

## Still Buffering: Supermarket Sweep

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[theme music plays]

**Raleigh:**

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

**Sydnee:**

And I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:**

And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:**

Well, we've all stopped puking here.

**Raleigh:**

Yup.

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Good job.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

That's a weird greeting.

**Sydnee:**

Thought I'd get that out of the way.

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Happy Holidays!

**Raleigh:**

Happy Thanksgiving. We all got each other sick.

**Sydnee:**

You know what's great over the holidays? Oh, especially a holiday where like, the point is to eat a lot.

**Raleigh:**

To eat. Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Is when you pass around a stomach bug. I would like to note this is our immediate family we're talking about. We didn't have a big family gathering and got sick.

**Sydnee:**

No.

**Raleigh:**

This was—I blame your children.

**Sydnee:**

Yes.

**Raleigh:**

I blame your—specifically, Charlie.

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

Um, got Justin sick and then—

**Sydnee:**

No, no. It started with Justin.

**Raleigh:**

Okay, well then it's Justin's fault.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

It's all Justin's fault.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah. Justin was to blame.

**Raleigh:**

Got Charlie sick, then Charlie somehow got me and Cooper sick at the same time, and then you and Dad got sick at the same time. Mom's the lone survivor. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Justin was desperately trying to trace it back to like, "Where did I get this?" And I'm like I don't—we don't go—I don't know. The grocery store? I'm not sure.

**Taylor:**

You have children.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

They create diseases inside of themselves. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. Uh, we, uh, all pass it around and all got it at different points over the course of like five days or a week.

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

And, uh, you know, you and Dad got it like the end of a week on like a Sunday. Justin and Charlie got it in the middle of the week.

**Sydnee:**

I really thought I was too tough for it. I thought like—

**Raleigh:**

Thought you were too tough for germs. Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

I was the last one standing and I was like, "I'm not gonna get this. I'm so strong. I'm so tough, there's no way." And then I got it.

**Raleigh:**

I had to be the one to come down with this bug while I was trying to hang out with my friends. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Aww.

**Taylor:**

Aww.

**Raleigh:**

I was actually on a date.

**Sydnee:**

I was gonna say, are you gonna—

**Raleigh:**

I was on a date and we went to dinner, and we—I immediately was like, "Hmm. Something feels wrong." We went back to one of our—it was me and two—three other people, it was a double date, and we went back to one of their houses afterwards. We were hanging out and I was like. "Excuse me for a moment," and went upstairs and projectile vomited everywhere.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

Oh no!

**Raleigh:**

But then, you know, it's like we were talking about earlier before we started, you get that little rush after you puke and you feel great.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

You're like, "Oh, I'm done with that. That's over."

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

So I come back to—I like brush my teeth. I text my friend who's house we're at and I'm like, "Hey, can I—do you have something that can make my breath not smell like vomit?" And I like washed my hands, brushed my teeth, cleaned up her toilet area. Um, come back downstairs, we start playing Mario Party. Everything's going great. And then I'm like, "Hmm, let's pause this mini-game really quick. I got to go vomit again." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

It was one of those where, like, in between you don't feel too terrible.

**Raleigh:**

I had almost like a full hour. It was like 45 minutes. I was like, "Wow, okay."

**Sydnee:**

You—You keep having this moment where you're like, "I should just get up and go do some stuff. I don't think it's that bad."

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Then you're like, nope. Nope.

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

No, that's—you gotta learn that about puking, Raleigh. It's a—there's a window of time where you can do things to prepare yourself for the next puke. That's it. Like, that's—that's what's that's for.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

Those little endorphins. Like that is when you can get yourself into a spot where you can puke again. And it is a—it is a closing window, rapidly.  
[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

I, like—it was just me and three other people and I already accepted, like, I have been in close shared space with all three of you at this point. We have been together for many hours already. We have already shared any germs I already had.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

I did not start being contagious once I started throwing up, so I'll just quietly excuse myself. You all will know what I'm going to do, but we won't talk about it, and then we'll just continue playing Mario Party.

**Sydnee:**

Oh, Raleigh.

**Taylor:**

So, you—you gonna get another date with that person? Is that—

**Raleigh:**

We'll see.

**Taylor:**

Oh no.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Now here the—here's the thing. I—I was thinking about this. Early in Justin and I's relationship, like early in the dating.

**Raleigh:**

Uh-huh.

**Sydnee:**

Very early. Uh, we would, um, frequently go to a wonderful establishment called Sharky's.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

To do karaoke with our friends and drink Miller Lites.

**Raleigh:**

Right.

**Sydnee:**

And that particular evening, I was over at Justin's. Uh, he lived at home at the time, and we drank a bunch of coffee so that we would be ready to go drink alcohol and karaoke. And we drank, uh, a lot of coffee and then we went there and I started to drink Miller Lite and I felt not good.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

And that's when I learned, like, a bunch of coffee and a bunch of beer, does not mix. Generally coffee and beer is not a great combo.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

No.

**Sydnee:**

In my humble opinion.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And, uh, so I was sitting there and I was like, "Oh, I really don't want to puke in Sharky's. Well, already." [laughs] It was so early in the evening, and so I—I went outside and sat down out on the—on the curb just to like get some fresh air. It was a cooler evening. I'm like, I'm just gonna breathe a little bit, get some air. I'm gonna feel okay.

And, uh, Justin followed me out and he sat down next to me and he put his arm around me and he was like, "It's okay. Do you wanna go? We can just go home. As long as we're together, I don't—I don't care what we do."

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And I was like, "I think I'm in love with this person."

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] Outside Sharky's was when you had that moment.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm. And only because I got sick. Now I didn't—I didn't puke.

**Raleigh:**

Okay, well this is not—

**Taylor:**

That's—I was waiting for the puke in this story.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

That's not—that's not the same.

**Sydnee:**

No, I really thought I was going to, though. [laughs] Eventually—eventually the coffee went away, the beer took its place.

**Raleigh:**

I will say, it did help that I have already seen this person vomit from alcohol.



**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

So, uh...

**Taylor:**

Oh that's just—that's just a one-for-one. That's fine. You have a card to play.

**Raleigh:**

Exactly. Although—

**Sydnee:**

And you have to keep the pukiness equal in a relationship.

**Taylor:**

Yeah, yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Although, I think—I think it is unbalanced once again because three days later, almost exactly, I did get a text that just said, "How long did it take you to get over that stomach bug that you had?" [laughs] Um, I did pass it to him.

**Taylor:**

So—so now he's puking. So now the ball is back in your court. You're good. You're fine. Now you can puke again.

**Raleigh:**

So I get to puke again. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

That's what courtship is, right? I don't know it's been a long time since I've done it. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Perfect. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

This is what a relationship is, kids.

**Taylor:**

It sounds like some sort of weird bird mating ritual. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

You puke, he pukes. You puke again, then he pukes one more time and then you fall in love.

