

MBMBaM 645: Pawn Time Boys

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

Travis: I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy. Did you mean to say 'hewwo'?

Griffin: Yeah, I... I didn't like that.

Justin: I didn't mean to say 'hewwo', but it... it skipped out, it slipped out.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It was... It was bad for me. I'm Griffin McElroy and I want the audience to know it was bad for me when you said it.

Travis: It was bad for me too. I have a question for you guys.

Justin: Yeah?

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: I was listening to the newest track by the artist Pink.

Justin: Oh?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Titled, "I'm Never Gonna Not Dance Again." First of all, I just think a lot of Pink songs lately have been about people trying to stop her from having fun.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Who's doing this to Pink?

Justin: At this point in her career, who is going to Pink and saying, "Pink, you're having too much fun. You gotta stop."

Travis: You're living your life too out loud.

Griffin: I do it on the weekends. And I assume like there's other people who do it on—during like the working week. But if it's just me doing it to Pink on the weekends, then it seems like she had five days a week where she could be dancing, could be having fun.

Travis: But the weekend is when she's gonna get the most dancing done, Griffin?

Justin: Yeah, the funnest dancing is on the weekends. [chuckles]

Travis: If anything, you should be stopping her from doing the dancing in the week, when she needs to get her work done and like general—Weekdays are for like getting stuff done and working and stuff, right. But weekends, that's when she can cut loose and never not dance again.

Griffin: Right, but the only issue is that I'm also busy on the week days.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: And keeping Pink from having fun and dancing and having a good time with her friends, is a lot of work, guys. It's a lot, a lot, a lot of work. And it's nothing like gross. Like, the way I do it's not gross or like bad in any way.

Justin: Yeah, very respectful.

Griffin: It's a super respectful way of doing it. And we've sort of developed kind of a friendship, that Pink and I have.

Travis: Oh, yeah. Like Killing Eve.

Justin: Is it maybe like a mutual respect kind of deal or—

Griffin: It's a lot like Killing Eve. Except no sort of erotic tension, just—

Justin: He really can't stress this enough.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: How normal—[chuckles] how normal it is.

Griffin: So deeply normal, the relationship and friendship I have with Pink. It's just that on Saturday's and Sunday's, those are kind of... I call 'em our days.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And so... yeah. I can't speak for Monday through Friday, again. I think she's got plenty of opportunities. But the weekends are our days, me and Pink.

Travis: Griffin, I'm curious how this got started. Like, what's your motivation for stopping Pink from having fun and dancing with her friends?

Griffin: We were at the bank.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: We were at the Bank of America.

Travis: On a Saturday?

Griffin: We were at the Bank of America—No, this was a weekday. This was a week—

Justin: Wait, was it Bank of America?

Griffin: Yeah, Bank of America.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Me and Pink.

Justin: Which branch? [laughs] Which branch were you guys at?

Griffin: Which... Well, I was traveling. So, I was in...

Justin: Oh, okay.

Griffin: I was in... I was in la-la land.

Justin: Yeah, of course.

Travis: Yeah. Louisiana.

Griffin: And so, I was traveling and I needed to deposit a check. And we were both at the counter like doing our little deposit form at the same time. And she—when she signed the thing, I noticed even in her like signature for checks and business and stuff, still use an exclamation point as an I.

Travis: Mm-hmm...

Justin: Yeah, that seems unlikely—

Griffin: And so... And so, I was like... I was like, that's... I was like, "First of all, I love your music. The way that you've sort of modernized that rock and roll sound, it has really informed a lot of my tastes moving forward. But that's too much fun you're having there."

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: "With the exclamation point? This is a place of business." And then we got into a pretty heated argument.

Justin: Wow?

Griffin: Yeah, in front of the Bank of America. And then yeah, I forget sort of the rest of the stuff that happened. But now, I keep her from having fun on Saturday and Sunday nights.

Travis: So, is it a punishment thing? Or—[chuckles]

Griffin: No.

Travis: I thought... Okay. So, this is like a life coach kind of deal?

Griffin: That's... That's probably how I'd describe it. And I think she would too. Like we've talked about it before. We've had lots of talks.

Travis: In sessions.

Justin: What do you tell her about the week days? Like, what kind of guidance—

Griffin: I tell her those are her—I tell her those are her days. And they're my days. I feel like you guys are thinking about this a lot from the perspective of Pink.

Justin: What is she doing for—What accountability, I guess, I she brining to your life? Is this mutual?

Griffin: I mean, she's not partying on the weekends, that's all I need from—that's the... that's the extent of—[chuckles]

Justin: Why does it bother you so much? What is your problem with Pink—

Griffin: It doesn't bother me. Stop. Okay, again.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: You are... you are seeing this solely from the perspective of Pink being—

Justin: Did she wanna stop partying on the weekends?

Travis: No, I think Justin, you and I started this imagining that this was punitive.

Griffin: No! Guys...

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: But now, it sounds more and more like, I'd say protective.

Griffin: You're not fucking getting it, and you're my brothers. Okay? Stop... Stop yapping—

Travis: You're right.

Justin: Yeah, you're right. I'm on your side with this.

Griffin: Stop—You're not on my side?

Justin: I'm on your side with this.

Griffin: Stop yapping for a fucking second and listen—

Justin: I wanna be on your side with this!

Travis: I wanna—Griffin, I wanna support this.

Justin: It's not adding up.

Griffin: You guys here—

Justin: Start over.

Griffin: No. You guys here...

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "Oh, Griffin keeps Pink from having fun on the weekends? Poor Pink, how bad for Pink."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] I don't—

Griffin: But guys... guys... I'm also not—Do you think I wanna do this?

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Wait, is it protecting—

Griffin: I know there's—

Travis: Griffin, is it protecting us? Like, what would happen if Pink had fun?

Justin: [laughs] Yeah, who is those for?

Travis: Is there collateral damage I'm not aware of?

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I gotta turn my fuckin' mic down 'cause y'all got me screaming, 'cause I'm... I'm hopping mad.

Justin: Yeah. So, why are you doing—

Travis: Who are you protecting?

Justin: I mean, why—why are you doing it? [laughs]

Griffin: Is what we—

Justin: Was she partying too much and she asked you just to help her?

Griffin: Is what the three of us are doing right now work? Would you describe us—Would you describe us as hard workers?

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: What do you guys do on a—

Justin: What we're doing right now is work.

Griffin: Hey, hey, Justin and Travis, what do you guys do on the weekends?

Travis: I rest. I rest, because this is hard work and I need to rebuild my bones and stuff.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Usually, a lot of laundry and straightening up.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: And there's usually some kids' birthday parties we gotta take 'em to. That kind of deal.

Griffin: But some repose, perhaps? A moment of peace and relaxation and freedom—

Travis: I definitely don't dance.

Griffin: I... I don't get that.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I don't get to do that.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Oh, because of the burden you've undertaken?

Griffin: Undertaken is one way of putting it, yeah. It's a calling.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [laughs] Okay, bud.

Griffin: Have you ever felt called to do something, Travis?

Travis: Like by the lord?

Griffin: Call it what you wanna call it, man. I think of myself as more spiritual than religious, but...

Justin: What do you and Pink do instead of party?

Griffin: It's not some—Okay. So, that's a complicated question, right. 'Cause you're assuming that we—

Justin: [laughs] It didn't seem... Trav, I don't know where you're at with that?

Travis: It seemed actually pretty straight forward to me.

Justin: It seemed pretty straight forward. Like, what do you do instead of partying? [chuckles]

Travis: Instead.

Griffin: You're assuming—You're assuming we hang out.

Travis: Does she know you're there?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Oh, man.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Ah, I mean, it's virtual. It's Zoom, COVID...

