

Still Buffering 346: King's Island

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Sydnee: Now, right now you all can see me. Our listeners can't. I'm wearing a button-down on top in preparation for a meeting, but in the classic Zoom fashion I am secretly wearing sweatpants, and no one will know.

Raleigh: Nice.

Taylor: Very nice.

Sydnee: I think all meetings should be conducted [laughs] thusly.

Raleigh: I had a Zoom job interview last week and I wore a blazer and a nice top, and then... sweatpants, so. I think that's just the go-to now.

Sydnee: When do you think employers or potential employers or people who interview you or meetings are gonna start catching onto that and being like, "Alright. Stand up." [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: I mean, they're—

Sydnee: "I wanna see if you're fully dressed."

Raleigh: They're probably doing it too, right?

Sydnee: "I wanna see if you're really dressed up or if you're tricking me." [laughs]

Raleigh: They're probably doing it too.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I don't know. It feels like a boomer thing. "I wanna see if you really got dressed up."

Rileigh: Well, that's fair.

Sydnee: Doesn't that feel like boomer energy?

Rileigh: Although I guess I haven't used Zoom with many boomers, because most of them... you know. Like, trying to imagine our dad working Zoom without any assistance is... not— not something that I can imagine easily.

Sydnee: He'd be like that guy who accidentally became a cat.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

Sydnee: [laughs] "I promise I'm not— I'm not a cat."

Rileigh: Once I told him that you could use, like, voice commands on the Apple TV remote, he just tried to start yelling at it. Like, he didn't press the Siri button to, you know, activate it and then tell it something. He would just yell, like, the name of a movie at it, or a TV show. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Well, I mean, I guess we'll get there someday. Like, we're pretty close.

Rileigh: I mean, you can yell at your phone now and it'll, like, pick up and start listening to you. But...

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Rileigh: I don't know.

Sydnee: He just wants a *Jetsons*-like future where you can just say things and the— the house and your appliances respond to your demands.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I assume that happened on *The Jetsons*. I don't really remember.

Rileigh: I never watched *The Jetsons*.

[pause]

Sydnee: Uh... did you all have snow this week?

[pause]

Taylor: Um... we had a little. Uh, it was one of those, like, 3 AM snowfalls that was gone by, like, 8 AM. But it is very cold!

Rileigh: Yes.

Taylor: It could snow if it wanted to.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: That is pretty much exactly what we had. We had I think it was a little bit later, like a 6 or 7 AM that was still there when I woke up, and then was gone within, like, an hour. Um, like dusting.

Sydnee: We had, like, uh, slushy, icy, wintry mix.

Taylor: Ooh.

Rileigh: That's the worst.

Sydnee: I bet that's what the— yeah. We had a wintry mix. Um, resulting in one full day off of school, and then a two hour delay the next day. Two hour delays are just the worst, man.

Taylor: Yeah... I mean, they're nice when you know it's coming. If you know it's gonna be a two hour delay, and so you're just like, "Okay, I get to sleep a little bit more." But when you have to play that game of "Is it a two hour delay or do I get an off day?" That's the worst.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: It was like a Spirit Week at Charlie and Cooper's school, and so they were dress up— they were, like, costuming for every day. So the day that there was just the two hour delay was career day. And Charlie dressed up as an Oscar-winning actor.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: That makes sense.

Taylor: Career.

Sydnee: That's the career. So very fancy with, like, sunglasses and carrying a fake Oscar around. So there we go. It read.

Raleigh: I love that thought, because I imagine most kids do what I did when I was younger. It's like, "Okay. What are careers I can think of? Doctor. Lawyer. Um, vet. Um... " and then it's usually one of those three and it's, like, a white coat or a little kid suit. So I like to imagine that, a room full of that. Or, like, firefighters or something like that that is a very distinguishable costume. And then Charlie.

Sydnee: I asked. I asked Charlie. I was like, "So what did your friends do for career day?" And she said they were almost all doctors.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: She said there were— most of the class was doctors, and then there were a handful of soccer players. And then an Oscar-winning actor.

Raleigh: Interesting. Checks out.

Taylor: That's great.

Sydnee: Yeah. Um, but she came running in, 'cause there was a two hour delay so, like, we got the little notification from the school. They, like, call and text and email, and there's an app that they use that they send a message through, so we all— both of our phones, like, Justin and I's phones next to our bed get all these, like, pop-pop-pop reminders all at the same time to let us know. So we get all these reminders, and so we're both like, "Okay, we're gonna go back to sleep.

And we go back to sleep, and Charlie comes running in, like, two minutes later freaking out. She's like, "We're late for school!" and she's half-dressed in, like, her fancy dress and trying to pull on her tights, and she's carrying all these bracelets and things. She's like, "We're late and it's career day!"

I'm like, "Oh, no, honey. It's a two-hour delay. Go back to bed."

Raleigh: Does she go back to bed, though?

Sydnee: No...

Raleigh: I was gonna say, I feel like two-hour delays are only good if you're someone who, like, only wakes up at 6 or whatever to go to school, and if you didn't have to you'd wake up two hours later, like, every day. Um, I always loved that was like Dad waking me up just long enough to say "Go back to sleep."

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: But Charlie I would imagine wakes up at 6, like, every day of the week and weekend.

Sydnee: Yeah. She just laid in her bed and read comic books until it was time to get ready.

Taylor: That sounds pretty good, though.

Sydnee: Yeah. Cooper's class they just sent an email that said "They don't have to dress as a career. They can dress as a superhero or a princess."

Raleigh: Well, that's probably what most of them would pick as a career anyways, right? When you're four?

Sydnee: Well... I asked Cooper, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

And she said, "A bridesmaid."

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Interesting.

Sydnee: And I said... "Well, you— you can be that. Like, that is something that you may well be at some point. But it's not really... a job? Um, you don't— you don't make money."

Raleigh: [simultaneously] It's not a lucrative field.

Sydnee: Um... and, like, it's not something you can be every day. Like, it's just something that you might be once or twice, or maybe more, I don't know. There was that movie where that woman was a bridesmaid lots of times, I guess.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: But, like, it's not something that you would do consistently every day of your life. [laughs] And she was like, "I wanna be a bridesmaid."