**Taylor:**

Then one of you makes a sculpture out of trash, I don't know. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

There's a dance where you shake your tail feathers. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Uh, anyway, we're all better. We're all fine.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, we're all fine now.

**Sydnee:**

It wasn't COVID, I don't know if that wasn't clear. It wasn't—it really...

**Raleigh:**

No.

**Sydnee:**

I—I think, my doctor brain thinks it was a norovirus, but I mean, we didn't get tested because it was all—it was all gone within 24 hours.

**Raleigh:**

It literally lasted... Yeah, like less than six hours, honestly.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

The active being sick was very short.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Can I just share a brief realization I made last night that's very unrelated?

**Sydnee:**

Okay.

**Raleigh:**

That I think you all might enjoy, and the listeners of our show? Do you know when the world started going downhill? Do you know when things started to fall apart? When they stopped putting out new seasons of MasterChef Junior.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] You think that's what caused COVID?

**Raleigh:**

They—it was the end of 2019 when they put out the last one.

**Sydnee:**

Mm.

**Raleigh:**

And they were making another one and then they kept putting it off because they had to stop filming because COVID, and then they said it was going to come out this year and then it didn't, and that's why things keep being bad.

**Taylor:**

Mm, uh, I think things might've been bad before 2019, kiddo. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] I—I think that's what would save us is what I'm saying.

**Sydnee:**

Maybe just from COVID, but...

**Raleigh:**

Just from COVID. It would all end if they would just bring back those little kids cooking up a storm. Thank you for your time.

**Sydnee:**

I mean, hey listen, I'm not opposed to that.

**Taylor:**

Well, that's a theory. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I—I will—I mean I—if that—if they want to bring it back to investigate it, I did enjoy that show.

**Raleigh:**

I love that show.

**Sydnee:**

I will watch it. Uh, speaking of shows—

**Raleigh:**

There you go.

**Sydnee:**

... That we should watch.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

That we did watch.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

I love this formative teen classic that Sydnee's brought to the table today.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

If this—if this isn't all you ever needed to know about me, what does—what does Sydnee consider a formative teen classic? It's Supermarket Sweep. That's me.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

That's me. [laughs] Uh, I loved Supermarket Sweep, I—I was kind of obsessed with it for a long time. I really wanted to be on it, which is weird because like—[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I—the years I was watching it, I—I was trying to see like when exactly was it around. I mean, it's been around for a super long time, right? Like, it was around back in the '60s. Now I did not—I have never seen any of those episodes. What do you think those are like?

**Taylor:**

Oh wow.

**Raleigh:**

I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

I have to dig those up. I have to dig those up. I bet I—I would be terrible at that. Guessing the prices of things in the '60s?

**Taylor:**

Right.

**Sydnee:**

I don't know.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Well it seems like there was just a two year period from '65 to '67 and then it came back in '90.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm. And that's when I watched it.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

In the '90s. That—the—the—those uh... [laughs] Those '90 to '95 years, I feel like that was the sweet spot. It came back again in 2000 and then now it's in its most recent iteration, hosted by Leslie Jones, um, which is wonderful. The David Ruprecht years were the ones that like, spoke to me. Do you remember him hosting? He had all those sweaters.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

All those amazing sweaters that he would wear to host Supermarket Sweep.

**Taylor:**

No.

**Sydnee:**

Oh, if you—so if you've never watched Supermarket—

**Raleigh:**

I know this because of you, I would like to point out.

**Sydnee:**

Yes. If you've never watched Supermarket Sweep, it was a game show, uh, is a game show, uh, where basically you would have teams of contestants that—three teams, that would know each other in some way. You could have couples, you could have siblings, you could have friends, whatever. And there—they compete in a series of like questions related to grocery products. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

... Where you may have to guess like which one of these is priced wrong or finish this riddle to—for a grocery brand name, whatever. And then once you uh, accumulate time, you don't get points so much as time, then you go to the big sweep, where you run through the store with a shopping cart and buy as much stuff as you can. And not just quantity, it's got to be like priced the most.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

And whoever gets the most, spends the most in the grocery store, goes on to the final sweep, where you can win... At the time, I think it was \$5,000.

**Raleigh:**

Wow.

**Taylor:**

Mm.

**Sydnee:**

Now, in the current, you can win like up to 100,000 now, right?

**Taylor:**

Yeah, it's \$100,000.

**Sydnee:**

In that—is—isn't that in the Leslie Jones iteration now? You can win...

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Taylor:**

\$100,000 and you also get all the money that you get in your sweep too, so it's big bucks.

**Sydnee:**

It's so funny to see like the cumulative, um, I don't know. It's a show about inflation, really. [laughs] Because like, a big sweep in the '90s was like if you broke \$1,000...

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

If you—if you got over \$1,000 worth of groceries, it was like, oh my gosh, you got all the fancy cheese, like how did you do it?

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

But uh, not so much today. Now they're up in the four and five thousand dollar range.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Yeah, that was just sort of depressing when I compared, like I was watching episodes back and forth from the '90s and now. And like, oh, it's just—it's not that much more stuff, we're just—we just didn't—prices just went up a lot. Wages didn't, but all the prices did. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] It's nice to see some things always stay the same, like uh, you know if you're gonna buy giant cuts of meat and cheese...



**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

You know those are going to be pricey, no matter what year you're living in. I always loved that part of Supermarket Sweep.

**Raleigh:**

I just love seeing them grab all the cheese.

**Taylor:**

Grab all the golden hams! [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

All the golden hams. [laughs] Um, I don't know why I was obsessed with this show. I was—I—part of it was that I really wanted to be on it. I used to sit and watch it and strategize, like...

**Raleigh:**

I think where we grew up has a lot to do with why you would love this show, because think about activities you could partake in on a regular weekend here in Huntington, West Virginia. Not many. I bet the thought of running around the local Walmart and just being able to grab a bunch of stuff, sounded like, yes, that sounds like something I would love to do.

**Sydnee:**

I guess it's true, because it even—even more so, so like when—when we were growing up Raleigh, there was no Walmart.

**Raleigh:**

Oh, I mean in my case, running around the local Walmart.

**Sydnee:**

But—

**Taylor:**

It's the Big Bear.

**Sydnee:**

It was the Big Bear. But like—but what—the—and the only reason I make that distinction, is that... So Big Bear was a grocery store.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

It didn't have other stuff.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I mean, maybe a few sundries but like, I mean toiletries and stuff, but like it didn't have clothes and toys and all the other things you would find in a Walmart. It was a grocery store.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And so, but I—but there was a part of me that was fantasizing about running around just a grocery store when I was teenager. Which like, you don't get excited about produce when you're a teen. Why do I want to run around a grocery store and buy a bunch of stuff? [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

If it was a store with other things, like electronics or whatever, you could see why I'd be like, man...

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Like the Super Toy Run.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Right?

