

Still Buffering: The Princess Switch 3

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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:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor:

And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Sydnee:

Well, Taylor, I hear that, uh, that things are rough up there in New York.

Taylor:

[laugh] Yeah. Yeah. We got, got all the all, uh, Omicron, just coming in for the holidays, it's like, like an unwanted weird uncle. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I have seen that on TikTok. You know, I lo—there are a lot of reasons, not one reason, a lot of reasons. I mean, mainly like scientifically you all live a lot closer together, up there than in, than in like here, other places.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Uh, but also one, one factor I've seen blamed a lot on TikTok is, uh, uh, SantaCon? [laughs]

Taylor:

This, this makes perfect sense, honestly. I don't...

Sydnee:

I, I was unfamiliar. All I saw were all these people waiting in very long lines for COVID tests saying, "Well, I went to SantaCon and now I think I have Omicron." Um, and I was like, "SantaCon?"

Raleigh:

Sorry?

Sydnee:

I'm sorry? Which in my head is a convention where you dress as Santa, and maybe there are booths with like Santa-related products or things—

Raleigh:

And you, you meet the, the Santa?

Sydnee:

... that you can look at. Huh?

Raleigh:

You meet the Santa.

Sydnee:

The Santa, there will be panels—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... of various Santa-associated figures. I mean, I'm, I'm picturing a con—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... but—

Taylor:

Something very wholesome, like for, for, for holiday enthusiasts, perhaps.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like all the people who play Santa in malls across America, like come together at SantaCon—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... to like trade secrets, and like, "Here's what I like to do to [laughs] make it less weird."

Raleigh:

Convention from mall centers.

Sydnee:

"... that kids are sitting on my lap or whatever, you know? [laughs]

Taylor:

That, that, that sounds nice. It's not that though. Uh—

Sydnee:

Oh, okay. [laughs]

Taylor:

... SantaCon is not bad. Um, SantaCon actually, like, like we did an episode over on need about it, but like SantaCon, the origin of it goes back to like a Danish activist group that like dressed to Santa and took over a department store and handed out gifts to like people on the street. So, it has like cool origins. And then like some people in San Francisco saw that and thought that was cool and started doing charitable events dressed as Santa.

But some synthesis, when it got to New York, happened, where it just became this like drunken bar crawl of like frat boys dressed as Santa, and they start super early in the day, and they're, they're gross, and there's just like just crying elves and streak by noon. It's nothing about it... The, the bars have, have like joined together to try to ban Santas on SantaCon, like all throughout the city. Like—

Sydnee:

How is it a con?

Taylor:

... in several burrows.

Sydnee:

How is it a con?

Taylor:

It's a con. I mean, there's not like you don't like go to a convention center. It's just, you all meet up—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... and drink dressed in, in the holiday gear. And they're like, "We're charitable roots at the beginning." I'm sure that, uh, believers would say they still are, but as somebody that's had to work in bars that have been hit by SantaCon [laughs]—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... I guess it's still the way it's spread. [laughs] It's, it's just rude, drunk... Like it's everything that's bad about St. Patty's Day in New York, but somehow even worse, because everybody's dressed to Santa Claus, so you can't, like you be like, "That's the guy that puked on the bar."

"The guy dressed as Santa? Oh man. I don't know."

"The Santa with, that puked in his beard?"

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

"No, there's, there's five that have puked in their beard." I don't know. Just get them all out. No more Santas.

Sydnee:

Are, is there a fear if you have like, okay, so you're in one of the bars that has a strict no Santa policy on SantaCon—

Rileigh:

On SantaCon.

Sydnee:

... to keep out, you know, everybody who's just going to be a drunken Santa, is there a fear that you will accidentally bar the real Santa from coming in?

Rileigh:

Now, it's—

Sydnee:

... thereby ending up on the naughty list?

Rileigh:

... it's before his day.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But you don't know what Sa—I mean, Santa's got a big job up ahead of him. Maybe he needs a day off ahead of time, some me time, self-care.

Rileigh:

In New York? [laughs]

Sydnee:

In New York, at a bar to just like, have a drink, chill out, take a little bit of time before he goes back to... I mean, he's not making the toys. He's supervising.