Travis: Well, at this point, yeah. It has to be.

Justin: COVID changed everything.

Griffin: Yeah, it started in COVID. We both were like... That day at the Bank of America, they shut down the next day because of this foul disease.

Travis: Whoa.

Justin: That was like the last—

Griffin: That was the last day.

Justin: Yeah, we all have those memories.

Travis: That was the last day to do any banking.

Griffin: It's mostly a telecommunication thing. So, I'll FaceTime her and I'll be like, "Pink! What's up?" And then like, I'll make it so that she basically can't get off the phone with me.

Travis: Oh. Now, Griffin, was this to keep her in isolation to stay healthy during COVID? Was it for—

Griffin: No, it's not any kind of corrective...

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: It's not any kind of—I'm not addressing a problem, I'm not punishing her. It's not like that.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: I keep her from going—

Justin: But if you didn't do—Okay, let's say you don't do it this weekend, what happens? What's that look like?

Griffin: I guess... I guess she would get to go and have fun and dance.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Griffin: And then... and I could like rest with my family.

Justin: [laughs] Okay, that seems—

Travis: Okay, but to be fair—

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: Whether it's Griffin's intention or not, if that did happen, what would Pink write songs about? If she—

Griffin: What would—That's interesting.

Travis: If she's allowed to party and dance and have fun, and no one's stopping her, what would she write about? In a life without any restriction or strife?

Griffin: Yeah. And get this, one time I said, "Wouldn't it be fun if you kept me from going out and having fun on the weekend?" And then she kind of laughed and then she never brought it up again. So, I think she actually hated—she hated that idea a lot.

Travis: Mm-hmm... Now, do you go out and have fun on the weekend, Griffin? 'Cause it sounds like you're working the weekends?

Griffin: Can we just move on?

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Travis didn't understand what I was saying and I'm getting all flustered again.

Travis: Yeah, you got it. Hey, guys? Hey, let's change subjects, 'cause it's time once again for the sexist most ripped game show on four legs.

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: That's right, it's Abnimals!

Griffin: Fuck yeah.

Justin: Wooh!

Griffin: Who do we got this week, Travis?

Travis: Well, that's question number one, isn't it?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: According to Gawker, some say it was nothing more than a Ninja Turtles rip off. But Shredder had nothing on the *blank's* sexy nemesis, the Dark Queen.

Griffin: Oh, Battleloads.

Travis: There it is. For a bonus point, Griffin, can you tell me which pop culture icon the Dark Queen was styled after?

Griffin: Which pop culture icon the Dark Queen was styled after... God, I have to—

Justin: Rita Repulsa.

Travis: No.

Griffin: No—

Travis: She came later.

Justin: Cher.

Griffin: May I look at a picture of the Dark Queen?

Travis: Yes, you may. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] That's my new podcast, May I—

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: That's actually how Griffin Googles every image request. [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Travis: "May I look at a picture of Bruce Springsteen?"

Griffin: Elvira?

Justin: Whoa, these are—

Travis: Elvira indeed!

Griffin: [mouths explosion sound]

Justin: Oh, these are a lot more risqué than I kind of anticipated.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, I wasn't sure—Hey, Google... Hey, Net Nanny, I'm sorry. I didn't know. I thought it would be a little bit more chaste than this, Net Nanny.

Justin: I have been presented with both sides of the Evil Queen's personality.

Griffin: Oh, no.

Justin: This lady really runs the gambit.

Travis: Now—

Justin: [chuckles] I'm gonna close this tab real quick.

Griffin: Guys, my printer just printed out one page with a big, red X on it. I think Net Nanny gave me a strike. Man...

Travis: Oh, no. And keep it mind, this is made by Rare. Who also made Conker's Bad Fur Day. So, Rare—

Griffin: Sure, they know what they like.

Travis: Known for pushing that old envelope.

Griffin: Pushing the boundaries.

Travis: Okay, next question. The three Battletoads are named after what and for—

Griffin: This is the easiest game in the world.

Travis: And for an additional point, can you name all three?

Griffin: They are named—Do you know this, Justin?

Justin: One's Wart.

Travis: Nope.

Griffin: No.

Justin: One's dog... Dogis?

Travis: No.

Griffin: Wart, Dogis...

Justin: [chuckles] Wart, Dogis... and Bif Stuart.

Travis: Now, one of those is correct. [chuckles]

Griffin: May I... May I?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: I know one of them is Pimple.

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: One of them is... Zit?

Travis: Correct. Zitz, but we'll accept it.

Griffin: And... Not Blemish.

Travis: [chuckles] No.

Justin: I really thought—I really thought—

Griffin: I thought Wart of one of `em.

Travis: Isn't that weird that it's not—Yeah.

Griffin: Is it Rash?

Travis: It is rash! They're all named after skin conditions. Zitz, the leader of the toads, he's a tactical genius and an economical fighter.

Griffin: Yeah, they are.

Travis: Preferring fighting methods that allow him to conserve his strength. Pimple, the muscle of the toads, and prefers to fight instead of talk. And Rash is the cool cat of the toads.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: He's an extrovert and a showoff, and loves to crack puns.

Griffin: Do you think Battletoads started as a sort of garage project of somebody who wanted make another good Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles sort of arcade fighter...

Travis: Uh-huh?

Griffin: But what if they were like nude? Is that—

Travis: 100%.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Travis: Well, the turtles are nude, Griffin. They wear belts and bandanas.

Justin: The turtles are nude.

Travis: But otherwise, they—

Griffin: Well, frogs are new turtles, if you think... for a long time about it.

Travis: Okay. I'd rather not, actually. So, this one, I mostly just wanna include to list off his body of work. But can you name the composer of the music for Battletoads?

Griffin: Oh, shit.

Travis: This... This man's career is in-fucking-credible.

Justin: There's only... Okay, okay... There's only a few that it could be. I'm gonna guess Tommy Tallarico.

Travis: Griffin, do you have a guess? If you don't get it, I'll list off some of the other credits and see if you guys can get it then.

Griffin: Is it Bear McCreary?

Travis: No.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Here's some of the credits. This is just like a few—

Justin: Those are the two that I know. It's gotta be one of those two for me to know it.

Griffin: Those are the only two. [giggles]

Travis: Okay, here's just a few of this man's credits. And they range from 1987, Wizards & Warriors, Anticipation, Marble Madness—

Griffin: Anticipation had the best music!

Justin: [mouths tune from Anticipation]

Travis: Yes, right? Marble Madness, Donkey Kong Country, and all the subsequent Donkey Kong Games, Super Smash Brothers Melee—

Griffin: Oh! Is it David Wise?

Travis: It's David Wise! All the way up to Ratchet & Clank: Rift Apart.

Griffin: Holy shit!

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: The guy's a machine.

Griffin: Crushing it.

Travis: Like, been working consistently since 1987. [chuckles] And has done like—

Griffin: God damn it. Justin, can you load up on your soundboard that song you were just doodling from the NES trivia game Anticipation, please?

Justin: Okay. Yeah, yeah, yeah, I can just—

Griffin: This may be the freshest—This is not a videogames podcast. But Travis has made it so for the next few moments. 'Cause this is—

Travis: Anticipation was actually my favorite NES game. [chuckles] It was just like—

Griffin: it was basically... what... like, win, lose or draw—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Or what's it called, the... the pictogram—

Travis: Pictionary.

Griffin: Pictionary. But an NES game. And the music was... bopping.

Justin: Okay, you ready?

Travis: Yeah.

[Anticipation NES sound clip plays]

Griffin: Oh my god, that little rest at the end? That little tease? God damn.

