:** I think once they hear you—

**Griffin:** Yeah, take the notes down sometimes and it'll be jazz.

**Justin:** Take the notes down sometimes. Play 'em different whilst with friends.

**Travis:** Yeah, there you go. I've got a new thing. So, I've been thinking about versions of games I can play with you guys that are based on my own hyper fixations. 'Cause it's all I know. I one of my hyper fixations is, I'm sure you boys know, is my fascination with—America's fascination, the world's fascination in the 90s and early 2000s, about cartoon shows about animals with abs. It's just a thing.

**Griffin:** Okay—

**Travis:** it was so hyper prevalent. So, I'm calling this game ab-nimals. And in Ab-nimals—

**Griffin:** I wanna—I wanna posit that it is unfair to say that this is the first game you've devised, wielding your hyper fixation as the main crafting instrument.

**Travis:** No, I've just—Yeah, I—

**Justin:** It is a cudgel.

**Travis:** I've noticed it as a theme. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. And I'm just leaning into it.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Travis:** The first Ab-nimals show I wanna talk about is maybe one of my favorite weirdest animals which is... The full title: Wild West C.O.W.-Boys of Moo Mesa. And if you didn't know—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** If you didn't know, cow stands for Code of the West.

**Justin:** [laughs] What?

**Travis:** So, that full title would be—

**Griffin:** Is that real?

**Justin:** Well, it can't stand for cow, 'cause they're cows.

**Travis:** Their full title would be Wild West Cows of the West-Boys of Moo Mesa. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Boys. [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] So, wait. The title of this, I just wanna say it again all together, Wild West, Code of the West, Boys of Moo Mesa.

**Travis:** [chuckles] Correct.

**Justin:** Unbelievable.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Griffin:** Boys of Moo Mesa is a really good name for a podcast.

**Travis:** [chuckles] Boys of Moo Mesa. That's—Boys of Moo Mesa is my OC spinoff.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "Now we follow the lives of the Boys of Moo Mesa." So, the... a lot of Ab-nimals. And I extend this. It's a pretty broad definition which I include like you know... like gargoyles and such. But Ab-nimals usually either deal with like space animals with abs or mutated animals with abs. And this one is the latter. They lean so fucking hard into this. Okay, so, Cowboys of Moo Mesa dealt with a mutation where a irradiated comet struck the late 19<sup>th</sup> century western planes. And created a miles high mesa shrouded in clouds. This is one of the best sentences in the world. "Everything trapped on top of the Mesa was 'cow-metized' by the light from the 'cow-met' and 'evolved' into a 'bovipomorphic' state."

**Griffin:** That's good. Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Fuck yeah.

**Justin:** Evolved is—‘Evolved’ is doing a lot of heavy lifting there, huh?

**Travis:** Yeah, it’s—In Wikipedia, it is in quotes. [laughs] “Evolved.”

**Griffin:** Oh, that’s good.

**Justin:** Evolved...

**Travis:** And then they were inspired by Wild West culture. So, what I’ve done is I have pulled five real character names.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Oh, good.

**Travis:** And one fake character name.

**Griffin:** That’s a huge pool.

**Travis:** And I want you guys to figure out which is the fake character name.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Are you ready?

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** Can we ask any follow ups about the characters? Have you built a world for your fake character or—

**Travis:** Yes, I can.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Okay, good to know.

**Travis:** And I—

**Justin:** Are you familiar enough with the other characters where if some follow ups—

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** I have the Wikipedia pulled up. I can ready about all six of them. Okay, and I'm gonna lean hard into the puns included. 'Cause that's a big part—

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Okay. Number one, Cowlorado Kid.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Okay. Number two, Cowlamity Kate Cudster.

**Griffin:** There's no way you thought of that. So, that feels real to me.

**Travis:** Mayor Oscar Bulloney.

**Justin:** [laughs] That one doesn't even make sense?

**Travis:** Jessicow Patty Lynn.

**Justin:** Wait, what?



**Travis:** Jessicow Patty Lynn. Barney Finkleberg. Bat Blastagun.

**Griffin:** Bat Blastagun?

**Justin:** Blastagun?

**Travis:** Bat Blastagun.

**Griffin:** How ripped... How ripped is Bat Blastagun?

**Travis:** Bat Blastagun is a bat outlaw. And he's a bat in this one.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** They're not all cows. Even though they were strictly 'cow-metized' by the light from the 'cow-met.' Apparently, you have creatures—There's also ghosts—

**Justin:** Is 'cow-metized' and play on traumatized? [laughs]

**Travis:** I don't know—

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Is that where they're going?

**Travis:** There are ghosts in this show as well.

**Griffin:** Good.

**Travis:** Yes. But Bat Blastagun is an evil bat gang leader.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Are there any of the other ones you wanna know about?

**Griffin:** No, I'm ready for my answer.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Okay, can you read them one more time?

**Travis:** Yes. They are: Cowlorado Kid, Cowlamity Kate Cudster, Mayor Oscar Bulloney, Jessicow Patty Lynn, Barney Finkleberg, Bat Blastagun.

**Griffin:** Hm...

**Justin:** [sighs]

**Griffin:** See, hearing you say them again makes me wanna change me frickin' answer.

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I'm ready. No, I'm not changing my answer.

**Travis:** Okay. Griffin, what is your answer?

**Griffin:** It's the Mayor Bulloney... Mayor Bulloney.

**Travis:** Justin? Justin, what is your answer?

**Justin:** Jessicow Patty Lynn.

**Travis:** Justin has nailed it. It is Jessicow Patty Lynn.

**Justin:** Yes!

**Griffin:** Damn it.

**Travis:** Justin is the first winner of Ab-nimals. [chuckles]

**Justin:** Wow!

**Griffin:** Hey, Trav, I'm looking at—So, I'm looking at Wilf West Cowboys of Moo Mesa images—

**Justin:** Sorry, Wild West, Code of the West, Boys of Moo Mesa.

**Travis:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** Boys of Moo Mesa. I understand how your mind works, but there had to be a sort of onramp to you getting very like interested in looking into cow... cow... Code of the West, Boys of Moo Mesa?