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Everybody was obsessed with the idea of what would I do if I could do the Super Toy Run? Who's obsessed with the idea, when they're a teenager, of like I want to run through a grocery store and buy as much stuff as I can? [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

Well, but I—I don't know. I—I feel like as a kid, there is that, just the idea of being able to grab whatever because you don't have—you don't have money, you can't do that stuff. And it kind of loses the charm as an adult because it's like, I mean, I go to the grocery store now because I have to and I guess I could buy whatever I want, but that doesn't really work out for me when I do. [laughs] There are consequences when I treat weekly shopping like a Supermarket Sweep.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] You—you all do bring that out of each other at the holidays, though. Because whenever we're all at home together, at the local Walmart, we always seem to buy many large-sized things that are not on the list, unnecessary, and probably should not be bought.

**Taylor:**

That's true.

**Sydnee:**

It started as a joke, I feel like. When we would be shopping and I would get like the, um... [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Like the yard-long Snickers?

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, or like a—an economy-sized drum of mayonnaise and try to put it in the buggy while mom went, "No. No, what are you doing? No." [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Uh-huh. [laughs] Dad's like, "That's where the milk goes."

**Taylor:**

[laughs] The milk spot.

**Sydnee:**

And Justin does it now. Every time we go to the grocery store, at some point, he has to go over to the cereal aisle and try to like, scoop up an entire display of like, Lucky Charms and put it in the buggy while I like embarrassed. I'm like, "Stop. Stop it. There are people in the aisle. There are other adults standing around."

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

He'll do it even when the kids aren't with us, when it's just us and it's like they—we—we're just two adults and you're doing it. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

See? It's—it's less fun when you—when you have to be the one to pay for it, because I could do that on my own but I'm like, oh no, put it back, Taylor. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Where—are there—are there videos of people—I feel like that would be a popular YouTube series, of like, you run into a grocery store, you and your partner. You're both wearing Supermarket Sweep sweatshirts with like, numbers on them and you both just go running in and start running up and down the aisles and grabbing the most expensive items and sticking them in your buggy? [laughs] I feel like there should be videos out there of people doing that.

**Raleigh:**

I feel like if the Gen Z's were more aware of the Supermarket Sweep, maybe this would be a popular like, I don't know, TikTok trend.

**Sydnee:**

Doesn't it seem like something they'd do?

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

I—i—it does but then all I can think about is they—will they politely put each item back where they got it or will they just abandon giant carts full of stuff?

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm. Now see, yeah. I think your only option is either you put it all back or you buy it.

**Raleigh:**

Or you buy it. Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, if you're gonna engage in that—I agree with you. I always—whenever I see these... [laughs] I'm so old. Whenever I see any of those videos where people make a mess in a public place, I always want to say, unless you're cleaning all that up or like paying the store for all that or whatever, I am so frustrated. Do you know that there's somebody whose job it is to clean up that stupid mess you've just made?

**Taylor:**

Okay all—all of those—like, any time that a—a prank video involves interacting with people in the service industry, just—there's no joy in it for me. Like, "I went into a Burger King and ordered something wacky" and I'm just like, the—the service person who's standing there like "Please, I'm just trying to do my job. Like, this is not fun for me." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Yes, exactly. Exactly. I always feel that way too.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah. At least—at least you know, some of them will like—some—some of the YouTube creators, I don't want to name any of them because I don't know anything about them. [laughs] I—I feel like that's such a dicey game.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

You don't want to name—I don't know how—who—who's a mess, secretly.

**Raleigh:**

I think, well, I was going to say all of them a little bit.

**Taylor:**

All of them.

**Raleigh:**

But I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

There are some—

**Raleigh:**

All the—all the big ones that like, you know what I mean.

**Sydnee:**

There are some that go in and like buy out stores.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

But then they like pay for everything and donate it and stuff like that.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

And I assume that's okay.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I don't—but again, I don't know. I—

**Raleigh:**

I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

It's all so sticky. I don't know. It seems okay.

**Taylor:**

Just do your—do your silly little dances at home. Don't involve people that are trying to just make their hourly wage, that's all I'm saying. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] I mean, if you want to just dance in a grocery store, just don't, you know, don't block the way. People are trying to buy things.

**Raleigh:**

I have seen several teens making TikToks in the Walmart.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Like, doing dances and propping their phone up on a shelf.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

Teens making TikToks in the Walmarts?

**Raleigh:**

In the Walmart, yeah. Like prop their phone up on the shelf in like the, like paper products aisle and just do the TikTok.

**Sydnee:**

Why?

**Raleigh:**

I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

I—I don't know why you'd want to—like, you have—like... Why in the—

**Raleigh:**

Why not?

**Sydnee:**

Is it—is that part of it?

**Raleigh:**

I don't know. Sydnee, there is a whole subsection of my—this is why we're changing our show. This is why we don't talk about being young and what's cool anymore because I don't know.

**Taylor:**

Raleigh doesn't get it anymore.

**Raleigh:**

I don't know! They're all young and they scare me and they're constantly dancing everywhere and I don't know how they learn the dances so fast. I don't know how they do them so fast. I don't know how they're constantly coming up with them. By the time I learn them, they're moved on to a new one. I don't get it. And why do they do them in the Walmart?

**Sydnee:**

I don't—well, I just wondered if it was like part of the thing is you have to do it in a Walmart. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I—I don't know. Uh, uh, but please don't—if you're listening to this, please don't start Supermarket Sweeping grocery stores.

**Taylor:**

No.



**Sydnee:**

I mean, if you just want to run in wearing one of those sweatshirts and like shop really quickly and then check out and then leave? That's fine.

**Taylor:**

I think that's fine.

**Sydnee:**

Yes. Be careful though. When they're really crowded, you can't run with those buggies.

**Raleigh:**

You've mentioned Supermarket Sweep sweatshirts several times now. I know exactly what I'm getting you for Christmas. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

The—okay, so for real, um, I hope Justin doesn't hear this. I told Justin when we were watching Supermarket Sweep once, uh, I really want one of the sweatshirts. And on Supermarket Sweep, if you've never watched it, they wear... Like, the Supermarket Sweep sweatshirts aren't like, fancy.

**Taylor:**

No, they're just sweatshirts.

**Sydnee:**

They're just solid color, yeah. And they have Supermarket Sweep on them.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

And they're like one of the primary colors. They're like usually red, blue or yellow. Or sometimes they're a secondary color, right? Sometimes they're green or something. But like, generally speaking, it's just that. So I said that, and he got me a Supermarket Sweep sweatshirt, but it's not one—like, it's just a sweatshirt that says Supermarket Sweep. And now it is gray, which I love gray, but it's not... You know? It wasn't—like, I meant I want one of the contestants' sweatshirts. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Right. Right, right, right.