Taylor:

Yeah. But he's not going to be out in like his Santa reds.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

Like they, the, you know, they got to be fresh and clean. Also, I, I would like to apply like Buffy logic to SantaCon. You know how like all the, all the monsters stay home on Halloween?

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Taylor:

Like I think SantaCon is the day that Santa's like, "No, no, no, no. I will not be confused [laughs] with them."

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Well, because you got to, you got to think that during Christmas season in general is a good time for Santa to just go out fully Santa'd, because there's lots of like, you know, fakey Santas—

Raleigh:

I think—

Sydnee:

... wandering around. And so, you can like, you would assume, if I saw a guy walking around in a Santa suit in July, I'm like, "Oh my God, it's Santa." But if I see a guy walking around in a Santa suit in December, it's like, well he's on his way to work at whatever department store. You know?

Raleigh:

... Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

No. That—

Sydnee:

... he's just being Santa.

Taylor:

... that doesn't apply New York City. If you see a guy in June dressed as Santa you're like, "Oh, oh, okay. He's going to go—"

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

"... like offer \$15 hugs in Times Square to children. It's fine."

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I think if Santa was going to hit up any place in New York, I do have full confidence it would be the big Applebee's, and he'd get those big drinks.

Taylor:

I think.

Sydnee:

Yeah. That sounds like a Santa place.

Raleigh:

Right?

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

I mean, he's going to, he's Santa. He's wholesome. He's going to go to somewhere that has cookies. He's not going to be going to a bunch of dive bars, like—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... you know, he's got more class than that.

Sydnee:

Does, does Applebee's have cookies?

Taylor:

Applebee's has cookies. I think they have them at Applebee's.

Raleigh:

I'm sure they do. Either Applebee's or the Olive Garden—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... if he's feeling fancy.

Sydnee:

The Olive Garden? Why does Santa go to Olive Garden?

Raleigh:

I don't know. He seems like the kind of guy that would just enjoy like a nice meal—

Sydnee:

Bread stick?

Raleigh:

... at the Olive Garden. A breast stick. Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Endless bread sticks?

Raleigh:

Endless bread sticks.

Sydnee:

Do they do that at Olive Garden, or is that just Fazoli's?

Raleigh:

No. Olive Garden keeps bringing you the bread sticks, right?

Sydnee:

I don't know. I haven't—

Raleigh:

I haven't been to [laughs] an Olive Garden for so long.

Sydnee:

... I haven't been to an Olive Garden, or if it's Fazoli's in so long. I don't know anymore.

Rileigh:

Um, um, do you, do you think scientifically they renamed this variant to the Omiclaus variant?

Taylor:

Oh my God. No.

Rileigh:

Oh.

Taylor:

Dad would be so proud.

Sydnee:

Save that. Save that.

Rileigh:

Oh.

Taylor:

Yeah. I mean that, there's, there's nothing funny about anybody getting, uh, anybody getting Omicron, but at the same time, the fact that, the fact that this happened at, at SantaCon makes it the Omiclaus variant, I, I—

Rileigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... just makes sense. It makes sense.

Sydnee:

Well, and I should say like, I'm joking about SantaCon. Obviously, Omicron is from a lot of other, but I don't want to just blame SantaCon. [laughs]

Taylor:

No, no, it was, yeah. Well, you had the anime convention a couple weeks ago. That's where it originated. It's just.

Sydnee:

I think, I think that was sort of a super, super spreader event there—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... it seems. I don't know. I have not done any research on that. That's just what it, reading the reports seems like. But it was, I mean, it was so contagious. It doesn't matter. Like it, it, you could have not had the convention, and it's just that contagious.

Taylor:

I mean, that, that's what I, like. I feel like a lot of people that I know that have gotten it recently have just been living their normal lives. They haven't done anything out of the ordinary, but you know, they've gone to the grocery store, or they, you know, might go out to dinner. The stuff that everybody has kind of slowly allowed back into their life, and it's like, nah, now they, they, they got the Omicron.