Taylor: I don't know. She could maybe spin that into a career, you know? For, like, lonely awkward people that don't have close friends. Like "Oh, I don't have anyone to be my maid of honor or a bridesmaid." and like, "Hey. I'll pretend to... be your friend. If you pay me. Help you out with your wedding. Throw you a party."

Raleigh: I've thought about that a lot. Like, what do people do if the person you're marrying has, like, ten friends they want to ask and you have, like, three?

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: That feels like—

Raleigh: Sydnee, what— I was gonna say, Sydnee, what did you do? [wheeze-laugh]

Taylor: I was gonna say, isn't that—

Sydnee: [crosstalk]

Taylor: —why you had a bunch of dudes? [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] Well, there you go. You could've hired Cooper.

Sydnee: Very close to my family. [laughs]

Raleigh: I would like to point out, though, the one time I told Cooper I was a bridesmaid and showed her pictures, she pointed at my friend who was getting married and said "But she's the one who's getting married, right?"

And I said, "Yes. That's what bridesmaids do. They're not the ones that get married. They're the ones that stand there while the other person does."

And she said "Let me see who she married."

And then I swiped and showed her more pictures of everyone in the party. And she said, um, "You... you don't... you're— you're not with anybody."

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] And I said "No."

And she said, "Why would you want to be a bridesmaid, then? I want to be a bride. Are you not— do you not have a boyfriend? Do you not have a girlfriend? Do you not have a husband?"

[laughs quietly] I was like "No. No, Cooper. I'm 22. Leave me alone!"

Sydnee: She used to be all about getting married, 'cause she was gonna marry Jack Skellington.

Taylor: Sure.

Sydnee: And she was very excited about this.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: These days she is not about that. She is about being a bridesmaid.
[laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well.

Taylor: Interesting.

Sydnee: I don't know. I don't know. So at least— I was grateful for the princess/superhero directive, because then I didn't have to dress her as a bridesmaid and have her walk around all day telling people she would be a bridesmaid when she grew up, and trying to explain that.

Taylor: Or does that— I mean, does that fit the theme? Does a bridesmaid qualify as a hero or a villain?

Raleigh: Hmm...

Taylor: I think anti-hero. I think—[wheezes]

Sydnee: She wanted a dress. She finally wore it. She has a Mirabel costume from *Encanto*, and that's what she wore. And of course she walks out of her bedroom, and she's adorable, and she's loving it, and she's so happy. And she walks out of her bedroom and Charlie looks at her and goes, "Mirabel isn't a princess."

Raleigh: [snorts]

Sydnee: Like, "Charlie! Stop!"

Raleigh: I mean...

Sydnee: She goes, "What?"

And I'm like, "Yes she is. Yes she is. Definitely she is. Let's just go to the kitchen. Breakfast breakfast." [laughs] So, anyway.

Raleigh: That's one of— that'd be a very funny thing to put on those boards that, like, some parents do, like the beginning of every school year. Like, "I'm... this— I'm Cooper and I'm four this year and I'm in preschool. And right now when I grow up I want to be... " And, like, there's a blank space and you change it every year for what they want to be. If it said bridesmaid for a while, like in that series of... that'd be pretty funny.

Sydnee: Well, that was, like— do you remember Charlie's? She had to fill out something. This was when she was four or five. Maybe five. And she had to fill out this sheet about herself, and it had, like, her favorite color and her favorite

food and all this stuff. And then you were supposed to draw a picture of what you look like now, and then draw a picture of what you'll look like in a hundred years.

Raleigh: Oh, that's right.

Sydnee: And for the picture of now she drew herself, in her little dress with her little flowers and whatnot. And in a hundred years, she drew a picture of an angel.

Raleigh: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Well. What— what other solution are kids supposed to have to that question?

Sydnee: I think—

Raleigh: I guess just like a really old person?

Sydnee: I think they assume you'll draw yourself looking really old. I don't think that they assume you will draw yourself dead.

Taylor: I mean, I—[unintelligible]—like, I'd draw a tombstone. I'm not gonna be alive in a hundred years. No way!

Sydnee: We had that on the fridge for the longest time.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: I had forgot about that.

Sydnee: [through laughter] What will you look like in a hundred years? Dead.

Taylor: I mean...

Sydnee: Okay?

Taylor: I think she's the only one that got the answer right.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Fun! [laughs]

Rileigh: Did her teachers have any questions about that for you, or... [laughs]

Sydnee: No. I don't... I don't know. Every once in a while the teachers will tell us things they say. Like, Cooper told her teacher that Mommy and Daddy went to Paris and weren't coming back for a week.

[pause]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Mommy and Daddy, what are you doing? [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: And— I know. And so, like, when we went to pick her up her teacher was like, "Oh, you guys aren't in Paris." [laughs]

We're like...

Rileigh: "No?"

Sydnee: "What? No?" I don't know! I don't even know what she knows about Paris. Like, we've never been to Paris. I've never been to Paris. I don't know. I'd like to go. I have nothing against it. But, like... Mommy and Daddy went to Paris.

Rileigh: Did she listen to that Taylor Swift song?

[pause]

Rileigh: Called "Paris"?

Taylor: That kids gonna right some weird fanfiction someday I bet.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: She wanted her little Thing— like, Thing, the character from *Wednesday* Thing— to school with her, and we had a big conversation about why bringing this fake hand to school, we just couldn't. It was like, we let you wear the *Beetlejuice* shirt and it scared all of your classmates, and so we had to stop sending you in the *Beetlejuice* shirt because everybody was scared. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: How scary with this *Beetlejuice* shirt?

Sydnee: It just has Beetlejuice on it. And I guess, like, actual, um... not-the-cartoon Beetlejuice. Like... actually a picture of Beetlejuice.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Human form Beetlejuice.

Sydnee: Hu—yes. Like, live action—

Taylor: Michael Keaton Beetlejuice.

Sydnee: Yes, it's Michael Keaton Beetlejuice. And, you know, he's kind of gross, and... spooky. I guess if you have no context for *Beetlejuice*?

Taylor: Those other kids are weak. Just let her wear it. They gotta learn someday that *Beetlejuices* exist.

Sydnee: So I don't know. We stopped wearing it 'cause all of her friends were scared. And she even said that. Like, "I don't wanna scare my friends anymore."
[laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That's nice of her. I guess.