Travis: So good. So good. Okay, couple more. The failed TV pilot of Battletoads shares two voice actors, Ian James Corlett and Scott McNeil, with the ocean dub of which hugely popular anime series?

Griffin: Ocean dub?

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: I'm not sure what that means.

Travis: Oh. Can you guess a hugely popular anime series?

Griffin: Dragon Ball Z?

Travis: There it is.

Justin: My Hero Academia.

Travis: It was Dragon Ball Z. Now, for one bonus point each—

Griffin: Yes?

Justin: The had a new—At lunch—I went to BoxLunch, they had a My Hero Academia slow cooker. [chuckles]

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: Fuck yeah, cool! [laughs]

Travis: Cool!

Justin: Cool, sure.

Travis: For a bonus point each, can you tell me what was the main character that each played?

Griffin: No.

Travis: Okay. So, Ian James Corlett played Goku and Picolo was Scott McNeil. So—

Griffin: Oh, I thought you were still—I thought you wanted me to guess which of the three Battletoads each of them—

Travis: No, no, no.

Griffin: Oh, okay. Fine.

Travis: So, huge things. Okay. According to the battle—

Griffin: Welcome to Travis' anime... anime countdown.

Travis: Wasn't—But wasn't that—like, the—

Griffin: It's fascinating.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: I'm interested. Yes.

Travis: According to the Battletoads game, the three toads were originally human, but were turned into toads while performing what job?

Justin: Jerking off.

Travis: Now, Justin, that's a job?

Justin: Fluffer.

Griffin: Justin's answer is right.

Justin: They're a fluffer. They're fluffers. [chuckles] For pornography.

Travis: Now, they might have been. But that was not... that was germane to the game.

Justin: They were surfers.

Travis: Griffin, what do you think?

Griffin: They were I think skaters.

Travis: They were video game technicians and roommates. The trio tested—

Griffin: I like—

Travis: Okay, check this out.

Griffin: But wait, were they—But wait, no, no, no, wait.

Travis: Yes, yes?

Griffin: Were they big and strong before they got—

Travis: No, no.

Griffin: Fuck that. Earn it!

Travis: The trio tested the original Battletoads game, by playing the game as the toads in a sort of virtual reality simulation.

Justin: Wait a minute, hold the fucking phone.

Travis: Yeah, right?

Griffin: Cool. Cool!

Justin: Hold the fuckin' phone!

Travis: Yes.

Justin: They were... how could they play the Battletoads if they were the Battletoads?

Griffin: If they hadn't made it yet.

Travis: Yes, Justin. In the game, they were playing the game.

Griffin: Playing the Battletoads game and being the Battletoads. Guys!

Travis: And it made them Battletoads. They became suspicious of both their bosses and chief game programmer, Silas Volkmire, and decide to investigate the office at night. Upon finding the videogame unit turned on, they tested it to see if it had been tampered with. This was a trap!

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: And they were transported to another plant, permanently transformed into the Battletoads.

Griffin: That was the first—

Justin: But what were they playing? If they—

Travis: They were playing Battletoads!

Justin: They could—

Griffin: But what? They couldn't be.

Justin: Because they were the Battletoads.

Travis: I know...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: That sucks.

Travis: It's all Battletoads. The universe only exists because the Battletoads cycle continues.

Griffin: Yeah. It's beautiful.

Travis: Now, one last one. Beginning in 2000—

Griffin: Travis, you—That's like the third—You're like Columbo right now! That's your third last one.

Travis: This is the last one, for real.

Justin: [spoofs Columbo] "One more thing about the Battletoads."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [spoofs Columbo] "One more!"

Travis: [spoofs Columbo] "One more Battletoads question. Ma'am, ma'am, if I could ask you one more thing about the Battletoads."

Griffin: [spoofs Columbo] "Ms. Dark Queen, one more thing."

Travis: [spoofs Columbo] "One more thing." Beginning in 2011, a massive prank call onslaught was waged, centering around Battletoads and what popular reality TV show?

Griffin: GameStop—What? Oh, fuckin'... Fuckin' Pawn Boys... Pawn Time Boys.

Travis: [chuckles] I'll give it to you, it's Pawn Stars.

Griffin: Pawn Time Boys.

Travis: Yeah, it was begun on 4chan and callers would repeatedly ask the employees of Pawn Stars, Gold & Silver Pawn, if they sold Battletoads. Which lead to Rick Harrison, who is the star of Pawn Stars and owner of the store, to repeatedly swear and yell at customers. This was uploaded to YouTube. And it was so popular that Rare paid tribute to them by having an achievement named, "Do you have Battletoads?" in their 2015 game compilation Rare replay.

Griffin: All right, fun.

Justin: And I guess we can all agree, 4chan is good.

Griffin: Yeah, thanks Trav.

Travis: [chuckles] According to Rare, a big thumbs up from Rare.

Justin: [chuckles] Okay, can we—can we help someone?

Griffin: Yes, please. Anything. Anything.

Justin: Just for a change. Just for a change of pace. "I run a raccoon spotting Instagram at my university."

Travis: Mm-hmm?

Justin: "I post pictures of raccoons around campus that I saw or that were submitted to me. The Instagram name—"

Travis: "How do I explain this to my family?" [chuckles]

Justin: "The Instagram name of the format, which is 'university name + raccoons', was taken when I started. So, I used the internet term 'forbidden cats' instead. The problem is, I'm not getting many submissions or followers and I'm starting to think it because everyone sends their raccoon pictures to the more aptly named account instead of mine, because of the SEO. Brothers, how can I make my raccoon Instagram account first in my fellow students' minds, preferably without changing the name?" That's from Pro [Synoid??] Chronicler in Canada. Things are really different to the north, it seems.

Travis: It makes me really happy that this is such an established past time that there is an established format for how to name your Instagram account that documents Raccoons sightings on the college campus.

Griffin: I mean, that's not—I mean, that's not some sort of tradition established by some secret society. That's just basic search engine optimization.

Travis: I know, but I love it.

Griffin: It's good.

Travis: That they were like, "You know, the basic format of university name and raccoon."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I don't know if Marshall Raccoons is taken, but because I don't know the name of this university, I'm gonna use it as a stand-in for our discussion.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: What do you all think, what is Marshall Raccoons? Like, if Marshall Raccoons is—

Travis: Sighting of raccoons around campus.

Justin: Yeah, but does that mean somebody else is already doing it? Do you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Like, are you the second—

Griffin: The second person to.

Travis: Well, that's what they said.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: They said they think that people are sending it to the more popular version, and they're wondering how this baby can beat the old man.

Justin: Okay, but that's not what they said. What they said was that the name was taken. Like the name—

Travis: Yeah, but then they say that the reason that they think they're not getting as many submissions is 'cause they think those submissions are going to the pre-established university name raccoon joint.

Justin: Okay, okay.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: There—There is a lot of great options, then, if you wanna—if you wanna—I can think of 15 different great ways.

Griffin: Go ahead.

Travis: Go, please?

Justin: [chuckles] You could make your—

Travis: Don't let us interrupt, Justin.

Griffin: Please—

Travis: List off all 15. We'll take a break, I'll drink coffee—

Griffin: Rattle 'em, baby.

Justin: Not 15, but like... you know. You know, a lot.

Griffin: 9? 9 or 10.

Travis: Okay, go ahead. Just as many as you can do.

Justin: Okay. Capture all the raccoons.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: For yourself.

Griffin: Don't post pictures—No longer post pictures—

Justin: No, you—the only—you cornered the market, there's no other raccoons on campus. You have all the raccoons.

Griffin: Oh, yeah. If they—If someone sees a picture that has like 18 raccoons in it, they'll be like, "Whoa, this is clearly the superior nature photographer."

Justin: CGI in Paul Rudd being kind to the Raccoons.