Sydnee:

[laugh] Yeah. Yeah. Well, I think you make a really good point though, that you shouldn't tie it to like, oh, if you got it, you must be doing something really dangerous. Like—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... we, we're kind of past that now. I mean, you may have been, you may have gone to SantaCon [laughs], but also you could have just been living your life.

Taylor:

Yeah. No, I know. I'm not, I'm not judging anyone that went to SantaCon specifically related to the Omicron event. I'm judging people that went to SantaCon because it's SantaCon. [laughs] There we go.

Raleigh:

[laughs] Any year.

Sydnee:

Don't get a twisted. [laughs] Um, I got, I don't have, um—

Raleigh:

Thinking of Santa—

Sydnee:

Sure. There you go.

Taylor:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and Christmas—

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

... I have a favorite holiday tradition.

Sydnee:

I'm so excited for this.

Raleigh:

... and it is discussing the newest, bad Christmas movie on Netflix.

Sydnee:

Now, you say bad.

Raleigh:

We ran out of Christmas Princes, so we switched to the Princess Switches for the past few years. And this year, we were gifted with a third installment of Vanessa Hudgens featuring Vanessa Hudgens with guest star, Vanessa Hudgens. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I, I love these movies. I love, I mean, I'm not being ironic.

Raleigh:

Did you cry?

Sydnee:

I'm, I'm post irony. [laughs] I can't, I can't be ironic anymore. Actually, I lived through the '90s, so there's no more irony left in me. I just love this movie.

Raleigh:

I've been thinking about this since I watched it, uh, yesterday, and I just need to ask before we get too into the plot, which we will. Did you cry or tear up at this movie?

Sydnee:

Maybe a little.

Raleigh:

You did. Okay.

Sydnee:

Maybe a little.

Raleigh:

Okay. Okay. I assumed as much.

Sydnee:

The, I, the, um, I mean, we're going to spoil the whole movie, so they're just saying that now. The, the romance part didn't make me tear up necessarily, the mom—

Raleigh:

The mom. Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... the reuniting with her mom, that made me tear up.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Um, we should, let me, let me rewind just a little bit.

Sydnee:

I don't even know how to—

Raleigh:

I don't know.

Sydnee:

... if you want to try to untangle the plot.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Okay. Here we go. Um, Princess Switch 1, Vanessa Hudgens is a baker in, from Chicago.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Vanessa Hudgens is also about to be the queen—

Sydnee:

Of Montenegro.

Raleigh:

... of Montenegro.

Sydnee:

No. She's the princess of Montenegro—

Raleigh:

Princess of Montenegro.

Sydnee:

... who's about to marry the prince of Belgravia?

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Uh, and then Vanessa, baker Vanessa Hudgens goes to one of those countries—

Sydnee:

Belgravia.

Raleigh:

... for a baking competition. She sees other Vanessa Hudgens. They realize they look just alike.

Sydnee:

They switch places.

Raleigh:

They switch places, of course, because princess wants a normal life—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and baker Vanessa Hudgens is like, "I want to be a princess." Um, baker Vanessa Hudgens falls in love with the prince—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and secret princess, Vanessa Hudgens, falls in love with this—

Sydnee:

Baker bud.

Raleigh:

Baker bud.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah. Um, they both fall in love and they get married to each other.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Not all four of them. Just the two.

Sydnee:

First, first, baker Vanessa Hudgens, Stacy, gets married to the prince—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... of Belgravia, becoming the princess of Belgravia—

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

... eventually king and queen of Belgravia.

Raleigh:

Queen. Yeah. Yes.

Sydnee:

Yeah. The, eventually, she's queen. Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then in the next installment is when our princess of Montenegro becomes queen of Montenegro and eventually marries... baker bud.

Raleigh:

Baker bud, whose name I cannot remember now.

Sydnee:

I don't remember his name.

Raleigh:

Um, the second one, there's a third Vanessa Hudgens who's evil and has blonde hair.

Sydnee:

[laughs] She's the cousin... [laughs] oh my God. She's the cousin of Margaret, queen of Montenegro.

Raleigh:

Margaret.