Sydnee: But we said, like, the hand is probably... you know, it's got the scars drawn on it and, like, stitches and stuff, and... [pause]

Raleigh: [crosstalk]

Sydnee: I just thought it might be— it might be too much. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That's fair.

Sydnee: I don't know. Maybe that was too strict.

Raleigh: Anyways...

Sydnee: Anyway. Uh, we're supposed to talk about King's Island.

Raleigh: Yeah. This is your...

Sydnee: [crosstalk]

Raleigh: ... your contribution for our art.

Taylor: I didn't really get to do my research this week, because I can't just go to King's Island, so.

Raleigh: I know. Well... yeah, but we've all been.

Taylor: Pulling from some buried memories here.

Sydnee: We've all been there. I had to look up—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] I did look up pictures.

Sydnee: It was first opened in 1972. I didn't know that.

Taylor: [yawns]

Sydnee: That felt right to me. Um, if you've never been to King's Island, it's actually not technically in Cincinnati. [pause] Did you know that?

Taylor: No.

Raleigh: Is it in Mason?

Sydnee: It's in Mason, which I only knew because we go to Great Wolf Lodge... a lot. Which is right next to King's Island, and it— I mean, I knew— we have been to other Great Wolf Lodges, so I knew that this was the Mason location. [laughs quietly] Um, that's a whole other thing, if you've never been to Great Wolf Lodge.

But King's Island is an amusement park there that, I mean, gosh. How many times did we go there as kids? Because— so, in Huntington, if you wanna go do fun stuff— not that Huntington doesn't have some fun stuff. We got some fun stuff. But we don't have...

Raleigh: Now, hold on, Syd. We have an amusement park. Are you going to neglect to mention it?

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Okay.

Taylor: Camden Park isn't enough for you?

Raleigh: Camden Park is there for you.

Sydnee: [laughs] We do have an amusement park that actually— it's in Kenova, right? like, I don't think it's in... well, I guess it's—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] It's close.

Sydnee: Kenova technically— Huntington— it's Huntington Metro.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Like, what, 20 minutes? Something like that. It's not far.

Sydnee: Yeah. No, we have an amusement park that's very close to us called Camden Park. Where, like, if you're one of those people who likes to go to amusement parks for, like, historical significance, like, I think that the Big Dipper is, like, the oldest wooden roller coaster still standing. It's one of those. It's like there's— or something. There's something about it. Like, the Big Dipper holds a place in roller coaster history. It may not be the oldest, but you know what I mean. It's one of those. It's one of those that's like, "And you can check out this that still works, and exists, and... "

Raleigh: Does it work? [laughs quietly] Does it?

Taylor: Yeah. I feel like that might factor into it. It's like the oldest in continual operation, even though it shouldn't be?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: [laughs] It hasn't been updated.

Sydnee: It's one of those. So we do— okay, so that's fair. We do have an amusement park that is, um... a little— it's getting a little— it makes me a little nervous these days.

Taylor: Oh, come on. That's like— it's got a haunted house that actually scary, because you might get tetanus. You might get some sort of disease from the gum wall.

Sydnee: The gum wall.

Taylor: That's spooky stuff. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I haven't ridden in that haunted house in so long, 'cause the— we haven't taken Charlie and Cooper. We took 'em, like, one time. Um, ever. And I... we didn't ride the haunted house 'cause they were too little. But I desperately want to know if the gum wall is still there.

Raleigh: I know. I haven't been there in at least a decade.

[pause]

Sydnee: But King's Island. [laughs quietly] Is— I mean, that's about, like, two and a half hours from where we live. So that was, like, a reasonable place for us to go. And I remember— we used to drive— do you remember this? Mom and Dad used to put us in the car, drive us to King's Island. We would spend the whole day at King's Island, and then after the fireworks at night, 'cause they used to have fireworks at night too, you would get back in the car and Dad would drive us back home?

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah, he did that with me, too.

Sydnee: That... that late?

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Well, you know, you say "that late" but I'm thinking about it and I feel like King's Island closed and did their fireworks at, like... 9? Like, it wasn't like they were closing at 11 or 12. I feel like I remember leaving that place, like would have dinner and do, like, one more ride or something, and then we'd be leaving by, like, 8 o' clock, just as it was getting dark. So, I mean, yes, it's night time. But, I mean, we were getting home by, like, 11.

Sydnee: Yeah... I don't know. I think as a parent I just, like— amusement parks exhaust me so much now.

Raleigh: That's fair.

Sydnee: And to be fair, I will say Justin and I are older parents than Mom and Dad would've been. You know what I mean?

Raleigh: Mmm, mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Like, they would've been younger when... [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well, with you all, yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. Well, yeah, not with you. [laughs]

Taylor: I think maybe you're a little softer than— than Dad. But that's most people. [wheeze-laughs]

Raleigh: Dad—

Sydnee: I mean, I could do it. [laughs]

Taylor: Dad takes pride in weird things like that. Like, "Yes, I get up at 6 AM and drive three hours, and then we will drive back at midnight, and I will just... do it."

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: yeah.

Sydnee: "And I'll be fine. Will it be fun? No. But is that the point?"

Raleigh: No.

Taylor: [laughs] We will run in between every ride. We will go on every ride possible. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I don't care if you're hungry or thirsty! We're running to the next ride! It's fun!

Taylor: There are no pee breaks in the car. It's just some sort of, I don't know, athletic endeavor if you can make it one.

Raleigh: I remember I went the King's Island once with a friend for Halloween. They do, like, the haunted houses and everything. Um, and we went and obviously they don't start the haunted houses until it's dark. So I told Mom, you know, we were gonna drive back after. And she said "Well, you need to start by—" I don't know, like 6: 30 or 7 or whatever. Like, early so that you're not driving back late, 'cause it was just the two of us driving back. And Dad was sitting there and Dad was like, "No! You can drive back from King's Island at 10 o' clock. I've driven back at 11 o' clock. You'll be fine. It's fine." [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I've always thought that if Dad and I went on *The Amazing Race*, we could probably win. Because it would just be like this, like, "I'm not gonna stop to pee. You're not gonna stop either, are you?"