Travis: Oh, yeah, that's a get.

Justin: Use Photoshop to put Paul Rudd being kind to the Raccoons, into the photos.

Griffin: You almost said—

Travis: Now, that's gonna be tough, because the only documentation we have of Paul Ruddy interacting with raccoons right now is him being extremely rude to them.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Right.

Travis: So, you'll have to do some really specific—yeah.

Justin: That's why it's like so—That's why it's such a—so surprising.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And not mean. But just kind of cold shoulders, stand-offish.

Griffin: No, but like he—Like, he flipped one off on the set of Wet Hot American Summer.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And it's like, why are you doing—like, no one else is doing—Look around, no one else is flipping off these raccoons, Paul.

Travis: You could pay Peter Parker to try to get some photographs of raccoons?

Griffin: That's good.

Justin: I really appreciate all the oxygen you guys are giving me on this. I worried it would be a little bit more stressful, but you guys are really helping.

Travis: No, but then I watched your face, Justin, and I was like, "He needs this."

Justin: My third one—

Griffin: It was panic.

Justin: My third one—My third one is that you dress one of the raccoons like Cake Boss.

Travis: Ooh! Yeah.

Griffin: Oh, cool.

Justin: And then—But you don't—But you just find it like, "Whoa, isn't life weird?" You know what I mean? Like, "Whoa?"

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, that could go either way, though. 'Cause you could also just dress a raccoon like Cake Boss and let the other person take the picture of it. And then all the comments will be like, "What the... This... I don't want this? Like, this account used to be about sort of nature preservation. This is... I'm uncomfortable with this."

Justin: Right, yes. Yes. And those are the ways that I can think—I mean—

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Do you rate—Do you rate the raccoons? 'Cause that's very popular with dogs. That account did great.

Justin: Oh!

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Maybe yours is—

Justin: Rating, that's engagement.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, yours is the judgier raccoon account.

Justin: You could say wrong things about raccoons on there.

Travis: Ooh?

Griffin: Oh, that's gonna get a lot of engagement

Justin: Like, incorrect things. Because that's... miss—you know, corrections are still engagement. That is our mantra over at McElroy Family social media.

Griffin: Mm-hmm.

Justin: Corrections are still engagement.

Travis: Here's—Ooh! Almost unassailable, make up things about raccoon personalities. Right? You don't need to know—

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: ... Stone cold facts. But you can say like, "And, you know, if you look at a raccoon the wrong way, it can lead to a raccoon being very stand-offish."

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: "And like badmouthing you on like neighborhood watch apps."

Griffin: Or even better, more direct and to the point, when you post a picture of a raccoon, you can be like, "Look out, this raccoon is a—this raccoon is a pervert. It's a perverted raccoon."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh! I like that.

Griffin: "Do not give this one any old, stale hot dog buns. This guy sucks."

Travis: What about you evolve the raccoons tragic back stories? Like they're a Marvel super hero or a DC super hero, right. And it's like, "This raccoon was walking down Crime Alley with its parents."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And people will be like, "Wait, this is Batman?" And like, "Yeah, exactly. That raccoon? Batman."

Justin: Yeah, this one's also—

Griffin: That is a good idea.

Justin: This is the raccoon Batman. You could list the food that you gave each raccoon. But don't be honest about it. Just say like, "I threw 'em an open bag of Funyuns."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: 'Cause no matter what you feed that raccoon, I guarantee there's gonna be 100 people in the comments that are like, "That's not the right thing to feed a raccoon."

Travis: "Don't do that."

Griffin: "No."

Justin: "Don't do that."

Griffin: It might be one of those situations where you're not supposed to feed the raccoon, because then they forget how to feed themselves. And then they die like a few hours after you leave.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "But gosh dang it, I can't help it. He looks like a little... a little bandit. Frickin'—"

Travis: I feel like a raccoon who lives on a college campus has figured out how to feed themselves. And it's why being a cute little bandit that gets food from college students—

Justin: Yeah, sneaky little raccoon everybody loves.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, that raccoon ain't hunting? [laughs] Like, no, no, no, no. He's eating all the stuff that all the stone people are dropping.

Justin: Raccoons are important—

Griffin: Good.

Justin: ... For me, because I feel like they're—

Travis: 'Cause of Mario and [??]?

Justin: They're the dividing line between animals that I'm gonna get stressed about seeing in the wild.

Griffin: Oh, sure.

Justin: Smaller than—You know what I mean?

Griffin: Absolutely.

Justin: Smaller than a raccoon, we're okay. Bigger than a raccoon, not loving it.

Griffin: Not crazy about it.

Justin: Seeing a raccoon? Still kind of wild.

Griffin: Yes—

Justin: Seeing a raccoon just running around. It's like, "Whoa, is anybody else seeing this?"

Griffin: Y'all, one ran down my street a few nights ago.

Justin: Impossible. Impossible.

Griffin: And it's like, guys, it's a—

Justin: Did you say a few minutes or a few months?

Griffin: A few nights ago. And I was—

Justin: A few nights, okay.

Griffin: I was like, “Joe Biden lives here?” Like, there can’t just be raccoons and coyotes and... vultures. Like, the president lives here? So, if we can’t keep them out of—Like, we have some beautiful parks here in D.C., it’s in my blood. But like, the president and vice president live in this city? It’s wild to me that a raccoon does too.

Travis: My problem with raccoons is pretty anecdotal. But my problem is much that the most I’ve ever been disrespected by an animal was by a raccoon.

Griffin: I remember this.

Travis: ‘Cause the raccoon started going through—while I was camping, it tried to go through my trash. I made myself big, shook my flashlight around, did like an Oogie Boogie kind of movement. The raccoon just like looked at me.

Griffin: Yeah?

Travis: Just diagnosed that I was a total beta, and went right back to what he was doing.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. He flashed you his giant balls.

Travis: [laughs] Yeah, yeah.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Like in a Japanese painting.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Just huge ones.

Travis: Yeah, “You’re nothing to me.”

Griffin: “Get back in your—Get back in your fucking tent!”

Justin: [mouths poop sound]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] Oh, man... Oh, raccoons...

Travis: You're nature's cats.

Justin: The first time I saw a raccoon, I saw it skitter across a street. And then it jumped into the gutter. And I was like, "What the fuck are you doing now?"

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "What is your plan after this?"

Travis: "We're trying something new!" [chuckles]

Justin: "Things don't come back out of there, man? Stop it, don't go down there? You do not have a way out."

Travis: "We're subterranean now, baby. We've been in trees too long!"

Justin: [chuckles] "You just changed—You don't even know, you changed your changed your social strata. You're now like a different—This is a different world of raccoons."

Griffin: Next week on Abnimals, it's Zany Sewer Raccoons. Zany Jacked Teenage Sewer Raccoons.

Travis: "All right, guys. Now we just need to figure out how to get in the sky, and we've got 'em all!" [chuckles]

Griffin: "We've got all the trash there is, baby."

Justin: We've got it all. [laughs]

Travis: “Maybe if we like whip our tail around real quick, we can fly—Whoa, it’s working!”

Griffin: “Whoa!” [chuckles]

Justin: Travis, that’s Tanuki.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: Wow. Wow. Wow.

Travis: I’m... I’m thoroughly embarrassed. Let’s go to the Money Zone.

[theme song plays]

Justin: I’m not going to the post office today.

Travis: You hear that, god?

Justin: And I thought I was gonna have to—

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: In defiance of Joseph Gordon Biden, and all of his friends at the post office, I’m not going today.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But they’re not losing my business, no. They’re just losing an opportunity to... to gawk at this beautiful face. Because I’m gonna use stamps.com.

Griffin: Mm-hmm!