**Sydnee:**

And I love him and I love the sweatshirt, it's very comfy and I do wear it. But I really do want one of the contestant sweatshirts. I always did. I always—I don't know. There's—they're not cool. I'm not saying they are.

**Taylor:**

I don't know, but now I guess in the new series they make a point of I guess do the—do they get to—to like dress them up on their own? Do the contestants get to? Is it done ahead of time? What's the story there?

**Raleigh:**

That's what I was wondering.

**Sydnee:**

The—the impression I get is that they're each getting to personalize their own. I mean, because it feels very like... Part of the thing with Supermarket Sweep is like getting to know contestants but with such little time that I mean... They get slightly more time than like a Jeopardy contestant gets.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

You know how each Jeopardy contestant gets to tell one story?

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

One cool story to try to define them forever?

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Um, they get a little more, maybe, than that, cumulatively throughout the course of the show. But not a lot more. And—and yet they each have to kind of come up with a personality for their team and for each of them and then now, an extension of that is they get to take that iconic Supermarket Sweep sweatshirt and cut it or you know, rework it. However—whatever they want to do to it to make it their own.

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

That is my impression. Now, I could be totally wrong and that could just be something they—they're given.

**Taylor:**

Well because they do also— isn't wasn't—I thought it was new, it's not, the team names. This is a—this is a new show creation, right? Where they each come up with a name for their team?

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Which, they're great. Some of them really try to be quippy and punny and then some people are like, "We're Team Onion."

**Sydnee:**

That was the one that stuck out to me too. Team Onion.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

Although—although I did really relate to why they called themselves Team Onion. Because they said, "We have layers, we smell great, and we cry all the time." And I'm like, okay, yes, I'm Team Onion too. Thank you.

**Raleigh:**

Yup. And in our hearts, we all were Team Onion.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Um, I wanted to talk more about that other aspect, which is the characters, the contestants/characters on the show. [laughs] But before we do that...

**Raleigh:**

Let's check the group message.

**Sydnee:**

Uh, so first of all, this week, I want to talk about—well, it's the holiday season. I don't know if y'all are aware.

**Raleigh:**

What?

**Sydnee:**

I hope you've bought me my presents.

**Taylor:**

Nope.

**Raleigh:**

Oh gosh.

**Sydnee:**

Lots of them.

**Raleigh:**

Oops.

**Sydnee:**

Um, but maybe you haven't. Maybe you're not sure what to get somebody and maybe you're still trying to figure it out. Well, Storyworth is a great gift to give somebody this time of year. So basically what is Storyworth? Every week, they're going to email a relative or friend, whoever you choose to give this to, a thought-provoking question of your choice from, uh—they have a bunch of options so you don't have to come up with them all on your own, necessarily. Um, but you can pick one of the questions and they're all unique prompts. Things that you wouldn't necessarily think to just ask somebody off the top of your head. Something like "What's the bravest thing you've ever done in your life?" or "If you could see into the future, what would you want to find out?"

And they'll send the person the person that you've gifted Storyworth to, uh, this prompt and then they can answer it and after a year, story will— Storyworth will compile all your loved ones' stories, including photos, into a beautiful keepsake book that you can keep and share for generations to come.

So this is the perfect time of year to think about this kind of thing, you know, it hopefully is a time where as much as possible, we can safely gather together and—and see the people that we care about.

And um, giving somebody a—a gift like Storyworth, really enables you to learn more about somebody that maybe you've known your whole life, maybe you're already super close to, maybe you want to know more about, um, with questions that we don't always think to ask each other when we're spending time together.

So, um, and reading these stories can help you connect with people and it—and it's nice for the person you're giving it to, to have these memories and like share them and write them down and—and give them to the people they love.

So uh, Teylor, if our listeners want to check out Storyworth, what should they do?

**Teylor:**

Well, with Storyworth, you're giving a thoughtful, personal gift from the heart and preserving their memories and stories for years to come. Go to [storyworth.com/stillbuffering](https://storyworth.com/stillbuffering) and save \$10 on your first purchase. That's [storyworth.com/stillbuffering](https://storyworth.com/stillbuffering) to save \$10 on your first purchase.

**Raleigh:**

Do you know what else I love about the holiday season?

**Sydnee:**

What's that?

**Raleigh:**

The smells.

**Teylor:**

Oh yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Everything smells so good. You got cookie smells, tree smells, um, mistletoe smells. Even snow has a smell. It's got a clean, nice, winter smell.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, clean, fresh smell.

**Raleigh:**

Um, and that's why I love Native, because they have their holiday—inspired scented products available now and cookies and mistletoe are two of those scent flavors you can choose from.

**Sydnee:**

Ooh.

**Raleigh:**

Native also cares about the products you put on your body. They're all about stopping the stink the right way. That's the Native difference. Because their mission is to overhaul your entire hygiene routine by creating products that are made with simple ingredients like shea butter and coconut oil so you can smell great all day long. I even know what those ingredients are, so that's saying something.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Um, and if you're looking for something to gift your loved ones, you can give the gift of self-care this holiday season. You can build yourself or your loved one a personalized product bundle by mixing and matching three of your favorite holiday-scented products into a set. Personally, I love that sugar cookie scent. I constantly smell like I just baked a delicious batch of cookies, um, but always, which is just delightful for myself and everyone around me. So...

**Sydnee:**

Now, can mistletoe scent get you a consensual mooch as much as mistletoe itself?

**Raleigh:**

Mm.

**Taylor:**

You just hold your pit in the air and be like "Kiss under the mistletoe."

**Raleigh:**

Under the mistletoe.

**Sydnee:**

I would like a kiss now, please. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

I guess you gotta find out—you gotta find out yourself. Can't share that secret. [laughs] Um, Tey, if our listeners want to try out getting a little mistletoe-scented mooch on their—under their pits, what should they do?

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Stay merry, happy, and fresh this holiday season. You will love Native's limited time seasonal products as much as I do. Go to [nativedeodorant.com](http://nativedeodorant.com) and use code 'BUFFERING' to get 20% off your first purchase at checkout. That's [nativedeodorant.com](http://nativedeodorant.com), code 'BUFFERING' for 20% off. [nativedeodorant.com](http://nativedeodorant.com), code 'BUFFERING', one more time.

**Sydnee:**

So, uh, the other thing that I love, and we've started to kind of talk about that, and I do think that's been a big change. There aren't a lot of changes in this show, honestly.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

It's still structured very much the same. There's a lot more, uh, cash in the game, is the way that old David Ruprecht always used to put it.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

We have more cash in the game, more money in the game, to make it more exciting. There's more money in the game. Um, there's definitely more money in the game now. But other than that, and like better lighting, I don't know. [laughs] It's very similar.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Uh, but they have taken the time... They always would have the teams, you'd have like an opening mini sweep to get—get the game going and then you'd stop to ask everybody like, "Who are you?"