Sydnee:

And Margaret's all like refined, fancy queen. Not, none of these nationalities, by the way, are real. They're all just sort of vaguely—

Raleigh:

It's just Vanessa's way—

Sydnee:

... European, British-ish.

Raleigh:

... of distinguishing her three voices.

Sydnee:

Yes. That they're... But the, but this cousin is more like, like, the wild duchess cousin who spent all of her inheritance on trips to, I don't know—

Raleigh:

Other fake countries.

Sydnee:

... wherever, wherever royalty goes, and—

Raleigh:

Belgravia. I don't know.

Sydnee:

... Yeah. I don't know. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Um, but then she steals something and pretends to be one of them, and like—

Sydnee:

She tries to—

Raleigh:

... kidnaps one of them, and—

Sydnee:

... she tries to, like, she, it's a coup.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

She tries to overthrow her cousin and take the throne of Montenegro.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I mean, it's a big deal. Like she kidnaps—

Raleigh:

She kidnapped Stacy?

Sydnee:

... Stacy.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then takes the place... I don't even know how all that works. Anyway, she tries to overthrow the government and gets community service at a convent.

Raleigh:

She gets thousands of hours of community service to be served at a convent.

Sydnee:

At a convent slash orphanage. This, so, this is, we're finally getting into the third movie.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

And into to the third movie, we open with, um... [laughs] It is a, it's a big holiday celebration—

Raleigh:

That Stacy and Margaret—

Sydnee:

... are having, are co-hosting. Yeah. They're co-hosting, and as part of the big celebration, the Pope has sent... [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I said the Pope.

Raleigh:

The Vatican, the Vatican has allowed them to use the Star of Peace. Is that what it's called?

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

Yes. The Star of Peace. The Vatican has gifted them the Star Peace.

Sydnee:

Which was owned by St. Nicholas himself. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

It is a big fancy treetop.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] Then, St. Nick, famous for his giant treetop, St. Nicholas. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs] Yes. Uh, and that is the centerpiece of this—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... big doing celebration.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

The Vatican, the Star of Peace.

Sydnee:

Yeah. The Pope sent it.

Raleigh:

But then of course—

Sydnee:

He sent the as cardinal to watch it.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Uh, but then of course, it gets stolen.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

So, they have to—

Sydnee:

The rest of the movie is a heist movie, where they use the, like—

Raleigh:

... They enlist the help of, uh, wacky cousin, Vanessa Hudgens—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... to steal it back.

Sydnee:

Yes. And her—

Taylor:

And break her out of the jail.

Sydnee:

... and her and her ex-boyfriend.

Raleigh:

Yes. Break. [laughs]

Sydnee:

They have to get her out of jail, they've got to get her ex-boyfriend—

Raleigh:

Out of the convent.

Sydnee:

... who also used to be involved in unscrupulous things.

Raleigh:

Who's very dreamy.

Sydnee:

Who's very dreamy. And they're, they're going to work together too, and her, and her squad.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

They show up—

Raleigh:

I love those guys.

Sydnee:

... and they're going to steal back the Star of Peace from the guy who stole it, who is also one of her ex-boyfriends, and that seduction is part of it.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like she's got to seduce him to like distract him while they're doing their like, Mission Impossible style heist.

Raleigh:

Yeah. And then of course, they all have to pretend to be one another at some point.

Taylor:

Yeah. Oh that's, yes.

Raleigh:

Of course.

Sydnee:

I have to say that, uh, despite how convoluted this plot sounds, it, it, it sounds that way, because it is.

Raleigh:

It is.

Sydnee:

It is. Um, Vanessa Hudgens having to play different versions of herself, but then also having to play like this version of herself, pretending to be another version of herself—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... it's pretty impressive.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Yeah. Uh, our dad watched it and said she deserved an Academy Award. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] Like, he meant that?

Raleigh:

I think he was also post irony. [laughs] I think he also meant it. Um, no, I—

Sydnee:

I loved this movie. I loved how, uh, it, every time it was like, we can't go there. That's too bizarre. They were like, "The... F it. Who cares? Let's go there. Let's do it." I loved it. Um, I love that. I really, I will say, there is a moment where there's... what is her name?