"Are you hungry?"

"No, I'm not hungry either. No, we're not hungry. We're not gonna stop. Keep going! Keep going!" [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well, then that's why you'd lose, because then inevitably within, you know, a week it would just be like, you all haven't gone to the bathroom. You haven't stopped for a full meal. [laughs quietly] You're just— you're exhausted and so tired of each other that everyone else is like, "Why didn't they just stop to pee?"

Taylor: Yeah. And, like, Syd, I know, like, I believe that you are intense enough that you would not ever stop to take care of yourself, but that also introduces Sydnee-when-she's-hungry to the equation. Which is [through laughter] an entirely different creature!

Sydnee: I know. But, like, if I'm trying to prove myself. [laughs]

Taylor: I don't wanna— I wouldn't want to run those numbers. Like, what's gonna win out there. Hungry Syd or Determined Syd.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Can you imagine Sydnee falling behind in a competition while hungry?

Taylor: [through laughter] Oh, God!

Raleigh: Oh, God.

Sydnee: No. See, Dad and I would say—

Taylor: One of you would eat the other one! That's the only way that would end.
[laughs]

Raleigh: Absolutely.

Sydnee: [laughs] Dad and I would set a new record.

Taylor: No you wouldn't!

Sydnee: We would win *The Amazing Race*, the fastest anyone's ever won it, and then, like, I would just drop dead at the end. [laughs] That'd be the last thing I ever did.

Taylor: I think it would be some sort of found footage nightmare of— of resorting to cannibalism.

Raleigh: Hmm, that could be a horror movie.

Taylor: Yeah. Maybe, yeah.

Sydnee: We may get kicked off 'cause we're ruining the show.

Raleigh: That's also true. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] Um... anyway, uh, so King's Island. [laughs] Uh, King's Island— the thing when we were younger, it used to have this whole theme to it. Like, all of the rides— it was all from, uh...

Raleigh: Nickelodeon.

Sydnee: Well, it was started by the Taft Broadcasting Company. Which had Hanna-Barbera and Paramount, right?

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: And so, um, all of the rides were, like—

Rileigh: [simultaneously] 'Cause eventually it was, like, Nickelodeon stuff.

Sydnee: Huh?

Rileigh: Eventually it was Nickelodeon stuff.

Sydnee: And all of the rides were, like, themed. And that's how I remember it being little as, like, you would go and ride all the di— well, first of all there was Smurf ice cream.

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: That's where we need to start. First of all... they have this blue ice cream. [laughs quietly]

Rileigh: Is it blue flavor? Is it blueberry?

Sydnee: I believe it is blueberry.

Rileigh: Okay. I can't remember. It's been a while.

Sydnee: I mean, it's like a lot of things where, like, they're lightly flavored.

Rileigh: Fair.

Sydnee: You know? But it is not—

Rileigh: I just was wondering if it was vanilla dyed blue. [laughs]

Sydnee: It is not vanilla dyed blue, because you can get plain vanilla soft serve, you can get the blue soft serve, or you can get a swirl. And when you eat the swirl, it is definitely— there's two flavors happening.

Rileigh: Okay. Okay.

Sydnee: There's definitely, like— you can contrast them.

Raleigh: I gotcha.

Sydnee: Um, that was, like— that was the best part of King's Island for me when I was little. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Um, Sydnee, I'm sure you have this memory clearer in your mind than I do in mine because you were much older when this happened. Um, but I have a very distinct memory of going to King's Island with you and Justin, I suppose, when I was young. And it was very, very hot outside and you got me blue ice cream, but it was melting so fast because it was so hot outside that I was just sitting with, like, my head leaned over and, like, my knees apart so that I could eat it, like, not over top of myself by the Eiffel Tower in King's Island with a puddle of blue ice cream just growing around my feet. [laughs]

Sydnee: Yes. There was just blue ice cream pouring down your hands and all over the ground, and a lot of people— you wouldn't have noticed this 'cause you were little, but a lot of people were, like, walking by and stopping to be like, "Aww!"

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] "Aww! It's so cute! Look at that kid! Look at that kid covered in blue ice cream!"

Raleigh: You know, to be fair, I think I was, like, eight. Like, I think I was probably about Charlie's age now, and I would think that would be very adorable if Charlie was just sitting there [through laughter] covered in blue ice cream.

Sydnee: Well, 'cause you were racing time. You were eating it as fast as you could to try to get it in before it all melted.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: So you were, like, really goin' at it. [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] I like blue ice cream.

Sydnee: They still have the blue ice cream, but it's no longer Smurf themed. Because they don't own the Smur— that sounds weird. They don't own *The Smurfs*.

Raleigh: It's *Snoopy* now. Right?

Taylor: I was gonna say, how did they— that must've been a struggle to rebrand. Like, what other— what do we have that's blue in the roster? [laughs]

Raleigh: Well, I don't know what they've named it after. Like, there's nothing blue that's standing out in my mind in the *Snoopy* universe. but I think it's *Snoopy* themed now. Like the whole kids area where they had *The Smurfs* stuff.

Sydnee: Yes. They began incorporating— so in— so— okay. 1992 is when Paramount took over. The golden age of King's Island for us. 1992 to 2006, it was Paramount. And the Nickelodeon themes came in, and we had our Smurf ice cream, and all was well. 2006 is when Cedar Fair took it over. And that's when they, um— they could continue using Nickelodeon for a while, but then they added in the *Peanuts* stuff.

Raleigh: Hmm, okay.

Sydnee: So the Charlie Brown stuff came in. And that's when all the rides changed names. So there was a ride called Face/Off. [pause] Which was named after the movie *Face/Off*.

Taylor: Incredibly popular movie *Face/Off*. Like, how— how did that movie constitute a ride?

Sydnee: That... see, this keeps happening, right? 'Cause we talked about the same thing with the *Avatar* stuff.

Taylor: Yeah, but I mean at least, like, *Avatar*, I... I don't know. I feel like *Avatar* exists in some parallel dimension. Like, it's popular somewhere. It's just not where I live. I don't know. But I know it is. Like, I under— like, Face/Off was not like— there was not, like, a fandom [through laughter] around the movie Face/Off.