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And the "Who are you?" Involved basically like what are your names? What is your relationship, like how do you know each other? Why are you here? Uh, and then they would let them each tell one story, which like only one of them could pick a story.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

I always thought that must've been tough. Like, which one of us gets to tell David Ruprecht something about ourselves? And they're all very much like the Jeopardy contestant stories. Like, I was watching an old episode the other day and he was like, "And now I hear you..." I don't remember her name, "Jennifer, have a very special talent." And she was like, "That's right, David. I can say the alphabet backwards."

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

And he's like, "Really? That's pretty impressive," and she says, "Yes, I can!" and then proceeds to do it.

**Raleigh:**

Oh my gosh.



**Sydnee:**

And this is TV. Like, this—this is on television. [laughs] And so she very quickly, I will say, says the alphabet backwards. The audience cheers and he says, "Well that's great," and moves on. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Someone made that editorial decision. It's not live television. Someone decided, let's leave that in there. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

This is the thing that we should have asked of her. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Can you—I—I like to imagine that after that was over, everybody in the editing room was sitting there going, "Why did we do that?" And like, even the contestants were going, "Why was that what I said?" [laughs] What happened there? What was the whole—I don't know, I watched it. I actually watched it and then I re—I had to rewind it and watch it again to make sure like did this really happen?

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Did I dream this? Because it felt like something that I would make up to tell Justin and he'd go, "Really?" And I'd go, "Nah, I just made that up."

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

But it was real.

**Taylor:**

Wow.

**Sydnee:**

Anyway, they get—they get better stories, um, now.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Uh, now they get, uh, like team names, they get to kind of show off a little bit of their personality. They both get a chance to say a little bit about themselves. And uh, I think they uh, you get sort of like um, an idea of, I don't know, who they are in terms of... supermarkets? [laughs] Who they are in terms of their grocery shopping behaviors or cooking or food relationship.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Like you—you learn a little bit. Enough to get a feel for like, oh okay I kind of get your thing. I get it, I get it.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

The casting department is doing some good work, because definitely like the teams are enjoyable. Like those are picked to be people that you want to see run like crazy through a supermarket.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

They do. They do. And I feel like they've leaned into—I have always—I—I have always contended that there was something... again, this is a recurring theme on our show, something in here—inherently a little, um, queer about a love of Supermarket Sweep. [laughs] Um... No, well, they have a lot of LGBTQ couples now on the show.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Yes. I—but—what—go back. Hold on. [laughs] Backpedal for just a second. They didn't in the original, obviously.

**Sydnee:**

They—okay. They didn't say they did.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Taylor:**

They had a lot of “roommates” is all I'm saying.

**Raleigh:**

They have a lot of roommates but I'm saying they didn't say—what are you saying is inherently queer about Supermarket Sweep? I need to know.

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I am saying that they would have like, I—I can't tell you how many times on the show, they would have two women standing there in their matching sweatshirts, ready to go grocery shopping together, who are like... best friends, have been so long and like they're not—but—but it the '90s. It's like '92 so they're not allowed to say it, and I don't know just the energy, it was—it's just a very like, I know what's—we all know what's happening here.

**Raleigh:**

Okay.

**Sydnee:**

We all know what's happening.

**Raleigh:**

That checks. Because I was just going to say, I think I feel my least queer when I am walking through the local Walmart, doing my weekly grocery shopping.

**Sydnee:**

I don't know, there was always... And then—and like the—and then David Ruprecht would always ask the—especially if it was two female contestants, like “And what about your husbands?” And they would always say something like to the effect of like basically, I don't know, like, “We don't care about them.” [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Like yes, they're there. Yes, they're real.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

They exist.

**Sydnee:**

They exist.

**Raleigh:**

They go to a different school.

**Sydnee:**

And then—and then move on and it's like... Uh-huh.

**Taylor:**

I mean, okay but like, buying incredibly expensive cheeses in matching sweatshirts, that's—that's pretty gay. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Okay. That's fair.

**Sydnee:**

Right?

**Raleigh:**

I just—there was just something that needed to be unpacked about the phrase, "There's always been something inherently queer about Supermarket Sweep."

**Taylor:**

I don't really do that but—

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] I don't know but it—it was...

**Raleigh:**

We've done it and it's—we've—we've unpacked it. I get it.

**Sydnee:**

It was on my list of things that were for me.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] Ah, okay. Hold on, wait a minute. This all makes so much more sense now. You couldn't pinpoint your young love of Supermarket Sweep...

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

It was your secret gay thing. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

That's because—

**Raleigh:**

You were like, "This is a little bit gay. This is for me."

**Sydnee:**

Even though I didn't know that I was fantasizing about me and another woman in matching sweatshirts, in matching, by the way, not very hip sweatshirts, walking through a supermarket together and pricing cheeses. Even though I didn't know that's what I was fantasizing about, maybe that's what I was connecting to.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

I—I like that this is how bereft we were for like proper representation, especially like wholesome representation. It's like having like a same-sex couple on a team and it's just the two of them and they have to engage in some sort of like vaguely like familial activity. It's like, oh, that's gay!

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Well, it also felt like the idea of going shop—grocery shopping as a couple... I'm going to go out on a limb here. I feel like if you look at sort of the um,

old, like, if you want to use the word traditional, I hate that word in this sense, but traditional kind of American hetero-normative patriarchal relationship...

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Like, in that relationship, the couple don't go shopping together, generally, right?

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

Like if you're looking at like the old sort of '50s and '60s family structure. Like, uh, the husband and wife aren't going to go shopping together.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

So there was something to me that seemed progressive and modern and kind of cool and relatable about the idea of going grocery shopping with your partner. Like, there was something about that that felt like, I don't know, um, like a revolutionary kind of like... it was radical. It was a little bit radical. Like... [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] I—

**Taylor:**

The—the radical queerness is Supermarket Sweep.

**Raleigh:**

Oh my God, it's my capstone. That's what I'm doing my entire—that's how I'm getting my degree. I am writing that essay. Oh my God. I—I also just love that you, in your brain, have equated grocery shopping with Supermarket Sweep.

**Sydnee:**

I knew—

**Rileigh:**

As if what happens on Supermarket Sweep is at all what grocery shopping actually is.

**Sydnee:**

In my head, when I'm grocery shopping, I am always going on the big sweep.

**Rileigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

That's a—

**Sydnee:**

I mean, I'm not trying to spend as much money as I can, obviously, but you know.

**Taylor:**

There are not nearly enough giant-sized like bottles of Dawn dish soap that I can grab in the real world. I don't—I don't know about that.

**Rileigh:**

[laughs] No golden hams.

**Taylor:**

Yes, no golden hams in the real world. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

But I definitely like if I had to—if I had to Supermarket Sweep the fancy Kroger, you know?

**Taylor:**

Oh yeah.

**Rileigh:**

The fancy—

**Sydnee:**

Not—not the other Kroger.

**Raleigh:**

The fancy Kroger.