Justin: In 25 years, stamps.com has been selling you stamps at a rate that is just gonna make you feel great. And saving you some time, so you don’t have to drive all the way to the post office and back. It’s great for personal use, but it’s also great for business. Over one million businesses have used

stamps.com. You just print the postage right from your home or your office, and it's ready to go in minutes.

If you sell stuff online, it's a super convenient way of doing it. You can set your business up for success when you get started with stamps.com today. Sign up with promo code My Brother for a special offer that includes a four-week trial plus free postage, and a digital scale, for free.

Griffin: Ah. Yeah, man.

Travis: Mm-hmm. Like Digimon.

Justin: No long-term commitments—[chuckles]

Griffin: It's real digital techno-logy?

Justin: This part's mandatory, shut up. Just go to stamps.com, click the microphone at the top of the page, and enter code My Brother.

Griffin: You fucked it up. Don't get mad at us. You're the one who made the mistake?

Travis: Do you need to learn how to speak English, like my brother?
[chuckles]

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Then good news, it's Babbel. Babbel, it's there for you. Listen, no jokes here. Fuck jokes. That's actually—

Griffin: I'm so tired. I'm so tired. [chuckles] Babbel, fuck jokes.

Travis: [chuckles] Fuck jokes.

Griffin: I'm so tired of doing jokes. [chuckles]

Travis: We're not doing jokes any more. 'Cause Babbel... Well, it's fun, but it's serious. Because it's seriously gonna help you. Whether you're trying to...

you're going for new travel experiences, new jobs, you're just picking up new skills, whatever it is, Babbel's gonna help you learn a new language in 2023. That's a Travis McElroy guarantee, my friends.

Because they have fun and easy bite sized language lessons to feel confident, no matter where the new year takes you. And you only need 10 minutes to complete one of these lessons. So, it's not like you gonna take a whole day or whatever. You're not gonna be sitting at a computer for hours and hours and hours. It's 10 minutes.

And so, you can have real life conversations in a new language in as little as three weeks. And in addition to those lessons, you can access podcasts, games, videos, stories, even live classes. And it comes with a 20 day money back guarantee. So, right now, get up to 55% off your subscription when you go to babel.com/mybrother. That's babel.com/mybrother for up to 55% off your subscription. Babbel, language for life!

[Judge John Hodgman theme music plays]

John: They can be anywhere. At your office, in your car, and thy are wrong.

Guest 1: My mom says that the grey house didn't exist. But she's wrong.

Guest 2: He just does it wrong.

John: Someone in your life is wrong about something. Something small, something weird, something vitally important. Only one person has the courage to tell them just how wrong they are. 'You know what you did was wrong. But your daughter is liar who eats garbage.'

Guest 1: [laughs]

Guest 2: [laughs]

John: They call me Judge John Hodgman. Listen to me on the Judge John Hodgman podcast.

Jesse: If someone in your life is doing you wrong, don't just take it. Take it to court. Submit your case at mamximumfun.org/jjho.

[Judge John Hodgman theme music concludes]

[Secretly Incredibly Fascinating theme music plays]

Alex: Hi, I'm Alex Schmidt.

Katie: And I'm Katie Golden.

Alex: And we make Secretly Incredibly Fascinating. A podcast about why seemingly ordinary stuff is actually the title of the podcast.

Katie: Using tons of research, we take joyful look at history, and science and stories—

Alex: And jokes.

Katie: About the ordinary stuff in your life. Because that's what makes those things amazing.

Alex: Also jokes.

Katie: So, get excited about paper clips.

Alex: Get thrilled about pigeons.

Katie: Get all psyched up and running around the room about the imperial system of weights and measurements!

Alex: For real, there's whole episodes about that stuff. Hear them any time and hear new episodes Mondays at maximumfun.org.

[Secretly Incredibly Fascinating theme music concludes]

Justin: How about another question?

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: I would love to.

Travis: Do it.

Justin: “My dad has been cutting hair professionally for decades. And I don't get to see him that often anymore. So, when I need a haircut, I'll travel down to let him cut and get in some quality time. This all sounds great on paper, but he almost always takes off too much hair and it looks worse than when I cut it myself.”

Griffin: Oh no...

Justin: Oh boy...

Travis: Oh boy...

Justin: “How do I break up with my barber when he is also my dad without making it awkward?” That's from Holding Onto My Hair.

Griffin: You can't.

Travis: [chuckles] Next question!

Griffin: Can we just—Let's—I mean, you can—

Justin: You can't, this one's too hard.

Griffin: You gotta—

Justin: It's too hard.

Griffin: No, it's not hard. It's not hard. There's no like dilemma here. You're gonna just have bad hair. And that's—'cause you have two options. Bad hair, sad dad. That's not that difficult for me. I think you go bad hair all day.

Travis: Is there a way to have sad hair?

Griffin: No.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Or bad dad, I don't want any of it.

Justin: I just... I think maybe on the show, it would be helpful for us to start talking and thinking and acting more on the concept of acceptance.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Rather than change. This is something that I've tried ot do work on. You can make things worse in your brain if you're... if you're trying to hard to fix it or change it. But if you just accept, "Sometimes my hair looks bad, but my dad is usually a pretty happy guy and we have a good relationship."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And hey, is it possible... your dad has been cutting hair for decades, maybe it does look good and you have no idea. Like you—

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: It's like if your dad was a doctor and removed your spleen, you wouldn't be like, "I don't think he removed my spleen the right way." He probably knows better than you.

Griffin: I mean... Travis, you can say that, but have you ever looked at pictures of olden days guy hair? And they're like trying to pull it off, but it is pretty wild be anyone standards. The things they used to do with bangs back in the... back in the '60s and '70s, is war crimes.

Travis: This is true.

Griffin: And that's being done to a human being today. I don't like that.

Travis: Is there—

Griffin: But you—But you—But—And I know you don't either, but you gotta just sort of grin and bear it. 'Cause that's your—that's your dad. What are you gonna do? Say, "Please change?"

Travis: Is there a way to say, "I wanna try something a little different this time. Leave it about a half inch longer."

Griffin: Okay? That's... That's about the worse thing I think you can say.

Travis: Oh, okay?

Griffin: The way you've been—'Cause you're telling him, "The way that you've been doing it is wrong," When you say that.

Travis: Could you preface it with a lot of like, "And I know this is wild, I know that this is really out there and there's a good chance it looks like absolute dog shit, dad. I know, this could look like vomit in the sun that's been there for three days. But let's leave it like a quarter to a half inch longer?" [chuckles]

Griffin: Can you just—Every time he goes to take a snip...

Travis: Duck a little bit. [chuckles]

Griffin: Lean forward. Just lean forward a half inch.

Justin: Just scoot. [chuckles] Just, "Please try and sit still."
"Yeah, no problem." [mouths silly motion sound]

Travis: [mouths silly motion sound] "What was that? Oh, sorry. Whoa!"
[laughs]

Griffin: Whoa! [chuckles]

Justin: What is you brought a Flowbee with you? And you're like, "Let's just try it."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Just for novelty's sake. I wanna do a TikTok. I made my barber dad..." Well, okay...

Griffin: Hold on.

Travis: Now, hold on.

Justin: A TikTok is a good idea. 'Cause if you're like, [chuckles] "I made my barber dad cry 'cause I don't like my haircuts."

Griffin: Mm-hmm?

Justin: Or like, "Get ready with me to fire my barber dad."

Travis: Yeah, there you go. That's a good one.

Justin: Then if it's too painful, you can be like, "Prank."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "It's for TikTok, it was a prank."

Travis: "4chan set it up for me."

Justin: "I love my hair. 4chan made me—" [laughs] "4chan made me fire you. But it was just a prank, I love my haircuts."