Sydnee: Not that I know of. And the reason it was called Face/Off is, like, the way it was designed, you would sit facing someone else.

Taylor: Yeah. And when you were hanging... facing— 'cause it would, like... hold you there for a second.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: And you would be looking up, and then people would spit down at you. Because they could.

Sydnee: Ugh.

Raleigh: Ew.

Sydnee: Ew.

Taylor: People. Little boys would spit at you.

Sydnee: It was in the grand tradition of— sometimes there were rides that were made where it's like, "We don't know how to make this happen for very long, but we know how to make this happen. So here." Like, Face/Off is an incredibly short ride.

Taylor: Yeah, 'cause you just go... like, down one hill, and loop-de-loop, and up another, and then you do it again but the opposite direction, and that's it.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: There's that very important going up again where if you're backwards the first time and you're frontwards the second time and vice versa.

Sydnee: Yeah. But the whole ride just lasted... I feel like less than a minute.

Taylor: [laughs quietly] It's a weird gimmick, too. Like, it's— it's Face/Off, so you're gonna look at people when you're... when you're on—

Sydnee: In their face.

Taylor: Yeah. There you go.

Sydnee: Do you remember that ride at Camden Park— it's probably still there— that's just the single loop?

Taylor: Oh yeah! It was—

Sydnee: It was a roller coaster and it was just like you go down the hill, go around the loop, go up, go back down the hill, around the loop, go back up, ride over.

Taylor: It's like they bought one portion of a roller coaster.

Sydnee: Yeah, that's what it always looked like.

Raleigh: I don't think—

Taylor: I feel like it was always closed, though.

Sydnee: Uh-huh. 'Cause it was, like, dangerous.

[all laugh]

Sydnee: I don't know if it's still there.

Raleigh: How did you ever build up enough momentum to get around that loop? That's why it was always closed. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah. They hadn't figured that out. [laughs]

Sydnee: Maybe you didn't.

Taylor: Maybe they were waiting to buy more pieces. They just never got enough budget. They were like, "We'll start with the loop. Get there eventually."

Sydnee: Yeah. This sounds like a— Camden Park probably is in that same era of, like, amusement parks as, like, Action Park. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yes, exactly.

Taylor: There's gotta be some cheeky documentary about Camden Park someday.

Sydnee: I know.

Raleigh: Oh my god, there needs to be.

Sydnee: Where it's like, "We have these rides. We didn't know physics, though." [laughs] "We didn't know physics. Like, that... was it invented? Oh, it was. Okay. Oh, physics is really old? Oh. Well, we just didn't know it, though. We didn't have anybody who knew about it."

Taylor: Just figured it out on the fly, you know?

Sydnee: Um, Face/Off by the way is now called Invertigo.

Raleigh: Yeah. I will say, I don't think— you said the transition happened, like, slowly, right?

Sydnee: 2008, yeah.

Raleigh: It was not all at once. Because—

Sydnee: Uh-uh. Not, it was— it was, like, purchased in 2006, and there was this slow transition from one to the other. They all had these, like— like, the way that the contracts worked, like, you can continue to use this for this many years or whatever, and this for this many. You know what I mean.

Raleigh: Yeah. 'Cause by the time I was old enough to ride that ride— which probably would've been around 2008 or so that I would've been tall enough, it was never— I never rode it when it was Face/Off. It was always Invertigo when I rode that one. But I do have memories of the whole kids section still being Nickelodeon. Um, at the same time.

Sydnee: That stayed until 2010.

Raleigh: Okay. I was gonna say, I remember that for much longer than any of the big, grown up roller coasters having, you know, theme names.

Sydnee: The other ones— so the Backlot Stunt Coaster... I don't remember this. Do you remember what it used to be called?

Taylor: The Backlot Stunt Coaster?

Raleigh: The one where you're in the little cars that are all connected, and there's fire.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: It's very short, too. Like, you go really fast and it looks like there are street signs that look like you're driving through, like, LA, and you go up and you're on a lot and there's, like, a big helicopter, and you're on a movie set, and there's fire.

Sydnee: It's supposed to look like a movie set and you're in, like, a car. Like a car-car.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It used to be called *The Italian Job: Stunt Track*.

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: It's funny!

Raleigh: I did not know that.

Sydnee: Because it, like— like, these names— like, this is not an amusement park for children, is the message you're sending with these. Like, "You know, kids, how you love the movie *Face/Off* and *The Italian Job*?"

Taylor: And *Top Gun*. [laughs]

Sydnee: "You know how these are your—[laughs quietly] You know, kids, like, teenagers who are coming, you know how you love these two movies?" [laughs] I mean, when I was going there on school trips, I did not know. I had not seen— to this day I haven't seen *The Italian Job*. [laughs]

Taylor: That's funny.

Sydnee: But that was called *The Italian Job: Stunt Track*. Um, The Crypt is what it is called now. Do you remember what that was named for?

Taylor: Was that the haunted house?

Sydnee: That was *Tomb Raider*.

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: Which was called *Tomb Raider: The Ride*.

Raleigh: Which one's The Crypt? Oh, oh. Is that the one where, like, you go in and it's like a big cave kind of thing? And you go—

Sydnee: That's the thing you flip upside down, right?

Raleigh: Okay.

Sydnee: And they hang you upside down and stuff.

Raleigh: I didn't like that one.

Taylor: Oh, I remember that. I remember when it was *Tomb Raider*.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. *Tomb Raider* just became The Crypt. And then of course most famously of all the rides that got rebranded... *Top Gun*.

Taylor: Yeah. *Top Gun* was great.

Sydnee: *Top Gun* was great because they played songs from *Top Gun* the entire time you were waiting in line, and when you were on the ride, and so it made you feel, like, really cool. [laughs quietly] 'Cause...

Taylor: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: But also you got to dangle your feet.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: That was the whole gimmick, right? Like you were hanging from the top. Until wasn't there, like, an injury of some kind? And now it's, like, a little bit more covered on the bottom.

Sydnee: Yes. Uh, yes, I believe you're right. That did happen.

Taylor: A horrific injury involving feet. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Oh no!