**Travis:** Listen, I don't need to go... I'm not on trial here. [chuckles] This is a—I didn't know—

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I'm not putting you—I'm not putting you on trial. I'm genuinely curious what—where Cowboys of Moo—Code of the West... Wild West, Code of the West, Boys of Moo Mesa—

**Justin:** Griffin, he's—he began—

**Griffin:** ... Entered your mind somehow.

**Justin:** He began this—

**Travis:** I told you!

**Justin:** He began this segment admitting that his brain does not function like many other popular brains you might be aware of.

**Travis:** Thank you. I—

**Justin:** It's just a different... a different talent. It's a different level.

**Travis:** I'm fascinated by the idea where someone said, "You know what it is that people love about Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles? They're animals with muscles that shouldn't have muscles where the muscles go."

**Griffin:** [laughs] Their big, strong muscles!

**Travis:** "So, we're gonna make sharks with abs! We're gonna make mice with abs! We're gonna make ducks with abs! Toads with abs!"

**Griffin:** I get—You're right... You are—Travis, you are—You are the philosopher of a generation. And I love you.

**Travis:** Thank you so much. Thank you so much.

**Justin:** What a powerful talent. Here's another question. "Today I brought some eggs to work as a snack. Trying to eat more protein." It explains unnecessarily in the question.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** "Sadly, I forgot to eat them. Now they're in my lunchbox in my backpack and I'm pretty hungry. I need to go to the mall after work to run some errands. Where in the mall should I eat my eggs and what would be the best way to eat them without seeming weird? They are boiled and still in the shell. I'll be taking the bus to the mall. Should I eat them on the bus?" This is from Peckish in Penag, Malaysia. Which may be a first for us. I don't know. That's very exciting.

**Griffin:** It's very, very exciting.

**Justin:** I'm a little daunted because we're... that is a culture I am wholly sort of ignorant of. And I don't know vis-à-vis proper times to eat eggs. So, I'm—

**Travis:** I'm ignorant of cultures here in America. I'm ignorant across the board, so I'm not really worried about that.

**Justin:** That's true. I remember the first time I was in San Francisco. I saw them selling eggs at a convenience store on a counter. Just eggs.

**Travis:** Just loose eggs?

**Justin:** Like hardboiled eggs on the counter.

**Griffin:** I love that.

**Justin:** That you could just eat 'em. And I didn't know that people even did that.

**Travis:** I just wanna compare the two location, just broad locations right off the bat. 'Cause it occurs to me the benefit of eating them on the bus, right, that is a defined, shortened time, right?

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** Of exposure of people judging you for eating the eggs.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Travis:** Now, it is contained. So, everyone on the bus is gonna clock it. But it will be done quickly because then you'll get off the bus. In the mall, people are moving through, right. They may not notice that you're eating eggs, right. But then every time they see you for the rest of the time at the mall, they're gonna be like, "That's that person that ate eggs on that bench." Right? So it's, would you rather have concentrated focus on your egg eating or kind of a more flowy, ethereal focus on your egg eating.

**Griffin:** Sure, sure, sure.

**Justin:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** If I could sort of take Travis' quandary here and maybe recontextualize it a little bit.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Griffin:** And I'll just ask you, Travis. You have to rip a big two and a half minute long fart.

**Travis:** Oh, god.

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Would you rather do that on a bus? I'm gonna look right at the camera, so you are actually thinking—Would you rather do that big fart on a bus or in a very large building where people might not even be able to see you. People probably aren't seeing you. If people see you, they will probably look away politely as quickly as possible. On a bus, Travis?

**Travis:** I understand what you're saying.

**Griffin:** Here's the amount of air that's on the bus that you can turn into eggs—

**Justin:** Just a bus worth, pretty much.

**Griffin:** It's one bus worth of egg free air. And then you're gonna sort of spoil all that. Versus a mall is so big, you can egg up that air as much as you possibly can and you're not gonna make a pretty big difference.

**Travis:** What I'm saying though—And I understand, Griffin. Listen, I'm not saying—

**Griffin:** I'm saying science shit. I'm saying like physics, science shit.

**Travis:** Okay, but I'm gonna talk about human—I'm gonna talk about human like psychology.

**Griffin:** Humans is science. It's still science.

**Travis:** In a mall, people go there for people watching. They're clocking people left and right. On a bus, that's kind of a like time that everyone's head's down, on their own phones. They're not clocking people. They're specifically trying to pretend like they are like separate from everybody.

**Justin:** Right—

**Travis:** I'm saying the bus is a transient like universe that doesn't—It's like when you're on a plane, right. There's different rules.

**Griffin:** Justin, you've gotta help me out here.

**Justin:** No, but people have done things on planes... People have done many things on planes that I wished they wouldn't do.

**Travis:** Well, yeah. But you accept that it happens 'cause it's—

**Justin:** I accept that a lot of things happen that I wish we wouldn't do. That's different, right. Like, this person... We can't just saying like *carte blanche*, these people are all strangers, it doesn't matter how they see you. The whole thing crumbles. You can't take that out.

**Griffin:** Society crumbles.

**Travis:** Society, yes.

**Griffin:** Civilization dissolves.

**Justin:** Yeah, of course. You're listening to this podcast or are recording it, you are obsessed with what strangers think of you. [chuckles] It's fine.