**Sydnee:**

The fancy Kroger.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

Yes. Um, I know exactly where I'd go. Like, I have already mapped it out in my head, like I know where I'd start.

**Raleigh:**

To the sushi? [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Well there's the—yeah, I mean there's the—that whole area. There's the sushi and the fancy cheese. They're there right together.

**Raleigh:**

And the wine.

**Sydnee:**

And the wine is right there.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

I was going to say, go—just go to the wine. Like, just, you know? Just break the case.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Well and if you go—and—and right next to that is where they have all like the um, like they have a gluten free and a vegan and a like all the dif—those sort of specialty foods, and those are all always more expensive.



**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

I would just sweep right through that whole—I wouldn't even go over to the other side of the store. What, am I going to go buy a gallon of milk? No, look at all this.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

It—it like the new games, some of the high ticket items they have in there are kind of like how—why doesn't everybody go for this? Because it's like coffee makers and stuff in there that you can grab now.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Like, entire grills. It's like, why don't you just—why—why did you grab five bags of Lays potato chips? Like, what are you doing? [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] Get the grill. Get the actual, literal grill.

**Taylor:**

Yes. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] I love that idea, because you know somebody, uh that's part—that was part of—that was part of what I loved about it, is that like somebody at home, has been at their grocery store and looked at some product and thought, why is that brand of yogurt so expensive? Man, if I'm ever on Supermarket Sweep, I'm gonna get a bunch of that yogurt that's so expensive.

And like, it probably is expensive for yogurt, this is an—this is a good observation you've made, but like, it's not expensive for the rest of the grocery store. But then when they get on Supermarket Sweep, buddy, they're going for that yogurt because they know it's more expensive.

**Taylor:**

I will say though, there was—there was one woman who went, uh, for the—the real vanilla extract.

**Sydnee:**

Oh.

**Taylor:**

Which, I think was a good move, because like I think because they're the big bottles, they're like 30, 40 dollars a bottle, but they're tiny. They don't take up much space. So I don't know, maybe that's...

**Sydnee:**

Mm.

**Raleigh:**

Mm.

**Taylor:**

It's a good strategy if you've got a high price but like low volume item.

**Sydnee:**

You know, the pros are the ones that go for the razors.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

Oh yeah? Oh, the razor blades?

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, because you can get a ton of them.

**Sydnee:**

I would go straight—yeah, that's where... After I hit up that whole section of our fancy Kroger, I'd go over to the razor blades and just empty out all the razor blades. You can get a ton of them, they're small, and they're way overpriced.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

I've noticed on the new show, protein powder is something that people go for. It's like \$45 a bag for like a little bag of protein powder. I don't know what kind of protein powder that is, but...

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

I love... I've just been sitting here thinking about how you—you have this plan for the fancy Kroger?

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

That you've obviously have taken some time to formulate. And now I just imagine every time you go to a new grocery store, your first whole trip there is just, "What would I sweep?"

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Let me plan my sweep.

**Sydnee:**

I—I—I have to plan my sweep. Because it—you know, when I was younger, I foolishly thought why don't they just run down the aisles with their arms out and knock everything they can?

**Raleigh:**

I also thought that.

**Sydnee:**

Right? Like, I mean I—yeah, I used to think like that's what you'd want to do.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And now that I'm older, I know that because you'd fill your buggy up really quickly with a bunch of stuff that isn't very expensive. They also, I've learned this too from watching a lot of it, there's a limit of how many of each item they can get, I think.

**Taylor:**

I think you're right. I was wondering that too, like why not when you get a big-ticket item just grab all of it? But they don't let you.

**Raleigh:**

Uh-huh.

**Sydnee:**

No, I—I—and I—I heard him say it once on one of the old episodes, like she was get—she was getting and he was like, "And she's gotten all five that she can" or something.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And so I—I do there's a—I think they're like, it's not interesting to watch somebody fill like three buggies of razors.

**Raleigh:**

That's fair. Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

So like, we want you to go around and get other things so you can only get so many of each one.

**Raleigh:**

That makes sense.

**Taylor:**

I—is there a limit on the meat though? Because I feel like a big part of the sweep is just everybody just—just saddles up to the meat department and it's just throwing meat footage. Just a lot.

**Sydnee:**

I—

**Raleigh:**

Just one buggy each of meat.

**Sydnee:**

Can I ask too... I mean I've seen whole hams, like in a grocery store. I have seen those for scale.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] In real life.

**Sydnee:**

There's the big... I don't know. I don't know enough about butchery. There's the big, long cut of meat that they always get a bunch of.

**Taylor:**

Like ribs or something, I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

I have never seen anything like just sitting out like that.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Maybe it's in the butcher's like—but I feel like you'd have to go up and ask for it. I've never seen it just like, pre—packaged two—foot—long side of beef sitting in the fridge in the cold section.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I mean I—I've never seen that. Maybe it's there, I don't know. I don't go looking for it either. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

I mean, I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

I've also never seen a whole wheel of cheese for sale.

**Raleigh:**

Well, again, this is not a functional, real grocery store that we are living in here.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, it looks like it could be though.

**Raleigh:**

It—there's—it can't be, right?

**Taylor:**

Nah, it's definitely not.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

No, no, I don't think it is a real—

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

No, it's a set.

**Raleigh:**

Okay.

**Sydnee:**

Oh, no, I—

**Raleigh:**

I was going to say, would you say you think it's maybe a real one they just rent out on the weekends? [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

No, no, no, no.

**Taylor:**

We're gonna mess the place up for a couple days and then we'll pay for everything.

**Sydnee:**

It's definitely a set.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I—I wonder how much time they get too—this is another thought. I—man, I would a tell—all about...

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

If there was a—someone make a documentary about Supermarket Sweep, please.

**Raleigh:**

You make it.

**Sydnee:**

And if you need like—[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

If it doesn't exist, you make it.

**Sydnee:**

I'm not a documentarian. That's so your generation.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I don't have that expertise. [laughs] I could do a podcast about it, I guess.

**Raleigh:**

There you go.

**Taylor:**

There we are.

**Sydnee:**

But not even the right kind. I don't even do those kinds of podcasts. Um, I want to know, like, do they get to tour it for a while first and sort of get an—you know?

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

Because like I'd be great at the fancy Kroger because we have shopped there before.

**Raleigh:**

You know where it is, right.

**Sydnee:**

Um—

**Taylor:**

I think—I—they've got to—it's got to be sight unseen, you know?

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Because that first one where they're just trying to find the one item? No one ever knows where it is so I think you just have to cobble together your information as you go.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Maybe that's like your chance to kind of see where everything is, when you're looking for one thing.

**Sydnee:**

That's true, yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Because you kind of have to look everywhere unless you get lucky.



**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm. I've also—I've also learned that I have had trouble adapting. I'm better at guessing all the prices of the things in the '90s.

**Raleigh:**

Really?