Sydnee: Which I feel like that— like, again, like, these feel like the things that, like— like Action Park kind of things. Like... that was always sort of... in the cards. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Well, okay. Now that you've mentioned it, then I have to ask. Because this was always something that I heard and I never knew if it was, like, myth, like wives' tale, or if this was fact. There used to be Son of Beast, because The Beast is like the big, famous, long wooden roller coaster at King's Island that, like, is still the longest wooden roller coaster I think, or something like that.

Sydnee: I think you're right, yeah.

Raleigh: Um, but then they tried to make Son of Beast, right?

Sydnee: Mm-hmm, yes.

Raleigh: And then I always was told the story, and it was one of those that, like, you know, your friends tell you when you're ten and you're looking at the roller coasters to ride. That someone— they did a loop on a wooden roller coaster in Son of Beast, and someone... got very badly injured.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: And then Son of Beast never opened. Because I never rode Son of Beast and it was never even open while I was there, I don't believe.

[pause]

Sydnee: Teylor, are you googling? I feel like you're googling.

Teylor: Well, I knew that there was one but I felt like there were more. Yes. No, there were... from 2000 to 2009, there were six different incidents in which people were injured [through laughter] riding Son of Beast.

Sydnee: Yes, Son of Beast was a wooden roller coaster with a loop that was a big deal. It was open for a while. I never rode it 'cause it freaked me out.

[pause]

Teylor: I remember—

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Um, but yes, that—

Teylor: I know we rode it. I feel like I rode it with Dad not long after it opened.

Sydnee: Well, there was a long time where I wouldn't go on stuff that went upside down. Um, I eventually grew out of that, I guess. I don't know. Do you grow out of that? I don't know. I stopped being afraid of that. Now as an old person, I can do stuff that goes upside down. I can't handle stuff that goes around in circles too much. [laughs quietly] 'Cause then I get sick and have to vomit.

Raleigh: Oh. They took out the loop and tried to reopen it. But then that only lasted for two years.

Sydnee: Because everybody was probably scared of it, I would bet.

Raleigh: Yeah. There were six injuries documented from that, but nothing as serious as the— the stories always were.

Teylor: Well, there was a... wasn't there a death?

Raleigh: Oh, was there? Oh... well, I didn't see that.

Sydnee: Oh, I don't know. I remember there were injuries associated with it. 'cause it was one of those things where it was like, "You can't do a wooden roller coaster with a loop."

And then when there were injuries everybody was like, "See? We... "

Raleigh: "We told you."

Sydnee: "... told you."

Raleigh: Um, but The Beast is a big deal. 'Cause it's... like, famous in the roller coaster world.

Sydnee: It's— well, and I think it's a lot of fun, and then I also, like, you can enjoy it because it does go on so long, and it kind of, like, sprawls out into the forest there, so you feel like you're detached from the amusement park when you're on it. You feel like you're just sort of, like, riding this ride out in the middle of nowhere, which is kind of a cool... I don't know. I really enjoy it. I think it's a lot of fun.

Taylor: See, I don't— and I'm not afraid of loops or any sort of like that stuff. The Beast doesn't scare me. I just don't think it's very comfortable. It's so long and it's so rickety.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: There is so much, like, ka-chunk, ka-chunk, ka-chunk that just beats you up. I mean, I think that's why the Son of Beast was so hard on people, because it was that same thing with just higher velocity and loops. Like, wooden roller coasters are physically rough on you.

Sydnee: This is true, this is true. I will say that that is definitely something that I would agree with about The Beast is that it knocks you around. I mean... it, like— you hit your hips up against the sides as you go around, and up against the bar, and... it is rickety.

Raleigh: I do think that they did some sort of— they didn't change it, but I think they did some sort of refining to it at some point. Because the last time I was on it I remember being surprised at how smooth some parts of it were. That it felt like they had— I don't know if there's some way to, like— I'm sure there is. I know nothing about roller coaster physics or dynamics or how they work, but I'm sure there's some way to, like, update tracks or, like, cars or something. I don't know. But...

Sydnee: I would assume.

Rileigh: But I did enjoy that at least.

Taylor: This was— I was just looking at the— The Son of Beast Wikipedia article. But apparently in its place now is where the Banshee is.

Rileigh: Ohh.

Sydnee: Hmm.

Taylor: But in kind of a— there's a fake graveyard as part of the Banshee, and there's a tombstone for the Son of Beast in the graveyard.

Sydnee: Aww.

Rileigh: Is there really?

Taylor: Yeah.

Rileigh: I didn't know that.

Sydnee: I didn't know that.

Taylor: That's a little morbid. [laughs]

Rileigh: That is a little morbid.

Sydnee: That is morbid. Do you remember the King Cobra?

Taylor: Oh yeah!

Sydnee: Where you stood up?

Taylor: I remember going year after year to that little height thing, and I was never tall enough. I think I got to ride it once before it went away, 'cause I was never tall enough. That one was very strict about your height 'cause you... [laughs quietly] you stood up! So if your feet didn't touch the ground I guess you'd get real messed up.

Sydnee: Uh, the first— the first one I ever went on that went upside down was Flight of Fear there.

Taylor: Ohh, that's where Flight of Fear was. That's right.

Raleigh: I love Flight of Fear.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: It's— it's like, inside, and it's dark.

Raleigh: It's— well, okay. It's King's Island's Space Mountain is what it is.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. And that— well, and that's why I was okay with it. 'Cause, like, I couldn't tell I was going upside down until it was too late.

Raleigh: Yeah. Um, and then there's that one that opened right next to it that I remember opening when I was young, right as I was tall enough to be riding roller coasters, that Justin was so excited about because it was like a jet pack. Now I can't think of what it's called. But it's the one where you lay—

Sydnee: Firehawk.

Raleigh: Yes. You laid down to get on it, and then once they started they flip it so that, like, you're laying down, looking at the ground as you're... flying. It's terrifying.

Sydnee: It's gone. Now they have Orion?

Raleigh: No.

Sydnee: Which I don't think I've ever...

Raleigh: No. I've not been there for that.

Sydnee: ... ridden. That's— that's new. Oh man. That's a whole new thing we don't know about. Is that wild to think about?

Raleigh: I haven't been there in a... while.

Sydnee: Um... my kids loved the Coney Mall area. So there's different areas of King's Island if you haven't been there. There's, like, the kids area, and then there's like— the area with all the roller coasters is called... hold on. There's a name for it specifically. Action Zone.