Travis: Now, this is gonna take a little bit of some pre-planning. But what if you went in there, he finishes the haircut and then you lift off the helmet you've wearing that your hair was poking out of. And that helmet lifted up the top of your head by about half an inch. Right, so now it's a half an inch longer and he never knew. 'Cause you had a perfectly top of your head shaped helmet on. What do you guys think? "Hi, I'm Travis McElroy, Sharks."

And I'm looking for investors in head helmets. They look like heads but they're helmets. What do you think, Sharks?"

Griffin: Can we have a brief moment of silence and contemplation? 'Cause this is reminding me a lot about Sad Papaw who made a dozen burgers for his six grandkids, but I'm the only one that showed up. Do you remember him?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Do you remember about him, Justin? A Sad Papaw who made 12 burgers for his 6 grandkids, but I'm the only one that showed up?

Travis: And there's a picture of him with the burgers?

Griffin: And there's a picture of him looking down at his burger and he looks really, really sad. And so, I googled that in the middle of all the Flowbee conversation. And this guy's living the high life right now. He is—There is so many pictures of him eating burgers, he's got a shirt that I must own that says, "I ate a burger with Sad Papaw."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: And there's a picture of him looking sad, holding a burger on it.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And I can't imagine how much he's raking in from these shirts. Can you imagine... Can you imagine getting a sad—a sad grandpa that you didn't get to spend—

Justin: [laughs] And the picture—The picture is—[chuckles] The picture that he's referencing is taken in front of his six dirtbag grandkids that couldn't be bothered to show up.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: The kids that the internet made villains.

Griffin: Wow. Yeah, you can... I mean, I guess all that is to say, if you do make a TikTok of you slamming your dad's haircut, business is going to fucking boom.

Travis: You got this.

Griffin: And I realize that's a sinister idea to put out into the ether. But I mean... The ends justify the means on this one, I think.

Travis: Yeah, money is way better than having a happy dad. I agree, Griffin!

Justin: Sadpapaw.com is down. I regret to inform you all. Sad Papaw is down.

Travis: But not available? Is that what you were checking?

Justin: Oh, wait a minute, no. He spelled it P-A-P-A-W.com, that's chaotic.

Travis: Papaw!

Justin: That's chaotic. Papaw!

Griffin: That's very chaotic. Justin, you understand that when we're discussing a gentleman in his advanced years and you say a sentence like, "Sad Papaw is down."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] My—My—

Travis: "I repeat, I repeat, Sad Papaw is down. Sad Papaw is down."
[chuckles]

Griffin: "Does anyone have eyes on Backpack? Sad Papaw is down!"

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: Somebody snagged his... Somebody snagged that URL out from under him. And I was about to clown on `em, but it's a meal delivery service. On the off chance the ever wanna advertise, I'm gonna keep my opinions to myself.

Travis: That's a good idea.

Justin: They're from Australia but you can't be too careful in this economy.

Griffin: Oh my god...

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: Hm?

Justin: [continues riffing and makes silly fart sound]

Griffin: Mm-hmm!

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

Griffin: Squad.

Travis: Squad!

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

Travis: Squad!

Griffin: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad, it's a podcast within a podcast, profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. And I have a few quick stories to share with you all. Number one—

Travis: Cool. Yeah, great.

Justin: Baskin-Robbins has just announced a gender reveal cake.

Griffin: Good!

Travis: Ah!

Justin: This year—This year—

Griffin: Yeah, 2023, good! Yeah!

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Yes, it's actually—

Justin: 2023!

Griffin: It's coming back around, man.

Justin: They caught the vibe.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Not our—Not our vibe, let's be clear.

Griffin: Not this vibe.

Justin: Not this vibe.

Griffin: No, no, no.

Justin: They're surfing a whole other vibe.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's weird.

Griffin: I think they've more gotten sort of stuck in the riptide of this one, and have gotten sort of pulled under, deep, deep, deep down into the ocean's belly.

Justin: Pizza Hat and Airrack create world's largest pizza!

Travis: How big?

Justin: Airrack. Do you guys know Airrack?

Travis: It's Iraq, Justin.

Griffin: You're saying the country so wrong, it's...

Justin: No. [chuckles] Airrack is a popular content creator and YouTube star.

Griffin: Cool?

Justin: And Pizza Hut teamed up to break the Guinness World Record Title for the world's largest pizza.

Travis: Can I guess?

Justin: On January 18th—

Travis: Can I guess the diameter?

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: Fine, you wait 'til I get there and I'll let you guess it all day long.

Travis: I just wanna see if I nail it. Okay.

Justin: Until you hit it exactly.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: It's to celebrate the return of Pizza Hut's iconic fan favorite pizza, the Big New Yorker, as well as Airtack hitting 10 million subscribers.

Griffin: Okay, 10 million feet long.

Justin: "Following its creation, the pizza for the world's largest pizza was donated to several charities in Los Angeles." Considering they made it on the ground, I'm sure they were thrilled.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: How big is this fucking pizza, Justin? It sucks you haven't told us yet.

Justin: Well, can I tell you first one brief side bar is that last week Pizza Hut announced the Big New Yorker—

Griffin: Right.

Justin: A New York style pizza from the 1990s will be returning to menus.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: The Big New Yorker is inspired by the spirit of New York.

Griffin: You talked about this last week.

Justin: Yeah, but I just wanted to remind everybody that it's got oregano seasoning on top. Just like you would get at an authentic New York pizzeria.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Now, the world's largest pizza, which featured a Big New Yorker recipe, had a surface area—

Travis: That's a lot of oregano!

Justin: Had a surface area of—

Travis: Sorry, I just—I had to get my catch phrase in where I could.

Griffin: Griffin: That was really good, Trav.

Justin: Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: That one hit good.

Justin: It had a surface area of nearly... what? How many square feet?

Travis: 10 million.

Griffin: No, I'm gonna—

Justin: Do you know how stupid—

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Do you know—Do you know how preposterously stupid—

Griffin: [laughs] No, Justin, it was... it was—it was 10 million feet long. But just a hair's width. Just a—Just—

Travis: [chuckles] I actually had to look it up, 'cause you said 10 million. And I was like, "Maybe it is 10 million inches wide?" But that's... almost 158 miles.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Travis: [laughs] And I was like, I don't...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Now, that was just for my—Like, you said—You did say inches, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: So, you're thinking that maybe it was 2,000 square feet long.
[chuckles]

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: It's a big pizza.

Travis: Yeah, Justin! It's the world's biggest pizza!

Griffin: I'm gonna say 40 feet.

Justin: Okay, you're going to say 40 feet.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Travis, what do you think?

Travis: And we're talking about square footage of the world's biggest pizza?

Griffin: Oh, wait. Square footage? I don't know how to do square footage... I think it was 40 feet wide.

Justin: I need square footage?

Griffin: God—

Justin: It's not anything wide, it's a round pizza!

Travis: I'm gonna say 500 square feet.

Griffin: Well, I gotta do fuckin' 40×3.14 , or whatever.

Justin: [laughs] Just say a number?

Griffin: 125 square feet.

Justin: 125 square feet. What do you say, Travis?

Travis: I say 500 square feet.

Justin: Well, you're both dumb. 'Cause it was 14,000 square feet. 14,000 square feet. I'm gonna show you... I have an image here, if you'd like to see.

Griffin: I can't wait.

Justin: I have a picture of... There we go. There's Airrack with the world's largest pizza.

Griffin: He looks so happy! I wish I could get that happy still.

Justin: If he—He looks super happy. And I just wanna say, I know nothing about this gentleman. So, if he's like...