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Interesting. Think that's just because you think everything like costs less than it actually is and you can't believe when things cost—

**Sydnee:**

I think I'm always shocked.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. I get that.

**Sydnee:**

And I look at something and realize how expensive it is, I'm—I think I'm solely shocked by things.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

In my head, everything is... [laughs] But I'm very good at that one. I'm always like, oh no, that bread is way overpriced. It's cheaper than that. Yeah, I know. I know.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

I mean, also like all food prices are really high right now. Like, they're just...

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

I was going to ask, because—I—I mean, it's popular in the '90s, it's popular now. Do you think that there's a zeitgeist to this? Like what is it—the joy? Because to me, it's kind of like, I don't know. Is it a thing that like if you're—if economic hardship is something that you're you know, hassled by, is—is this a bit of wish-fulfillment? Is this a bit of escapism, just watching somebody grab everything and make money spending money? [laughs] Like, we can relate to, unfortunately, again.

**Sydnee:**

I'm sure that's part of it.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

And—and I imagine also like I don't know. Uh, I would wonder if food prices weren't really good, also. If you look at sort of when the show existed back in the '90s, if this wasn't a good era of food pricing.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm. Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I suspect it may have been. Um, and so it also—because I mean, I know—I know things seem... I guess that's true. Things do seem cheap like—yeah. But like, I mean, now everything's so much more expensive. I don't know.

**Raleigh:**

I mean, it's like, people love—well, the youths, we love watching hauls of things that YouTubers buy online. Like when they buy just ridiculous amounts of clothes or whatever?

**Taylor:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

And we love watching them unbox everything they've gotten. And I know in my brain, logically, I am giving you more money to continue buying these things as I sit here watching you unpack all these things you bought, but I can't help it. It's like I can't—I can't buy all those things, so I'll watch you do it. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

It really—it really is though. I guess it's the same sort of thing, because I don't—I don't watch those videos.

**Raleigh:**

You're not a—a youth of the gen Z.

**Sydnee:**

I'm not a youth. Well, but it's also not my interest. I've never—I've never been a person who's really excited about clothes or electronics. Like the stuff that you would—

**Raleigh:**

But the grocery store...

**Sydnee:**

But the grocery store, I am.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

The idea of like, if I had all the money in the world, I could try any of the cheeses I want.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Because what if I don't like it? I don't want to... I mean, if I'm going to buy a fancy cheese and it's going to cost money, I'm very careful about that because I don't want to waste it.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

And if I don't like it, I'm going to feel like I have to eat it so it limits me.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:**

But if I had all the money in the world, I could try any of the cheeses.

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Like, there's something very exciting to me about that.

**Raleigh:**

That's fair.

**Taylor:**

That's true.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] I don't know. That's my fantasy, to go to the grocery store—

**Raleigh:**

All the money for all the cheeses.

**Taylor:**

For all the cheeses.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

... And try any cheese I want. Price is no object, try the cheese. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Syd, the next time you're in New York, I'm going to take you to like, just a— just like a good cheese shop with a cheese counter where they let you just try things, you know?

**Sydnee:**

Ooh, really?

**Taylor:**

Yeah, I know. It's like, you—you go to Murray's you can just try a cheese if you're curious about it. Give you a little nibble.

**Raleigh:**

Oh my gosh, Sydnee's losing her mind.

**Taylor:**

Yeah. It's not a luxury experience, it's just—it's just normal. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

That would be very cool.

**Raleigh:**

You can't try the pre-packaged fancy cheeses at the fancy Kroger. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

No, I—I buy the least fancy cheese. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I'm always so scared, I always end up like, well, just... I revert to like Dubliner. I'm like—

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, that's exactly what I was gonna say.

**Sydnee:**

It's a good, solid cheese. I like it. Good Irish cheese. It's yummy every time.

**Taylor:**

How wild do you think cheese is gonna get that you're like, I don't know. It could just too much for me, maybe that cheese... Like... [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] I don't know.

**Raleigh:**

I think it says so much.

**Sydnee:**

I—I don't like to spend a lot of money here.

**Raleigh:**

It says so much about our family and where we are from, that you're like, you and I both thought the Dubliner.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

That is the cheese that I remember mom bringing home probably a decade ago, and she was like, "I got this fancy cheese. You're gonna love it."

**Sydnee:**

I know! And to this day she does it.

**Raleigh:**

And I felt—I felt so sophisticated. I was like, mm, yeah, that's gonna be great, sophisticated, fancy cheese. It was expensive. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

I mean, it's clearly from another country. Dublin is right in the name.

**Sydnee:**

It really—it really is. And to this day like, Mom will—I'll come over sometimes and she'll be like, "Guess what I have? Do you want some Dubliner?" [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

It is like a fancy treat. She had it over Thanksgiving break and I was like wow, okay.

**Sydnee:**

Bring it out with some Triscuits and be like, "Check this out." [laughs]

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Taylor:**

[laughing] I made a charcuterie board.

**Raleigh:**

It's just Dubliner and Triscuits.

**Sydnee:**

But to be fair, Justin's out of town, last night for dinner, Triscuits and I got... It was not a fancy cheese tray, it was just like some slices of like not American cheese mixed together from—from the fancy Kroger. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Like Colby—Jack?

**Sydnee:**

It was like there's a colby jack and a gouda and I don't know, a gruyère or something. Here we go, here are a few slices of each and some Triscuits. That was like dinner.

**Taylor:**

You just wanted an adult Lunchable.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Yes. That's all I want.

**Taylor:**

I—I need—I need it. You know, I'm going to put the idea out there and just I guess I'm gonna let somebody steal it, but come on. Like the hipster like high-end but we love nostalgia marketplace, give me those adult Lunchables that like, have, like, fancy cheeses and some sort of organic cracker and a vegan brownie or something, and then like a little juice box of like Cab Sauv. That's what I want. It—it'll sell.

**Raleigh:**

Is that—

**Taylor:**

Take it.

**Raleigh:**

Is that just if you made a—a portable charcuterie board?

**Sydnee:**

It basically is.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, like a tiny one.

**Sydnee:**

I mean they—but they almost have those.

**Raleigh:**

But for one.

**Sydnee:**

They have something that's almost that, that are like Hickory Farm meals and they're like—

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

They're—they're similar to that but they're not the—I think they're close, but what you're talking about, the full realization with a dessert and a drink and the whole thing? We need that.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

It's very close, but we need that.

**Raleigh:**

Then take it a step further and make an adult Kid Cuisine.

**Sydnee:**

Oh.

**Raleigh:**

That you pop in the microwave, that you don't just break the top off.



**Taylor:**

I think that's—

**Sydnee:**

That's just like a frozen dinner, right?

**Raleigh:**

But—but fancy with a—

**Sydnee:**

Like a TV dinner?

**Raleigh:**

... With a little drink and drink and a dessert.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

They have a little cosmic brownie in all the Kid Cuisines. Where's that?