Raleigh:

... Which one?

Sydnee:

The blonde one.

Raleigh:

Um.

Taylor:

Oh...

Sydnee:

We should know this.

Raleigh:

Not Victoria. Not Vanessa. What was her name?

Taylor:

I want to call her Penny, because that's, she's Pembroke, but...

Raleigh:

Pembroke. Um, Fiona.

Sydnee:

Fiona. Thank you.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Fiona, like they're all three being Fiona. There is actual Fiona who's in, she's heisting, because she's really good at doing flips and stuff, so she's—

Raleigh:

Sneaking through lasers.

Sydnee:

... Yeah. She's sneaking through lasers and flipping around. And then there's Stacy from Chicago, who's being Fiona at her [laughs]—

Raleigh:

At her hearing.

Sydnee:

... at her hearing—

Taylor:

Nun trial.

Sydnee:

... to see if she's, yeah. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

To see if she's going to get out early on good behavior. And so, she's pretending to be this, that Fiona. And then there's also Margaret the—

Rileigh:

Fiona.

Sydnee:

... Fiona, who's pretending to be Fiona. She's the queen one. She's all proper, and she's seducing the ex-boyfriend.

Rileigh:

The guy who stole the Star.

Sydnee:

Who stole it to like, you know, distract him. And she is being different as the actual Fiona. When she's Margaret pretending to be Fiona, she's a different Fiona, and when she is Stacy pretending to be Fiona, she's still a different Fiona. I... that's amazing.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Okay.

Sydnee:

[laughs] I'm just saying it's talent. Like, that's talent.

Rileigh:

Okay. Talent.

Sydnee:

It's, I, I'm impressed.

Taylor:

I mean, there's this show called Orphan Black that you should watch. That's all I'm going to say.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I would also contend that V Hudge, uh, has a whole calendar year, every year to prepare for this, um, so, you know.

Taylor:

Yes.

Raleigh:

She's not—

Sydnee:

I'm just saying I'm impressed.

Raleigh:

... present times. Um, I would like—

Taylor:

I, I got. Go ahead.

Raleigh:

Go ahead. Yeah.

Taylor:

Oh, I say I, you mentioned her standing in as Fiona at her own trial, and the fact, the fact that it's played off as a laugh that she tries to get her trial extended, because they just don't get along, or her sentence extended, because they just don't get along [laughs]—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... it's wild. [laughs]

Sydnee:

That is, that is really wild. It, the whole thing is wild. She's sentenced to work at this convent slash orphanage.

Raleigh:

You don't, you don't get sentenced to community service like that. No.

Taylor:

But, but, the, where it is set though, like the location they've chosen is this island, like snowy island, that's only accessible by a single bridge, just out in the middle of nowhere, this compound. It looks nightmarish. As like a weird kind of prison, okay, it's an orphanage too. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] Exactly. Yes.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's exactly, Thank you. That was exactly what I thought. Like why is this snowy desolate, hell scape, why is that—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... why do we have to make an orphanage there? This is so sad. Like I know we're trying to punish Fiona, but this is awful.

Taylor:

You know, prisoners of the crown and orphans here. [laughs]

Sydnee:

This is awful.

Raleigh:

Well, is it, wasn't there a plot point in one of the other movies where one of the, Vanessas wanted to spend Christmas with the orphanage, or was supposed to spend Christmas with the orphans or something—

Sydnee:

I... [laughs] Yes. Yes.

Raleigh:

... and that's why there, because like that was her charity?

Sydnee:

Stacy, Stacy wanted to be more involved with the orphans, because—

Raleigh:

Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee:

... like the other, the royal family had always just sort of shown up and been like, "Here's some presents. Goodbye," and then like washed themselves quickly, because it's like, oh—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... there's poor people there. And she's like, "This is terrible. We need to get in there and get to know these kids, and like make a difference."