**Travis:** Now... No, I will say, because I do think Griffin's right. Because—

**Griffin:** Of course I'm fucking right, you can't be—

**Travis:** I just said you were! Don't yell at me! So, if I saw someone eating on a bench—like sitting on a bench, eating some hardboiled eggs with the most serene like... just like, 'I'm happy to be here.' I would think—The thought that would pop in my head is, "They've got it all figured out." Right? Just like look at 'em. Happy there, just sitting, eating their eggs, peaceful, happy. Now, if you're trying to do it in a furtive, secretive way, I'd be like, "What is... What is that person doing?" But if you're just sitting there like, "Ah yeah. I'm just here—"

**Griffin:** Travis, the—

**Justin:** Travis is almost right.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Can I just—

**Justin:** Travis can do one thing to be right.

**Griffin:** Can I respond—Can I respond to that first and just say if—

**Justin:** Hold on, let me ask. Hold on, I'm consulting the judges. Yes, they say you may.

**Griffin:** Any thought you have when you see a person eating an egg in public that isn't, "I should move away," is a wrong thought. And on a bus, you can't move away.

**Travis:** I don't live my life, I guess, in the heightened form of judgment that you do, Griffin. If the person's happy, unless I'm definitely allergic to eggs where one being even present in something as big as a mall will kill me, it doesn't affect me one iota.

**Justin:** Jason Mantzoukas just sat up like, "Yes. But what if you are deathly allergic to eggs."

**Travis:** That's true. Jason Mantzoukas is definitely allergic to eggs. So, if you see Jason Mantzoukas in the mall, you keep those in your pocket where they belong.

**Justin:** I don't think I would broadcast my weaknesses as much as he has because I do not know that man.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] I should not know his kryptonite. Anyway—

**Travis:** I should say, along those same lines, Superman needs to play it cooler when kryptonite's around. He's really showing it.

**Griffin:** He's really showing his cards.



**Travis:** It would be like, "Yeah, what's that? A green rock, huh? So weird. I'm gonna go." [laughs]

**Justin:** Have you ever seen the camera—The camera always cuts that guy and he's always like, "[silly noise]."

**Travis:** "Argh! Ugh!"

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Okay... Okay, two things. One, what would be worse, someone eating an egg or someone eating sunflower seeds? [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs] Oh man...

**Travis:** Huh...

**Griffin:** The sunflower seeds are gonna take much, much, much longer.

**Justin:** If feel like any snacktivity like that should not be—

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** You have to be careful about the public opinion. You have to be in a comfortable space, right.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The other thing I was gonna say though, Travis could be right if—

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Justin:** ... The first thing you do—And it's easy. Just take out one egg and just give it like a, "Huh? Anybody? Anybody want an egg?"

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Justin:** "Anybody?" And then you eat the egg. They all say no, of course, 'cause they're not... I don't know, [chuckles] a goat? Like they're not—

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** They're gonna turn down your offer. But they can't get bent out of shape about it, because that could be them.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** They had the opportunity to be an egg eater too.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** Or best case, on maniac is like, "Oh, eggs? For sure."

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Justin:** And then you've got a partner in crime.

**Griffin:** In crime, yeah, yeah, for sure.

**Justin:** Yeah, got a—

**Griffin:** This is my name game to go along with Ab-nimals. And it's under what context would you accept and eat an egg that a bus stranger gave to you?

**Travis:** A bus stranger? Never. Now, a mall stranger?

**Griffin:** No, stop it. Don't—You—Hey, I played your game good. You play my game good now.

**Travis:** Yeah, right.

**Griffin:** Get it—Play—Fucking play with me.

**Travis:** How hungry and or stoned would I need to be? I think I would probably accept it but not eat it, ever. But there's—I think there's a more likely chance—

**Griffin:** Okay. Well, [clap speaks] that's not the game. That's not the game. How—What would the circumstances—How—Travis...

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Griffin:** How am I gonna get you into this egg today? Is my question.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** What are the circumstances where you would accept it and eat it from a stranger.

**Travis:** If I saw a like strikingly like offputtingly handsome John Hamm type, in like a cool like fucking pea coat and like on point scarf and like everything combo—

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Travis:** ... Pop open like a beautiful briefcase and pull out two eggs.

**Griffin:** Like a cigarette—Like a leather eggs case, yeah, for sure.

**Travis:** Yes. And he pulled out two eggs. And not even asking but just as if commanding, "Eat this eggs with me." I would do it.

**Griffin:** Okay. Can I simplify your answer?

**Justin:** I wanna twist this—

**Griffin:** Can I simplify your answer a little bit and just say if John Hamm was sitting across from me on a bus and pulled out two egg, and went to eat one and looked at me and said, "Hey, you want this?" I would—Yeah. Like, yeah. Absolutely I would.

**Justin:** Guys, I'm looking at pictures of malls in Malaysia and they're fucking incredible. These things are palaces, I wouldn't be eating an egg in here. No way!

**Travis:** Most—

**Justin:** No way would I be eating—I would feel—I would feel weird in shorts! I'm not gonna be eating an egg in these incredible malls?

**Griffin:** Wow, these are... these are amazing. These are amazing.

**Justin:** Incredible, these malls.

**Griffin:** These are... These are cathedrals of business.

**Travis:** Holy shit.

**Justin:** These incredible malls!

**Travis:** Most countries do malls so much better than us.

**Justin:** This country used to know how to make malls.

**Travis:** Tell me about it.

**Griffin:** We used to stand for something. Malls.

**Travis:** We talk about capitalism here but—

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah. Speaking of capitalism, I'm gonna take a stand right here, right now. And I'm gonna say we should go to the Money Zone.