Griffin: If he's sucks or—

Justin: Bad or really good.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Either way is bad I think. But you know, if he's like really popular or everybody doesn't like, I don't have any idea. So... sorry.

Griffin: Do you—Do you think it's... it's gotta be thin crust, right? Just sort of economy of scale. I don't think they could afford to do a thick—

Justin: Yeah, I mean, it looks like a... I think the Big New Yorker is a thin crust pizza. So, that's the recipe, for sure. It's got 13,653 pounds of dough.

Griffin: Good.

Travis: How'd they bake it?

Griffin: Sun.

Justin: 630,000 regular and cupped pepperoni. Well, okay. Now, here's what I wanted to get to you guys about. The pizza was fully assembled, topped, and then baked in pieces, on sight at the Los Angeles convention center. So—

Griffin: Nope!

Justin: No, right?

Griffin: No!

Travis: No. No.

Griffin: Okay, if that's the case, guess what guys, I've eaten the world's biggest pizza, in pieces, throughout the course of my 35 years. I've—I'm happy to announce, I've eaten the world's biggest pizza, in many, many pieces.

Travis: You could say, "We have made the world's biggest collection of several pizzas."

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: But if they're baked individually, that is not one big pizza?

Justin: The most number of touching pizzas that are all touching each other. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. [chuckles]

Travis: That is not one big pizza.

Justin: Thanks to my—“Thanks to my community, 2022 was a big year for our channel. And I promised them that we’d break this record if they helped me get 10 million subscribers on YouTube. So, here we are, delivering on that promise.” Says Eric Decker, also known as Airrack. “To make it happen, we had to team up with the most iconic and my favorite pizza brand, to show that no one out pizzas the Hut.”

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Which, to be fair to him—

Griffin: He is right, yeah.

Justin: ... Was indeed content that he created. That series of words. Pizza Hut already holds the Guinness World Record title for the highest altitude pizza delivery on land. The pizza was delivered to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, in 2016, at an altitude of 19,341 feet.

Travis: Now, I don’t wanna quibble, but I do. When you say delivered, was there someone up there who ordered the pizza first and then waited for it to come? Or are you saying someone carried the pizza up the mountain and then sat it down on top and left it there? [chuckles] Because that is not delivered, that is left. That is just the highest altitude pizza left on Earth.

Justin: Left. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] Abandoned.

Justin: Left somewhere. I would also say—they do clarify on land. Which means that it’s possible there’s a highest altitude pizza delivery, in the ocean, which it seems unlikely, considering what that means, altitude-wise. And then there’s another category, if I’m understanding this correctly, for highest altitude pizza delivery in air.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Do you think that's ever happened?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Because that would be a hell of a thing.

Travis: Now, here's the thing—

Justin: To see someone parachute out of one plane—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: ... Holding a pizza... It's probably David Blaine.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] And he's like flying through, and he lands in another plane? And delivers the pizza?

Griffin: That's fuckin' cool.

Justin: That would be cool.

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: Can I say, that is so wild that it's definitely been attempted before. Right? Like, I'm... I'm already thinking about like, could they deliver a pizza, put somebody on a shuttle going to the International Space Station, deliver a pizza that way. And be like, "This is the highest altitude pizza ever delivered." Right? What about the lowest?

Griffin: What the—What am I—What are we hearing right now? What am I hearing right now?

Travis: Justin, what are you doing? Oh, no!

Griffin: Oh, shit! That was so scary.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Hello, boys. It's me, Count Donut, with a little jump scare.

Griffin: Yeah, I'll say!

Justin: [as Count Donut] Try to keep things interesting on the podcast.

Griffin: Is that a new cape, Count Donut?

Justin: [as Count Donut] Ah, thank you for noticing.

Travis: Is that a new voice, Count Donut? [chuckles]

Justin: [as Count Donut] Thank you for—No, this is how I've always spoken.

Travis: It's pretty low, I don't know why it's so breathy. [chuckles]

Justin: [as Count Donut] I have a thrilling bit of news for you boys. Krispy Kreme, which I love to say, I hope—

Griffin: I can tell. You really made a meal of it.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Krispy Kreme. I... I wouldn't be the first to make a meal of Krispy Kreme.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: [as Count Donut] You know what? I'll go as far as to say I wouldn't be the first sad person to make a meal out of Krispy Kreme.

Travis: Are you sad—Wait, Count Donut, are you sad? What's wrong?

Justin: [as Count Donut] I'm...

Travis: Oh, seasonal?

Justin: [as Count Donut] So...

Griffin: Seasonal affective disorder? We get it, man.

Justin: [as Count Donut] The bounce—

Travis: Count Donut, real quick, turn your microphone. You're talking into the side of it.

Griffin: Yeah, you're talking into the side of it. Also, are you taking vitamin D supplements? Because that really has helped boost my mood. I assume we get about the same amount of sunlight. Okay.

Justin: [as Count Donut] I'm hiding behind my cape. It's UV proof.

Griffin: Good.

Travis: Why didn't more vampires think about that?

Griffin: I know. Tell me about the donut.

Justin: [as Count Donut] That's why we have the capes.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Everyone asks.

Travis: They do?

Justin: [as Count Donut] It's a safety cape.

Travis: [chuckles] It's a safety cape. It's a security cape.

Griffin: I thought it was—Okay. Now, hold on—

Travis: It makes you feel safe.

Griffin: 'Cause now I'm—Now I'm curious. I always assumed—

Justin: [as Count Donut] Legally, I can have this cape. A judge said, this is my security cape. Legally. I can wear it anywhere I want. [chuckles]

Griffin: I always assume when you took the shape of a bat, you needed the cape to turn into wings. 'Cause otherwise like what part of your body would it be?

Travis: Arm pits?

Griffin: Thanks. Yeah, actually, that makes sense.

Travis: The weapon that's in there spreads out.

Griffin: Yeah, sure, sure.

Justin: [as Count Donut] My armpit grows to hilarious scale and I soar through the air. [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Listen. Krispy Kreme... press release begins with a quote. "We'll bounce back better than ever." Shaquille O'Neal, February 10th, 2021. Well, according to this release, the bounce has begun. Krispy Kreme and its partner, Shaquille O'Neal, announced today that construction of an all-new shop on the site of its historic Ponce de Leon location in Atlanta is underway. Nearly two years after the original shop built six decades ago was destroyed. Midtown Atlanta residents and visitors can look forward to this new 4,000 square foot shop, open this summer.

Travis: Wow.

Griffin: That's a big ol' Dunkin' Donuts.

Travis: It's Krispy Kreme.

Justin: [as Count Donut] It's a really big Krispy Kreme.

Griffin: You know what I mean.

Travis: That's almost as big as the world's biggest pizza.

Justin: [as Count Donut] "The shop will also pay homage to the brand's history serving the Atlanta community, as well as the original shop. Including a custom... interior custom mural and plaque. The shop's design allows for an abundance of natural light." Ah?!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, Count Donut, I'm so sorry.

Griffin: Gross. I'm sorry, man.

Justin: [as Count Donut] How could they? This is so cruel. An enhanced... [chuckles] It allows for a cheery, bright dining room. And this is the part that is too painful—

Travis: A dining room?

Justin: [as Count Donut] An enhanced donut theater experience.

Griffin: [laughs] Whoa?

Travis: Wait.

Griffin: Wow, that was unexpected?

Travis: Now, I was already thrown by the dining room because I don't know who's like... is dining in with donuts? But then... a donut theater experience, you say?

Justin: [as Count Donut] The donut theater experience at Krispy Kreme is when you watch them go on the little conveyor belt and they get the icing and they look so scrumptious.

Griffin: Okay... I got—

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: I thought the employees were in addition to making the donuts...

Justin: [as Count Donut] You're an infant.