Raleigh: I never knew that.

Sydnee: They have a bunch of roller coasters. And then there's, like, Area 72 is where the, um...

Raleigh: Oh. Flight of Fear.

Sydnee: That was like the— Flight of Fear. Supposed to be, like, creepy secret... alien-y, kind of? I don't know.

Taylor: Does it have more than just the Flight of Fear?

Raleigh: Well, it had Firehawk right there, but I guess now it—

Sydnee: But now it has Orion.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Coney Mall is supposed to look like Coney Island, I guess. With, like, a bunch of games, carnival-game kind of looking things. And then they've got the Red and Blue Racers. Which, like, the cool thing about the Racers is that one went forward and one went backwards, but then they decided [through laughter] it was too dangerous to go backwards.

Raleigh: So they both go forwards.

Sydnee: [through laughter] So now they both go forwards.

Taylor: Really?

Raleigh: One just is slightly slower. [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: That's funny.

Sydnee: You can either ride the red one that goes forward or the blue one that goes forward, but they both go forward. [laughs] Um... but Charlie and Cooper loved that one, for whatever reason.

Raleigh: I will say, my favorite was always— it was Scooby Doo... colon: something. Ghosts in the manor. I don't know, something like that. But it was one of those where you're in a cart and you have a little laser gun, and you shoot at targets.

Sydnee: It was Boo Blasters.

Raleigh: That's what it is now. It's Boo Blasters on Boo Hill I think is actually what it's called.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I'm not kidding. I think that's—

Taylor: What?!

Sydnee: Hold on.

Raleigh: I think that's the name of it.

Sydnee: I have to see if it's called Boo Blasters on Boo Hill.

Raleigh: I think that's the name of it!

Taylor: Who named that?

Raleigh: But it used to be Scooby Doo. And there was a part of the ride where it was, like, all of the big fake mannequin people in a circle on a track, and it was Shaggy running from ghosts. And now they had to redo those characters, obviously, to not look like Scooby Doo characters. So they just, like, threw a Hawaiian shirt on Shaggy, so it's still very clearly, like, a Shaggy figure, but just wearing a Hawaiian shirt instead, so now it's not [laughs quietly] copyright, I guess. I don't know.

Sydnee: Okay. You know what's wild? So, that started off— that ride started off as Enchanted Voyage, which was a dark ride— you were in a boat, in water.

Taylor: Oh!

Sydnee: And you just went through, like, animatronic Hanna-Barbera characters. And then in 1984 they changed it to *Smurfs*: Enchanted Voyage, which I wish I could remember. I bet you I rode on that, and I don't remember it.

In 1992, it was the Phantom Theater. Do you remember when it was the Phantom Theater?

Taylor: See, that's what I feel like I remember. 'Cause I remember pre-Scooby Doo something.

Sydnee: It was the Phantom Theater. It was a behind-the-scenes tour of a haunted theater. I remember it being that, and then it became Scooby Doo and the Haunted Castle, until finally in 2010 it became Boo Blaster on Boo Hill, which is...

Raleigh: I knew! Okay, I wasn't making it up. I knew that's what it was called.

Taylor: That's a silly name.

Raleigh: It is a very silly name.

Sydnee: It's a terrible name. Well, and that part of the park is also called Planet *Snoopy*.

Raleigh: Yeah. Well, okay. That's where I remember having all the Nickelodeon rides with all the shows that I used to watch before they lost that license and it became *Snoopy* Land, because there was a Danny Phantom ride where you lay down and it go in a circle. Um, there was a... an *Avatar: The Last Airbender* ride, the boat that goes side to side. Like, up and down. That was *Avatar*.

Sydnee: That's called something else now.

Raleigh: They had a *Rugrats* Reptar coaster. [pause] They had all sorts of stuff like that that I remember. They had a *LazyTown* thing. The things that went up in

the sky that drove around above the park, like the little carts you could get in. I never even got in those, but those were *LazyTown*. It was all Nickelodeon.

Sydnee: They still have those. They're just all *Snoopy*. The whole thing is *Peanuts*-themed.

Rileigh: They're Woodstock coasters now.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Rileigh: Um, yeah.

Sydnee: And they have, like— I mean, other than that there's, like, the water stuff. There's a log flume. There's a, uh, whitewater canyon.

Rileigh: [laughs quietly] Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Which is like a rafting ride. I love rafting rides.

Taylor: Hate that ride.

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: I know. Nobody likes raft— Charlie and I. Charlie and I love rafting rides. No one else does.

Taylor: I just hate water rides in general.

Sydnee: Hm.

Rileigh: I'm having a memory of all of us on that ride at some point. Like, all of us, except for someone who didn't get on. I think maybe it was Justin who didn't get on, and then you—

Sydnee: Yeah, he hates 'em.

Rileigh: You could go up and you could put coins in, like, the little chutes to press them and shoot out water at a very specific time to, like, try to hit people you know, or I guess just anyone, with a big thing of water. And I remember him doing that and getting all of us just absolutely drenched. [laughs] And that was

not his intention, I think. He didn't mean to get all of us that wet. He just, like, wanted to do it when we went b— when we went by. Uh... and then everyone was very...

Sydnee: Was mad.

Raleigh: ... very soggy. [laughs]

Sydnee: Um... and, you know, the other thing that I feel like— 'cause we're getting close to time here. We have not mentioned that you can eat LaRosa's Pizza at King's Island.

Taylor: [laughs quietly] How could we fail to mention the LaRosa's Pizza?

Raleigh: And Graeter's ice cream.

Sydnee: I'm just saying, LaRosa's pizza is very good. Huh?

Raleigh: The Graeter— Graeter's? Is that what it's called?

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: Their ice cream.

Sydnee: Graeter's is there. There's LaRosa's. There's like a whole—

Raleigh: Skyline.

Sydnee: They call— the street they call, like, International something, because it has an Eiffel Tower on it.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: I've never understood why they had that Eiffel Tower.

Sydnee: I... I don't know. But it's— yeah. International Street.

Taylor: [simultaneously] Isn't that part of the Paramount logo?