**Sydnee:**

Charlie took a Lunchable today that had chicken nuggets in it but she made me warm up the chicken nuggets and put—put them in a thermos to keep them warm because she didn't want to eat—[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

They're not—I mean—

**Sydnee:**

They make them that way. They make you—they—they have you eat cold chicken but I don't understand it.

**Taylor:**

I don't—I think cold chicken nuggets are better than sweaty chicken nuggets.

**Raleigh:**

I was gonna say, they're going to be wet. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Just room temp—slightly above room temperature sweaty chicken nuggets. Sydnee, you're a doctor. That is a hothouse for disease, you know that. That is above the temperature danger zone.

**Raleigh:**

You did it because the seven year old said, "Can you put them in a thermos?" and you were like, "Yeah, okay."

**Sydnee:**

Well, I had—I had to keep them warm.

**Taylor:**

Yeah, that—that's—

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

It'll be fine. They eat lunch at like ten AM, inexplicably, so...

**Raleigh:**

That's true.

**Taylor:**

A thermos?

**Sydnee:**

I—I don't know.

**Taylor:**

Put them in foil? I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

Boil them?

**Raleigh:**

Foil.

**Taylor:**

I said put them in foil.

**Sydnee:**

Oh. [laughs] I am doing the best I can. Justin's at a convention.

**Taylor:**

So your child gets a thermos full of chicken nuggies?

**Sydnee:**

Last night—

**Rileigh:**

Wet chicken nuggies. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Last night, in addition to all of the cooking and cleaning and bathing and showering and all the things I did to get them ready for bed, get them all tucked away nice and teeth brushed and butts clean and all that... In addition to all that, I had to move an elf.

**Taylor:**

Wow that's—that needs further explanation.

**Sydnee:**

I have to redress the elf every night.

**Taylor:**

Oh it's the—the Elf on the Shelf thing. All right.

**Rileigh:**

It's got to move.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah. An elf—the elf gets a new outfit and a new location every night and we got an advent calendar I got to figure out how to fill every night with something. Anyway.

**Taylor:**

Sounds—sounds like some of that work, you created for yourself.

**Rileigh:**

You should fill—fill it with little nuggets.

**Taylor:**

Some more sweaty nuggets. Some more sweaty, moist nuggets. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

[laughs] Here, I've filled it with your after school snack for today. Just open up.

**Sydnee:**

You know what the... We have to end this episode, but you know what the kicker is? They had pizza at school today.

**Raleigh:**

Oh my gosh.

**Sydnee:**

She didn't want to eat it.

**Raleigh:**

Of course.

**Sydnee:**

No, because it's got sauce on it and she only eats pizza without sauce.

**Raleigh:**

She likes cheese sticks.

**Sydnee:**

So I had to—so I had to send her with chicken nuggets so that she didn't have to eat pizza at school.

**Raleigh:**

Man, I wish I could get school pizza.

**Taylor:**

Man.

**Raleigh:**

I miss that rectangle pizza.

**Taylor:**

That fit the tray perfectly?

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Taylor:**

It was designed to fit the tray.

**Sydnee:**

Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:**

And the little, tiny, square pepperonis.

**Taylor:**

Oh yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Oh my gosh. Anyways, okay.

**Sydnee:**

Well anyway, thank you all for watching Supermarket Sweep.

**Taylor:**

It was great. I even watched more of it.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

I couldn't sleep last night because I had to just keep watching it. Leslie Jones is addictive.

**Raleigh:**

She is.

**Sydnee:**

I would highly recommend the new one. I mean the—the old one is fun for nostalgia purposes, if like—especially if you're of sort of my generation, like you probably remember it from when you were home sick from school or something and uh, and it has that kind of element and it's kind of um, I don't know. It's got that like kitschy thing of a lot of—a lot of that early '90s stuff.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

But uh, the current one is—is genuinely entertaining. It's—it's funny, it's clever. Leslie Jones is great.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

Well, and to go back to you know however you feel about the—the queer lens on the old show. I—I hear—hear a lot of people complaining about a lack of like wholesome queer representation in new media. This definitely has it.

**Raleigh:**

Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:**

If you just want to watch some happy gay couples like shout at each other about ham, it's great.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I agree.

**Raleigh:**

It's perfect.

**Sydnee:**

It was always there. It was subversive and it was always there.

**Raleigh:**

And you always knew it.

**Sydnee:**

And I always knew it. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Just Sydnee.

**Taylor:**

Sure, sure.

**Raleigh:**

Just for you.

**Sydnee:**

All right, well thank you all. Taylor, what's next?

**Taylor:**

Uh, I want to talk about... We're moving into the holidays. Uh, one of my favorite Christmas movies, it kind of qualifies, um, the uh, the uh Batman Returns, which is a 1992 Tim Burton Batman film. So I know it's not the original in that series, but it is my favorite. We're starting with the sequel.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] It's a great Christmas movie.

**Raleigh:**

A classic Christmas movie.

**Taylor:**

Well, it's set during Christmas. That's—that's all—everybody's always out here "Die Hard", and I'm like well, what about Batman Returns? Can—can I start that dialogue?

**Sydnee:**

That's what we're gonna start.

**Raleigh:**

That's what we're gonna do.

**Sydnee:**

Next week.

**Taylor:**

There you go.

**Sydnee:**

All right, well thank you all. Um, thank you, listeners. [laughs] Hope you enjoyed Supermarket Sweep.

**Raleigh:**

[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

And that the very gay history of Supermarket Sweep, uh—

**Raleigh:**

Thank you for coming to our TED Talk.

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] Thank you to Maximum Fun. You should go to [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org) and check out all the great podcasts there. Uh, you can tweet at us @Stillbuff, you can email us at [stillbuffering@maximumfun.org](mailto: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.

**Taylor:**

And I am too.

**Sydnee:**

And I am too.

[theme music plays]

**Sydnee:**



And next time you're at the checkout and you hear the beep, think of the fun you can have on... [pause] Supermarket Sweep! See, we were all supposed to say it together. It's good. Yes. Yes.

[music plays]

**Jo:**

Well Manolo, we have a show to promote. It's called Dr. Gameshow.

**Manolo:**

It's a family-friendly podcast where listeners submit games, then we play them with callers from around the world.

**Jo:**

Whoa, sounds good. New episodes happen every other Wednesday on [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org).

**Manolo:**

It's a—it's a fast and loose oasis of absurd innocence and naivety and—

**Jo:**

Are you writing a poem?

**Manolo:**

No, I'm just saying things from my memory. And uh, it's a nice break from reality. [laughs] Is that—are—are we allowed to say that?

**Jo:**

I don't know, it sounds bad.

**Manolo:**

It comes with a 100% happiness guarantee.

**Jo:**

It does not.

**Manolo:**

[laughs]

**Jo:**

Come for the games, stay for the chaos.

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