**Griffin:** Thanks.

[theme song plays]

**Justin:** Do your thing. [chuckles]

**Travis:** Wait, was that you—

**Justin:** Do it. That's me telling you guys to do the ad. Do the ad! Do your thing.

**Griffin:** I didn't know that we could do that.

**Travis:** Justin, should I talk about Squarespace?

**Justin:** If I had wanted to engage with you during this period, I would've done that. I'm just kind of giving myself a little—

**Travis:** Oh, see, but that's what I'm doing. I'm not letting you out. I'm gonna rope you like one of the Cowboys of Moo Mesa.

**Justin:** Okay. I've used Squarespace—Do you want another truth?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** The truth is I've used Squarespace to build websites.

**Travis:** What kind of websites?

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin:** Well, I updated my wife's campaign website. I updated it myself with my friend Michael, from the internet. He helped me make it.

**Travis:** Mm-hmm, Michael Jordan?

**Justin:** But I updated it myself without really understanding anything about any of it. And you've made websites with Squarespace, right?

**Travis:** Yes, I did. Several. Several! I once made a website with Squarespace because I was participating—I was helping set up like a trivia pub crawl. And one of the paper answers was a URL to a website that I had built that was like the direction to the next puzzle.

**Justin:** I built a things I buy at Sheets website. I don't remember what it was, what the address was, but I built that with Squarespace.

**Travis:** I bet you could build actually like good websites though to use for your actual business.

**Justin:** No question. No question.

**Travis:** And not like the website I built that is a tribute to how good my dog is, [buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com](http://buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com)

**Justin:** Right.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** You could build any website that you could dream of, basically.

**Travis:** Any website?

**Griffin:** I like that.

**Justin:** They're incredible. And they've got great customer support. All the tools are sort of designed. It's sort of like using blocks. So, you just like drag the design element in that you like and like looks like—

**Travis:** Mm-hmm?

**Justin:** It looks good. It looks like a real website, because it is!

**Travis:** Like GeoCities? You did that with GeoCities, right? I don't remember, you put gifs all over the place, hamsters?

**Justin:** We're not—Listen, we're not plugging our dreaded competition here. We're talking about making pro level videos with the Squarespace Video Studio app.

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** It lets you sell products, digital or physical, Squarespace has got your tools. This thing—This thing's unreal, guys. Go to [squarespace.com/mybrother](https://squarespace.com/mybrother) for a free trial. And when you're ready to launch, use offer code My Brother to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

**Travis:** Our next ad is for GeoCities. Oh no!

**Griffin:** Oh no!

[One Bad Mother theme music plays]

**Biz:** Parenting. It's hard, but don't worry. You're not alone. Belly up to the low bar with one bad mother and let us remind you that fine is good enough.

**Guest 1:** They wanna climb on different things and how am I supposed to keep them both from dying? [laughs]

**Guest 2:** There is a right way to do this. And if I can figure out that right way, I'm gonna be a good parent. So, that is not a thing.

**Biz:** So join us each week and let us tell you that you are doing a good job. You can listen to One Bad Mother on Maximum Fun or wherever you get your podcasts.

[One Bad Mother theme music concludes]

[Bullseye with Jesse Thorn theme music plays]

**Jesse:** This week on Bullseye, Tom Hanks as you've never heard him before. Med.

**Tom:** You moron! Thank you for the use of the turn signal. Way to use your blinker, idiot!

**Jesse:** That's Bullseye from [maximumfun.org](https://maximumfun.org) and NPR.

[Bullseye with Jesse Thorn theme music concludes]

**Griffin:** Do you think they're gonna mail all of us podcast awards for best ad read? Or are we... is just one of us gonna have to like take it and share the trophy—

**Travis:** You gotta share it like the Stanley Cup.

**Griffin:** Okay, cool.

**Travis:** Is that what they do with the Stanley Cup?

**Griffin:** Uh-huh, they cut it. They cut it into like 20 little pieces.

**Justin:** They share it, yeah. Everybody gets a little bit.

**Travis:** Pass it around to eat cereal out of it?

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** They wish you wouldn't do that.

**Travis:** Well, of course they wish you wouldn't. But it's yours while you have it, you can do anything with it.

**Griffin:** True.

**Travis:** Use it as a potty.

**Griffin:** Shit in it.

**Travis:** [laughs] See, we said the same thing and different ways!

**Griffin:** Oh, god...

**Travis:** Yeah, let's do another question. We're trying to help more people this year.



**Justin:** "I just this morning started a new job at a greenhouse and I noticed there's a dumpster outside filled to the brim with damaged plants or plants not pretty enough to sell to customers. I don't care about plants that are ugly now, I know they'll grow to be beautiful. I'm in New Jersey, so the weather has been literally freezing. Meaning, if I don't act fast, the plants will die for good. But I just started this job at 8AM this morning." [laughs] "Is there a good time to ask if I can have some of those plants? The dumpster's right outside, so they'll definitely see me if I just take 'em from the bin." That's from Mean Green (Maybe) Stealing Machine in New Jersey.

**Travis:** This is the best time to do it. Because having just started, this is the time to be like, "And what's the policy on the plants... Like, is that a free to a good home kind of thing? What's the deal with that? Because I love taking plants and kind of revitalizing them. What's the deal with that?" 'Cause it might just be like no one's ever asked before.

**Justin:** Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Travis:** Right.

**Justin:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** This is the best time to do it. As opposed to I think having worked there for two years and you know the policy on it and you're like, "Hey, I'm gonna take those though. Those are mine now."

**Griffin:** Yeah. One strong—

**Justin:** "I'm gonna go load up my trunk on my break."

**Griffin:** One strong move would be to start fishing 'em out of the dumpster and then saying, "Anybody gonna eat these? No?"