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then the prince was like, "You're right. I love you." [laughs]

Raleigh:

I got to say, I think that prince is my least favorite character. Like all the other relationships, it's like, there's some sort of like interesting little dynamic, like, you know, like Queen Margaret—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and baker bud. I cannot for the life of me remember his name.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

But like he's so, you know, typical, like just a regular old guy from Chicago and she's so prim and proper, and they have a cute little dynamic with his daughter. And then Fiona and dreamy thief boy, they have—

Sydnee:

Oh man.

Raleigh:

... all the history and all the background.

Sydnee:

Well, and he's a really good actor, and he's hot.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And like that, like I buy the whole, like everything that's going on between them, I'm in.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, this is, this is sizzling.

Raleigh:

But Stacy and prince fancy butt—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... I don't know what his name is.

Taylor:

Like blonde Benedict Cumberbatch. I don't know.

Raleigh:

Yeah. He's just, he's nothing.

Sydnee:

Now, careful... [laughs]

Raleigh:

Oh, don't say anything about Benedict Cumberbatch before Sydnee.

Taylor:

Oh, I, I didn't know you were on sacred ground here. Sorry.

Raleigh:

Just with Sydnee.

Sydnee:

[quietly] I love Benedict Cumberbatch.

Raleigh:

I would like to know, uh, all of this thought has to go into stealing this Star back. There are three Fionas all at once—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and there's like laser dancing and tangoing.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

All sorts of stuff. When this guy who, apparently is like a professional, like bad guy, like—

Sydnee:

Well—

Raleigh:

... known for stealing things that aren't his...

Sydnee:

The, the—

Taylor:

Hotel guy. Yeah.

Sydnee:

... rich guy. Yes.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Hotel, hotel guy.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Hotel guy who steals things.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Uh, all he did to steal it was, um, break the glass surrounding it. Just kind of smash it and grab it.

Sydnee:

Yeah. The, I thought—I wondered about that too, because, and I mean, again, like not, none of this is supposed to be set in reality, because these countries are fake and all that, but like, they do say—

Raleigh:

There is Chicago though.

Sydnee:

... well, they do say Chicago is a real, and that is a real place, and then they do say the Vatican, so like I assume we're talking about the—

Raleigh:

The, the Pope.

Sydnee:

... the actual Pope Vatican, like in real world, and they, and they sent this, and they sent their guards, which I thought were supposed to be like some of the best guards in history. Right?

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Like, aren't they, some of the most highly trained, like—

Raleigh:

I would imagine.

Sydnee:

... I thought that was part of the thing. And they're there.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Like they, they, they are there with the Star. Like they unload it. They're in their fancy costumes, but I thought like part of the thing about these guards is like, I know they're dressed very colorfully, but watch out—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... they'll get you. But they don't. I mean like that just, they just broke the glass and took the Star.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Well, they drugged everybody. They, they released something through the air vents—

Raleigh:

Oh yeah.

Taylor:

... that made everybody pass out.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's right.

Taylor:

That was the thing.

Sydnee:

I forgot about that.

Raleigh:

It's true. It's true.

Sydnee:

Well, I guess it doesn't matter how deadly you are.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

I keep thinking about—

Taylor:

That just, that just shows what a, what a wild, bad guy he is, because he just gassed everybody and walked in and smashed the glass. He was probably wearing a nice suit when he did it.

Sydnee:

He is good too, I will say, like actor wise. Like I was, he, he unsettled me.

Raleigh:

... Yeah.

Sydnee:

I found him unsettling, and I think he's supposed to be, so. I feel like they've had more money as this series has gone on, and I feel like that they have improved, like they keep adding people to the cast—

Raleigh:

I said the exact same thing.

Sydnee:

... who are like better. And like the, the quality of the movie felt better to me.

Taylor:

Yeah. But they didn't—

Raleigh:

Data—

Taylor:

... they didn't add another Vanessa Hudgens, which I don't understand.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

They've added one every movie.

Sydnee:

I was so disappointed. I was waiting. I was like, "Where is my fourth?" What Justin and I wanted is for it to just be Vanessa Hudgens.

Raleigh:

Every role.

Sydnee:

No. Like she just shows up and she's like—

Raleigh:

Oh, that's herself.