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: Okay. Well, no, it's just exciting.

Justin: [as Count Donut] It's called Shaq's Shop.

Travis: Wait. It's called—

Justin: [as Count Donut] That's right. It's called Shaq's Shop. Shaq's Shop.

Travis: It's not called Krispy Kreme?

Justin: [as Count Donut] Well, it's Krispy Kreme, of course. But this is Shaq's Shop.

Travis: Is it subtitled?

Justin: [as Count Donut] We—We've struck—No, this is David Skena, excuse me. "We struck a balance of modernization and honoring the historical significance of our Ponce shop's location. We think our fans our going to love it." Said Dave Skena, Krispy Kreme Chief Brand Ambassador. "The community has shown us so much support and patience, as we design the shop. We can't wait to be back with our guests, sharing joy and serving delicious, fresh, Krisy Kreme donuts."

Travis: "Also, Shaw is associated somehow."

Griffin: "Shaq's in there too."

Justin: So, there's a quote from Shaq, too. [in silly British accent] "We're bouncing back better than I ever imagined," O'Neal said. "I can't wait to turn on the hot light. It's going to light up the whole neighborhood. Get ready, Ponce!" [as Count Donut] It sounds threatening when Shaq says it.

Griffin: [giggles]

Justin: [as Count Donut] I can't believe he had—

Travis: Why—But how is it—Justin, I'm sorry. Is it just colloquially known as Shaq's Shop, or is that official branding?

Justin: [as Count Donut] When you look on Google Maps, it will say Krispy Kreme. When you walk in the door, there will be a small picture of Shaq.

Travis: Somewhere, hidden in the shop that you have to find.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Somewhere, hidden in the shop, and underneath it will say, "This is my shop, so you know."

Griffin: One issue, I think, of calling it the Shaq shop.

Justin: [as Count Donut] Yes?

Griffin: Is that I just Googled Shaq Shop. It got Shaq Shop HQ, boutique shopping. Shaquille O'Neal, shaq.com, Shaq shoes, Walmart super sinner. Shaquille O'Neal XLG Men's big and tall clothing, JC Penny, Shaq, Walmart. Shaquille O'Neal, Shaquille O'Neal jerseys, NBA store. Shaq eye wear.

Travis: That guy will partner with any shop there is. He made Shaq Fu, he is not above partnership deals!

Griffin: He will make it.

Justin: [as Count Donut] I have to respect Shaq, though. Because when he does a partnership, he doesn't just appear in an advertisement. He goes all in. You see, with Papa Johns, they said—

Travis: Yeah, he gelatinous cubes over the thing. [chuckles] And he's like, "This is mine now."

Justin: [as Count Donut] Papa John's says, "Everyone hates us, Shaq. Will you please be our new Shaq daddy?" And he says, "Yes, I will. I will be happy to. You will create a Shaqaroni pizza." [laughs]

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [as Count Donut] The Shaqaroni pizza.

Travis: "And we're gonna test out Papa Shaqs and see how everyone feels about that."

Justin: [as Count Donut] "We could just put you on to a billboard?"
"No."

Travis: "Nope."

Justin: [as Count Donut] "I want my brand to be inextricably linked to yours. And you're going to build a big ass one in Atlanta. And if you don't like, [??]."

Travis: "If you don't like it, talk to me, I'm the new general from the general save some time guy? That's me now."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "I killed the other general, I took it."

Griffin: "I'm the fucking Borg. When I advertise for people, they become me."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [as Count Donut] "I convinced the general to start shelling Shaq insurance. And then I went around and smashed peoples' windows randomly. It's an upsell, but it's worth every penny. You never know when I'll show up—"

Travis: "'Cause I'll never stop." [chuckles]

Justin: [as Count Donut] "... To break you window and push your mailbox into the sewer." [laughs]

Griffin: "I'll never ever, ever—You can never—You can't make me stop." [laughs]

Justin: [as Count Donut] "You can't make me stop, I'm Shaq."

Griffin: "I'm Shaquille—" Whoa, whoa?

Travis: Justin's back.

Justin: [gasps]

Travis: Oh? A little delay there, okay.

Griffin: A little lag between the cape coming off and the Justin coming back.

Justin: It took longer this time, yeah.

Travis: Oh, no! Oh, boy...

Griffin: Is it—Is it gonna keep taking longer?

Justin: It took longer to get back.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Hey, everybody, thank you so much.

Griffin: Hey, thanks. Juice, you gotta finish the show.

Travis: I was gonna do it.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Well, Justin—

Justin: It took longer to get back...

Griffin: Justin does it normally. So, let's just wait—Let's just ride this out quietly, Trav.

Travis: Okay. Real quick—

Justin: I'm worrying I'm losing something from me.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: You know?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Let him take the time that he—

Justin: I'm worried something from me is getting lost.

Griffin: Let's give him a little grace today, Trav. What do you think?

Travis: Yeah, it's just, I... This is taking time away from my gaming.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And that's really important to me.

Justin: Thanks so much for listening to our podcast, My Brother, My Brother and Me. We hope you've enjoyed yourself. I enjoyed myself. And I mean, that's...

Travis: All that matters.

Justin: A ringing endorsement, for any creative product.

Travis: The Adventure Zone Eleventh Hour graphic is coming out February 21st, and we have a live virtual event scheduled that night, February 21st, 8PM eastern time, to celebrate the release. Got live readings with special guests and more. And an event exclusive, signed copies available from Brookline Smith and Left Bank Books.

Go to bit.ly/tazgnlive2023 for more info, and to purchase the event exclusive signed book. We also have special editions from Barnes & Noble and Books-A-Million, and a whole bunch of stuff. And Indigo. So, go check that out. Go check out all the merch at mcelroymerch.com. And get your tickets for the last Rendezvous Fancy Takes Flight tour. Find out all that information at bit.ly/mcelroytours.

Griffin: Thank you to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. If you haven't heard that one yet, you... you really... I mean, you have. Unless you are like the world's best sort of podcast fast forwarder in the world, you've heard the song. It's great. Thank you, Montaigne. It's an honor. And that's gonna do it for us this week, folks.

Travis: Oh, more thing I did wanna say. We have a YouTube channel. Search for McElroy Family. We do streams there and put up video clips and stuff.

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: And we also now have a TikTok channel. McElroy Family on TikTok as well. You can also follow McElroy family on Instagram. We put up information there, we put up clips, pictures, all kinds of stuff. Follow us on TikTok as well. It's all great. You're gonna love it. That's it.

Griffin: That's gonna do it for this one, folks. Until next time!

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: What if we did—I don't think—I don't have the courage—

Justin: That's it now. That's it. We decided we don't have to have one anymore.

Travis: We're free.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: We're free.

Griffin: What was the reception like—

Justin: We did it for long—We did the show—What?

Griffin: What was the reception like when we did—You know how sometimes—Ooh! You know how they—

Justin: I have no way of knowing. The internet can't get to me anymore.

Griffin: Well, what like—

Justin: It can't hurt me anymore, I don't know what they thought.

Griffin: You know some podcasts do a thing and some podcasts we do the thing where they just drop like pre-recorded ads in to set points of the podcast?

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: We should do that with the ending of the show.

Justin: Meaning? Oh, a post roll.

Griffin: A little post roll. A credit sequence.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: A little Post Malone.

Justin: We should spend an entire episode figuring out—

Griffin: Figuring out the ending of the show? Yeah.

Justin: ... What the end of the show is.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, if you have a great idea, mbmbam@maximumfun.org. Just let us know how we should end the show and we'll figure it out.

Griffin: And if we use your suggestion, thanks.

Travis: Tough. Oh, sorry. We went different ways.

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 you dad square on the lips.

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

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