**Justin:** [laughs] "I'm staring!"

**Griffin:** "I'm so hungry!" And you throw `em—then you throw `em in the truck. Say, "I'll eat these later when I can cook them the right way."

**Justin:** The problem with this is that if you leave those plants long enough, they will regain value as beautiful, loamy compost.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That's the cycle. That's the cycle. That's the cycle.

**Griffin:** Good shit. Good, good, good shit too.

**Justin:** So, if you take `em out there, you're stealing compost, really.

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** From the dumpster?

**Justin:** Now, if they're in the dumpster, I don't know how effectively... you know... It's not like they got some worms in there or something to help break those down. I think they'll probably just—

**Griffin:** Dumpster can have worms in `em, for sure.

**Justin:** That's true. But I don't feel like they're gonna be able to do their grim work for long enough to get that rich, loamy, nutrient pack.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Just like choice.

**Travis:** Now, let me throw this out. You take those plants, you go home and you nurture `em. Then you sell `em back to the greenhouse. That's profit, baby. That's profit where you're like, "I fixed there. You can sell `em again. I got into this grift with my aquarium. I bought some snails. The snails laid eggs, made snail babies. And then the aquarium was like, "Oh, you can sell those snails back to us for store credit." Now, I didn't do that and I've got an aquarium full of snails `cause I was too lazy to fish `em out of there and they

ended up growing on me. But I'm just saying, that this is a pattern that may be—"

**Justin:** Literally?

**Travis:** No, Justin.

**Griffin:** Do you have barnacles, Travis?

**Travis:** Yes, just like the pirates in Pirates of the Caribbean 2 and 3.

**Justin:** That is an astounding level of plant confidence that I cannot relate to.

**Griffin:** No way.

**Justin:** If I look at a plant, I'm pretty sure I... I have—I've had really bad luck. I tried to plant some pear trees and some berry bushes.

**Travis:** Oh no?

**Justin:** And not a single one has survived to this point. And to think that you would look at some dead ass plants in a dumpster and be like, "What's up?" [laughs] "I got you. You're coming with me. I'm gonna Finding Forrester you until you have the confidence."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Oh, see, I'm good—I'm good with plants but not deer. It's a different thing. The deer try and kill my plants. I mean, deer a fuckin'... argh. But I'm good with plants, so I would do this. But I do think I wouldn't take too many. How many plants can you save at one time? You're not Super Man.

**Justin:** That's true, that's true. You don't wanna be so bogged down by the plants you're trying to save that you forget the... your job and your family.

**Travis:** And the plants that—Yeah. Your family plants, which is what I call my kids. [chuckles]

**Justin:** Griffin, you look confused a little bit. Are you okay?

**Griffin:** I'm just sort of struggling with the idea of saving plant. [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs] Wow!

**Justin:** Okay, well Griffin's—

**Griffin:** Just, I'm struggling—

**Travis:** Not even cloaking it! Okay.

**Justin:** That kind of gives me free range to say like, yeah, man, they're just plants.

**Travis:** No, what?

**Griffin:** [laughs] 'Cause like... no, listen—

**Justin:** We don't have to worry about everything, you know what I mean?

**Griffin:** No, stop. Stop, listen.

**Justin:** There have to be—

**Griffin:** I'm not minimizing this. Because really, who saved who. Is what I'm saying, is my big thing that I always say when I talk about this.

**Justin:** That one is actually pretty clear cut in the plant world.

**Travis:** We need plants, Justin!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** You can't shit on plants. Actually, you can. They love it. But—

**Justin:** Unless we're talking about Swamp Thing, the plant was saved by the person every time.

**Travis:** Yeah, you say that until you're having an asthma attack. So, you start huffing that pure oxygen right off 'em. Then who saved who, Justin?

**Griffin:** Okay, stop, stop—

**Justin:** See, I love—I do love getting close enough to tress to huff the [??] stuff. [laughs]

**Griffin:** You must—You must, Travis, respect the fact that there is a huge difference between the stance you're proposing I Have. Which is me stnading in front of a raging forest fire and being like, "Yeah! Fuck all these guys!" Versus me looking at some plants in a dumpster and being like, "Shame!" Ah, god, I bet!

**Travis:** Those are free plants, man! I love plants.

**Griffin:** Right. I'm not an eco-terrorist for saying that if a plant in my yard dies or starts to get a little bit brown, my immediate thought is not like, "I'm going to give this thing a transfusion of my own human blood to make it stronger."

**Travis:** No, 'cause that wouldn't help it, Griffin. Unless it's Audrey 2.

**Griffin:** We don't know that. We don't know that for sure. I'm glad that there are people out there who look at dumpster plants and say, "I could... I could do something with that." I'm just... I'm not one of those people.

**Travis:** You're just not one of them, I see. Okay.

**Griffin:** No.

**Travis:** I didn't realize you were so cold.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** No, I'm just saying.

**Griffin:** Just busy. Busy, I guess. You know?

**Travis:** Well, you can make time for Mother Earth, for Gaia?

**Griffin:** Not Mother Earth.

**Justin:** No?

**Griffin:** Not Mother Earth. Just a few plants.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Where do you think those bitches come from, the moon? [chuckles]

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Just a few plants.

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

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** Hey!

**Justin:** [continues riffing]

**Travis:** Huh?

**Griffin:** Splat?

**Justin:** [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch!

[brief silence]

**Griffin:** Squad!

**Travis:** Squad. Sorry, I was taking a drink of coffee.

**Justin:** [continues riffing and sings] I want to munch!

**Travis:** Squad! Sorry, fuck.

**Griffin:** Squad!

**Travis:** Came in too hot that time.

**Griffin:** It's all right.

**Justin:** [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad. It's a podcast within a podcast, profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. This one is... is a little interesting. This one's interesting.