[pause]

Sydnee: It's supposed to rep— like, the whole area is supposed to represent Italy, Spain, Germany, and Switzerland... and I assume France. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: I was gonna say. [laughs]

Sydnee: Because there's an Eiffel Tower. Um, but I always just remember the Eiffel Tower. But yeah, but then there's a bunch of food. The food— that's the other thing. King's Island, the food is pretty good, other than River Street Junction—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Now, Sydnee...

Sydnee: —which is named something else now. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Now I think it's like a Reds themed sports bar or something.

Sydnee: It's like a sports restaurant now.

Taylor: I guess isn't there— I think this is back in, like, Mom and Dad's days. But like— 'cause they were known for doing Oktoberfest, right?

Sydnee: Mm-hmm, yes.

Taylor: Do they still do that?

Sydnee: Umm... I believe that— yeah. Oh, for 2023. This is hot off the press.

Taylor: Oh!

Sydnee: For 2023, King's Island plans to replace Oktoberfest with Adventure Port, a newly themed area expanded to add new family rides, Sol Spin and Cargo Loco.

Taylor: Wow.

Sydnee: And food venues will be—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] So no, they don't do Oktoberfest anymore. [laughs]

Sydnee: So they're not. So they have been doing it, but they're gonna stop, and they're gonna renovate and rename the food venues.

Taylor: Oh, wow.

Sydnee: So that's... sorry. That's over. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: I never partook in King's Island Oktoberfest, but that was one of those things that made me think, like, this is a bit more for adults though, right? Like, this is for... fun— fun parents. [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, there's beer there.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. I mean, that's the thing. Like, at... at Disney, there now are lots of places to drink, but it didn't used to be as ea— like, especially like Magic Kingdom didn't have alcohol for a long time. But King's Island always had booze. They were always— there were always beer. There was always beer available at King's Island. But I just want to talk about it 'cause, like we've mentioned, it was, like, a big part of our family vacations. I went there on school trips. I remember going there and, like, holding hands with somebody for the first time at King's Island and stuff. You know? Like, it's very entrenched in, like, my... my early... adolescent memories of, like, fun times. Those long bus trips back from King's Island, like, holding a stuffie that you won at a carnival game, and... you know?

Raleigh: Yeah. I went on many a school trip to King's Island, I think.

Sydnee: A— a sticky bag of cotton candy that you're taking back with you. [laughs]

Taylor: I remember being very confused that, like, that was not a— King's Island was not, like, a universal thing on the same level Disney was. Like, I don't think I got that perspective until I, like, went away to college. And it was like, "Oh, no." You know, "We went to Disney a few times as kids, but really we went to King's Island."

And it was like, "What is that? I don't know what that is. What is that." [laughs]

Sydnee: It's still a ton of fun. We went, and I mean, like... we went not too long ago. And I don't know why I had this impression that, like, over time it had gotten kind of, like, worn down and wasn't— I don't know. Kind of Camden Park-y. Wasn't as kept up. But the last time we went last year, it was— it was very nice. We had a great time. You know, whatever you think of, like, changing it to the *Peanuts* stuff, the kids loved it. They had good beers on draft.

Taylor: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well, there you go.

Sydnee: Not at Planet *Snoopy*.

Taylor: [laughs] You wanted *Snoopy* beer?

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: I want a *Snoopy* Beer.

Sydnee: And they still have blue ice cream. So, I— you know. I don't know. King's Island's great. I love it. Anyway.

Raleigh: Thanks for letting us talk about it. I haven't been there in a very long time. I think the last time I went actually was when we all went either before or after a Jimmy Buffett concert that we all went to.

Taylor: [simultaneously] That's right, that's right.

Raleigh: Um, at least... five or six years ago at this point. But yeah. I enjoy talking about it. I loved King's Island.

Sydnee: Yeah. You should go to King's Island and stay at Great Wolf Lodge. It's a whole— you know.

Raleigh: You can walk to King's Island.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Three or four day...

Raleigh: From Great Wolf Lodge.

Sydnee: Yes you can.

Taylor: There's some sort of summoning circle there between a Jimmy Buffett concert, a night at Great Wolf Lodge, and a day at King's Island. [laughs]

Rileigh: Yes. 'cause we have a picture in the Great Wolf Lodge of us in our Jimmy Buffett attire.

Taylor: That's...

Rileigh: The three of us wearing Hawaiian shirts and, you know, all that kind of stuff.

Sydnee: I feel like this is a good— it's a good way to remember your roots. [laughs]

Taylor: Yeah. Yeah. I was gonna say, is that how you summon the Mothman? [through laughter] Is that the ritual?

Sydnee: [laughs] I'm never gonna get above my raisin' as long as I remember this is where I came from. This is who I am.

Taylor: Yeah.

[all laugh]

Sydnee: Uh, well, thank you all. Taylor, what's next? [laughs]

Taylor: Uh, I want to talk about... I know we've talked about a *Batman* comic book before, but I want to talk about *Batman* the animated series.

Sydnee: Okay.

Taylor: I don't know the dates on that. But you know the one I'm talking about. The... the epic one.

Sydnee: I know what you're talking about.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: I think Justin has already started showing Charlie some of that, so we will— I will watch it. I bet Coop would like it, too.

Taylor: Yeah. I know there's a lot of it. But I feel like, you know, I'll pick some specific episodes maybe, send 'em your way.

Sydnee: Okay. Well, we will check it out for next time. Thank you both.

Raleigh: Yeah. Thank you.

Sydnee: Thank you, listeners. You should go to Maximumfun.org for a lot of other great podcasts you would enjoy. You can tweet at us @stillbuff. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, "Baby You Change Your Mind."

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

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor: And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Raleigh: I am still buffering...

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

[theme music]

Sydnee: Really don't have that, like, romanticized idea for LaRosa's Pizza. Is that really just me?

Taylor: [unintelligible]

Raleigh: I think so.

Taylor: I remember the funnel cake being a big thing.

Raleigh: Mmm, yeah.

Sydnee: The funnel cake is very good. No, it's very good.

Raleigh: [simultaneously] No, it's very good.

Sydnee: Yeah.

[music plays]

Alex: Hi, I'm Alex Schmidt.

Katie: And I'm Katie Goldin.

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 a 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.

[music and end end]

[chord]

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Artist Owned.
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