**Travis:** Oh? Oh, good.

**Griffin:** I would hope so!

**Justin:** You guys know Papa Murphy's?

**Griffin:** No?

**Justin:** Huge place. It's Papa Murphy's take-and-bake pizza. On January 9<sup>th</sup>, this story came across QSR. "Papa Murphy's Take 'n' Bake Pizza is delighted to relaunch the XLNY pizza nationwide beginning today, January 9<sup>th</sup>. The XLNY pizza is an extra-large New York-Style pizza that offers everything you'd expect, hot and—"

**Travis:** Is that a typo? If it's extra-large, shouldn't it be EL pizza? I'm confused.

**Justin:** Sorry, Travis, you're being kind of silly. And I don't love that.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Justin:** A pizza this big is only \$9.99. And there's a bundle or some—It's the big games coming up. You know, it's the big game. So, you can get this take-and-bake pizza. And they say that, "We value our guests and we wanna show 'em appreciation. The zesty flavors combined with a foldable NY-Style crust puts an exciting twist on pizza." I mean, I would argue it doesn't. It's just... that's still pizza.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** That's pizza, yeah.

**Justin:** That's from January 9<sup>th</sup>. January 10<sup>th</sup>, Pizza Hut's Big New Yorker returns to menu after 24 years.

**Griffin:** Shit.

**Travis:** Whoa!

**Griffin:** Okay...

**Justin:** Are you fucking with me right now, Pizza Hut? Really?

**Travis:** Whoa! So, the XLNY and then—

**Justin:** Gobbles a little bit... gobbles a small crumb off the throne...

**Travis:** And 24 hours later...

**Griffin:** Not even that, it sounds like.

**Justin:** After 24 years!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** What?



**Justin:** Oh, I understand, yes, okay.

**Travis:** [laughs] I was confused! Okay.

**Justin:** 24... Yes. 24 years after Pizza Hut stopped, and 24 hours after Papa Murphy's starts, Pizza Hut's like, "Let us get back in the game."

**Travis:** Do you think that was like one person pulled the trigger on like, "Oh, yeah, Papa Murphy's? Well, we're gonna do it too!" And then the rest of Pizza Hut was like, "Whoa, dude! We're not... We... We're not prepared for this at all! What are you doing?"

**Justin:** Now, I don't want you guys to get this confused with Pizza Hut's Big Foot pizza.

**Griffin:** I was going to say—

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Which was invented by Dr. Reggie Fils-Aime, this is a different pizza. This is not the Big Foot. It's not the Big Foot, it's the Big New Yorker. And it's back after 24 years. They just announced, "Their famous 116-inch New York style pizza will return to the menu. The iconic pizza will be available at participating Pizza Hut restaurants." Would love to visit the Pizza Hut and it's like, "No, thank you." [laughs]

**Griffin:** "No way."

**Justin:** "We're fine."

**Travis:** "We're kind of... We're more... We only do margherita pizza."

**Griffin:** "We tried, they were—they were way too heavy to pick up. Couldn't do it."

**Travis:** Justin, is this one of those scenarios, it's like Papa Murphy's like the generic brand of Pizza Hut? Where it's just like you go to Pizza Hut to get a baked one, go to Papa Murphy's to get one and bake it yourself.

**Justin:** Travis, I don't know. But I mean, it's a 24-hour difference, you know? Who saves who? One order—Okay so, "Each 16-inch pizza features six oversized foldable slices with crispy crust and bold flavors." Now, I would say six seems like too few.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Justin:** For a 16-inch pizza? They have said they're oversized. Hey, you guys sized 'em?

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Just cut it—Just cut it different? Like, that's on—

**Griffin:** Cut it different.

**Justin:** That's on you.

**Travis:** I'm not imagining it, you could easily make that 12... 24... heck, 8, 10, any even number, really.

**Griffin:** Heck, infinite! [chuckles]

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah, cut it as many times as you want.

**Griffin:** If the technology—If pizza cutting technology... Yeah.

**Travis:** You could cut that baby is squares. You could get an odd number then if you want to.

**Justin:** "It features bold flavors including sweet marinara sauce and parmesan oregano seasoning on top to mimic—"

**Travis:** [laughs] Cheese seasoning?

**Justin:** "Parmesan oregano seasoning on top to mimic an authentic pizzeria build."

**Travis:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** "One order of the Big New Yorker extra large pizza comes with double pepperoni. Pizza lovers may remember the iconic menu item from when it was first introduced in 1999. Since being retired from the menu, there have been numerous different requests for Pizza Hut to bring back the New Yorker. In fact—"

**Travis:** But not until there were shots fired by Papa Murphy's!

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Justin:** Right. "In fact, the company has seen everything from social media accounts dedicated to it's hopeful return, Reddit threads—" A Reddit thread?!

**Travis:** Get out!

**Justin:** Wow!

**Griffin:** Whoa!

**Justin:** Whoa!

**Griffin:** That don't just make those for anyone, guys.

**Justin:** And then there's even a change.org petition with thousands of signatures ot bring back the pizza on menus. "The Big New Yorker was a huge hit when we launched it in 1999, setting the stage for future industry

innovations like Pizza Hut Melt and Detroit Style Pizza.” Pizza Hut Melts is also the headline after a tragic, tragic cheese accident. [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** This entire Pizza Hut has melted. “At 30% larger than our large pizza, now is the perfect time to answer our customers’ requests and bring back the Big New Yorker in a big way, right before *wink* the big game next month.”

**Travis:** This is so wild ‘cause I... I mean, I remember, I’m sure you guys do too. You know, the big New York pizza made it’s premiere in 1999. And it played the fuck out of that game. It played the fuck out of that game for many and then it blew out its knee. Right there, had to retire.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And to see that he’s coming back in time for the big game? Because why else would you retire a pizza that’s so fucking popular that there’s a Reddit thread about it? And then wait 24 years to say, “What if it was a big pizza?”

**Griffin:** Yeah, man. We all miss the Big New Yorker. It’s shin bone exploded in that one game against Detroit.

**Travis:** But bring it back!

**Justin:** It was actually tragically injured trying to rescue people from a melting Pizza Hut. They ran in against all!

**Travis:** And it’s his son, Big New York Junior, which don’t get it twisted, is bigger. It’s just the name, ‘cause that’s how a naming convention works.

**Griffin:** More larger.

**Travis:** It’s not smaller.

**Justin:** Do you think that—Do you think Reggie Fils-Aime was on the phone 24 hours after this with Pizza Hut like, “It’s time, bitch! Let’s go! Big Foot is back!”

**Griffin:** I think that—I think he was on the phone—He was on the phone with Pizza Hut two hours after Papa Murphy’s made their announcement. Like it’s—He kicked in the door like, “Are you ready? It’s time, the prodigal son is ready to come home. You must forgive me now.”

**Travis:** “Someone’s out pizza’ed the Hut. What are you going to do?”

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** “Will you allow this? You’ve forgotten the face of your father, Pizza Hut!”

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** “You’re allowing yourself to be out-pizza'ed! Or my name’s not Dr. Reggie Fils-Aime.”

**Travis:** [chuckles]

**Justin:** I just—I’m sorry. This one is more PSA and I know we just covered a lot of pizza stuff. But I have to keep abreast of the situation. We got a new chicken sandwich from Golden Chick. Which I think in a real impressive bit of honesty here is calling it the Big and Wicked Chicken Sandwich. Which I think introducing a new chicken sandwich at this point is wicked.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** And I think it should be actually illegal. People have been hurt, people... in these... in these chicken sandwich wars.

**Travis:** Sometimes, innocent bystanders.

**Griffin:** it's possible they've been in the foxholes for the last like four or five years. And like they're just coming out—

**Justin:** Yeah, heads down.

**Griffin:** Yeah. They've been work-shopping this for so long, they can't not fire it, you know?

**Justin:** This feels like the first time one of them has written a press release though, because it's... "The new offering begins with a hand-breaded, all white meat chicken breast that is fried to golden perfection and then coated in Golden Chick's spicy Lotta Zing seasoning blend as soon as it gets out of the fryer." That's a lot of detail there. I don't need to know exactly when you do it.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I could make one of these myself now. I don't need your shit.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** I would also say, if you writing a press release for a chicken sandwich, I think everyone reading is gonna assume it starts with chicken. I think you can just say like, "So, standard chicken... You know, it's chicken on bread."

**Griffin:** "Bog standard chicken—You know, a chicken sandwich? You must know by now, right?"

**Travis:** "But then we do our thing and put our weird sauce on it."

**Justin:** It's then placed on the brand's iconic extra-large fresh-baked yeast roll and topped with Lotta Zing sauce and five pickles to create a tantalizing sandwich that is sure to leave mouths watering." You know, I hope it doesn't

leave my mouth watering after I've consumed it. That would be a really unfortunate side effect.

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Yeah.

**Justin:** Maybe from the spiciness of the Lotta Zing sauce.

**Travis:** That it's both soaked in and covered in, it sounds like.

**Justin:** "Menu innovation sits at the forefront of our plans for 2023," says Mark Parmerlee, president and chairman of Golden Chick. "The popularity and rave feedback that has surrounded previous creations like the Big & Golden and Nashville Hot gave us the inspiration to continue adapting—"

**Travis:** You didn't create Nashville Hot! Nashville Hot has been a thing for—  
Don't try to take Nashville hot.

**Griffin:** Forever.

**Justin:** Yeah. "We're excited to continue to introduce unique combinations to customers that keep them excited about our brand and coming back for more. Our innovation strategy has introduced our brand to many new customers in the past several years."

**Travis:** Dozens.

**Justin:** "In 2022, we had four successful limited-time offering campaigns, each driving double-digit traffic counts."

**Travis:** Wait...

**Justin:** "Our latest creation—"

**Griffin:** That doesn't seem like very many people.

**Travis:** That's a joke, right?

**Justin:** What?

**Travis:** Is this a joke? Is this all a joke? We—

**Justin:** No?

**Travis:** Did they double-digit...

**Justin:** Double-digit traffic counts! That means that there was more than 10 cars. [laughs]

**Travis:** So, somewhere between 10 and 99 people.

**Justin:** Somewhere between 10 and 99 cars, I guess. Or people? I... I don't know, Travis. I don't understand it either.

**Travis:** That can't be what it says, Justin.

**Justin:** Let's check in with—

**Travis:** It can't be like, "We were so successful, 10 people came."

**Justin:** Chief marketing officer, Howard Terry, wax poetic about this bad boy when he said, "Our latest creation, The Big & Wicked Chicken Sandwich, was consumer tested extensively." Imagine my relief, Terry. It would be pretty weird for you to just be like, "Eat this or don't. We don't care if you like it."

**Travis:** "We don't know, man. We didn't have time to get it past the FDA. I don't know, man."

**Justin:** [laughs] Oh, no! "If you find chunks, just throw 'em out. There's a—" And then he says—this he says—

**Travis:** "We bought these from a friend of our who said he got them from his cousin. I don't know, man." [chuckles]



**Justin:** "It was consumer tested extensively and we are very optimistic about its success." Terry, my man, it would be wild if the inverse was true.  
[laughs]

**Travis:** "We're just pot committed at this point and we've gone so far we can't..."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "You might like it. I don't know, man. None of us do. But—"

**Justin:** Golden Chick halfheartedly shoves new sandwich across the counter, and it leaves the room.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** "Hey, please enjoy the new 'Is This Anything?' sandwich."

**Griffin:** "Let's just say we got four crates of Chuckin' off the back of a truck and..."

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** "You need to eat this today, 'cause it's can't be refrigerated."

**Travis:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "But we feel pretty good—"

**Travis:** "In fact, I would eat it before you get home, just to be safe."

**Justin:** Okay, the Larry said—sorry, Howard Terry, "Our late—" Okay. "Big & Wicked Chicken Sandwich was consumer tested extensively and we're very optimistic about its success. There's a lot going on with that sandwich."  
[laughs] "A fresh-baked bun, hand-breaded chicken breast, five pickles."

**Travis:** Five!

**Justin:** "Plus, our signature Lotta Zing sauce." Is the number of pickles important? I'm not a pickle guy.

**Travis:** That's how you get—you get the circle, Justin. Four pickles is a square, that's not it.

**Griffin:** The zesty...

**Travis:** Five is the closest you get.

**Griffin:** You need the zesty pentagram.

**Travis:** I'm just saying that, I don't think you can say there's a lot going on with that sandwich then list off four elements.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That's a lot more—I mean—

**Travis:** Because that's—That's not a lot of elements, Mr. Larry.

**Justin:** [laughs] Yeah, it's like, "Ah, man. This sandwich is wild. It's got a bun and meat and two toppings. This thing's out of control!"

**Travis:** "It's a lot, man. It's hard to keep up with. In fact, some people might not get all the elements of it sometimes. It's a lot to keep up with."

**Griffin:** "Please give us a little bit of grace, [laughs] as our chefs worked to really nail the number of pickles. Oh, wait did you do—Did you put hot on that one?"

"No, I forgot to do hot on that one."

"Damn it! Send it out without—"

**Travis:** "Was that six pickles? We're bankrupt!" [laughs]

**Griffin:** “No!” [laughs] “Oh shit, I forgot flavor on that one! Shit! I knew there was something.”

**Justin:** Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you’ve enjoyed yourself and you had a beautiful time. We’re so happy to have you here with us continually. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

**Travis:** Hey, I wanna tell you guys about some stuff I’m really excited about.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Just in my life. Over at the merch store, we got new dice designed by maker Evewynn and created in partnership with Die Hard Dice. And they are based off of Adventure Zone: Amnesty. They are the Amnesty Flamebright dice. They are so beautiful.

**Griffin:** They are beautiful.

**Justin:** Really cool.

**Travis:** I also wanna tell you about—oh my god. So, we did an Adventure Zone live show in Washington D.C. with DM guest game mom Brennan Lee Mulligan. In which an element of it was cornhole. And we’ve got a Cornhole For Your Soul sticker, designed by Cait May.

**Justin:** This episode, it just went up as we’re recording this today.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** I’m so excited for it.

**Travis:** It’s so good.

**Griffin:** Me too.

**Justin:** If you haven't listened to it—Even if you don't listen to The Adventure Zone at all, it doesn't matter. Just please, go listen to the Dad Lands 2 episode. It is... That is I think—

**Griffin:** It's unhinged.

**Justin:** ... Would you guys say the wildest—

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** ... Audience response we've ever had to anything we've ever done. That—We—Everyone in the room, us included, losing their minds. You will not believe it.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** We also have based on—So, if—In case you didn't know, almost every Monday, the three of us are doing game streams, around about 11AM, over on the McElroy family YouTube.

**Justin:** Too true.

**Travis:** And we've done a couple different things. We just played... What's that game called?

**Justin:** Sea of Thieves.

**Travis:** Sea of Thieves. Just played Sea of Thieves. And there's—we got an enamel pin that says, "There's a Rudeness." Based on the fact that we maybe...

**Griffin:** We're bad at the game.

**Justin:** It's one of our great catch phrases, okay? Buy it or don't.

**Travis:** Yeah, and 10% of—10% of all merch proceeds this month go to Raices. It promotes justice by providing free and low-cost legal services to underserved immigrant children, families and refugees. Mcelroymerch.com.

**Griffin:** Hey, I just put up all the music from the first season of The Adventure Zone: Ethersea on my Bandcamp page. If you go to [bit.ly/etherseavolume1](https://bit.ly/etherseavolume1), you can find it there. It's 28 tracks, I think. And you name your own price. And all sales for that and all the albums from The Adventure Zone, through the month of January will be donated to Earth Justice. Which is an amazing climate non-profit.

Also, the Eleventh Hour graphic novel, the latest Adventure Zone graphic novel comes out February 21<sup>st</sup>. That's very, very soon. If you go to [theadventurezonecomic.com](https://theadventurezonecomic.com), you can preorder it. And you can submit your receipt for the preorder to [bit.ly/eleventhhourpreorder](https://bit.ly/eleventhhourpreorder) and you'll get a lenticular sticker featuring art from the book.

**Justin:** Awesome. Awesome. And now, the end of the show. Thank you. Thank you—

**Griffin:** Wow, I can't believe how long that went. I thought for sure one of us was gonna hop in there.

**Travis:** No. I was—I was actually challenging myself to hold it as long as I could. In a very tantric way.

**Griffin:** Okay. Well, I've been—

**Justin:** The people gotta listen—The people...

**Griffin:** The people do need to listen so we do need to say something to take us out, to take it away.

**Travis:** Okay. Kate Mulgrew was on Cowboys of Moo Mesa as Barb Wire Babs.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] My name is 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. That'll get us through a few months, just listing the cast of Moo Mesa.

**Griffin:** Yeah, for sure.

**Travis:** [chuckles]

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

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