Sydnee:

... and they're like, "Well we have a special celebrity guest for our big celebration of the Star of Peace, or whatever that the Pope gave us. It's Vanessa Hudgens!" And everybody's like, "Oh my gosh, it's Vanessa Hudgens!" And then she comes in as herself.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

That's what I wanted. [laugh]

Raleigh:

Um, I agree. I was disappointed there were only three.

Sydnee:

Um, there's so much more to talk about before, uh, um, I don't, there's so much more talk about. I don't know where I'm going with that. Anyway, but before we do that—

Raleigh:

[laughs] Let's check the group message. So, just like Cooper wrote her to-do list on her log today—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... um, we've all got a lot going on. We've all got long to-do list.

Sydnee:

[laughs] She did.

Raleigh:

She had plans to jump on dad and do her makeup. A lot to do. Um, and I know for me, one thing I always have to worry about as a college student who has no skills, um, in the cooking realm and feeding myself realm—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... one of those things I have to worry about is also getting food for myself, um, and that is why DoorDash is usually always on my to-do list that I write on my legs, because DoorDash is the app that brings you food you're craving right now to your door. Uh, and ordering is easy. You open the app, you choose what you want to eat, your food will be left safely outside your door with a new contactless delivery drop off setting, which I would like to say, as someone who's very introverted with social anxiety, that is the best feature

to come out of, uh, this entire year and a half. And I hope it stays around forever, that they will just leave it politely right at my door, I yell, "Thank you," as they're getting in the car, and I grab it, and that is the extent of the interaction.

Sydnee:

And they send you a little message to say, like, "Your food's here." And they take a picture.

Raleigh:

They take a picture where they left it.

Sydnee:

They take a picture. They're like, "There's your food."

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I always get there just in time to just, "Oh, as you're getting in the car, thank you, thank you for your, uh, kindness and your service." Um, and many of your favorite local restaurants are still open for delivery. So you can open the DoorDash app, select your favorite local restaurant and your food will be left at your door. So you don't just have to, you know, order from like a, like a pizza place, like back in the day, when that was all you could get delivered right to your door, and now, and you have your favorite local restaurants. Support those, those local businesses.

Sydnee:

But you can get pizza too.

Raleigh:

You, you also—

Sydnee:

They're probably on there too.

Raleigh:

... Yes, you also can get pizza. Um, but yeah, all of it, all of it through DoorDash. So, Tey, if our listeners want to check out DoorDash, what should they do?

Taylor:

Well, right now, our listeners can get \$5 off their first order of \$15 or more, and zero delivery fees for their first month. When you download the DoorDash app and enter code 'Buffering,' that's \$5 off your first order and zero delivery fees for a month when you download the DoorDash app in the App Store and enter code 'Buffering.' Don't forget, that's code 'Buffering' for \$5 off your first order with DoorDash.

Sydnee:

So, uh, it, it is a very busy time of year, and if you're like my daughter Cooper, then you write your to-do list down your log with, um, washable Crayola marker, and then you got to hide that, because you're going to go out and do all the things on your to-do list. And what better to hide that to-do list that you've written on your shin than Betabrand dress pant yoga pants. [laugh]

They're the perfect pants to wear this time of year, because you're going from one thing to the next. You're trying to get maybe to work, to, uh, get together, to see family, to finish out your shopping for the holidays, whatever you've got going on, Betabrand dress pant yoga pants are the perfect, um, I was going to say accessory, but they're not accessory. They're a staple.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

They're the, they're the foundation of your outfit. They look great, they feel great because they are dress pants, but they're designed with the fit and flexibility of yoga pants. With their wrinkle resistance stretch knit fabric, they feel great. You won't feel like you're wearing fancy dress pants. You'll feel like you're wearing your favorite, uh, lounge wear, but they're not lounge wear, their dress pants.

Um, they have so many different styles to choose, from straight legs, skinny joggers, a lot of different colors and patterns. I always go with the classic black, because like I said, they're a great foundation for any sort of outfit I'm wearing. I can dress it up or down as much as I want. Um, but they also have things like stripes or hounds tooth, whatever, whatever you like to

wear. So, Teylor, if our listeners want to check out Betabrand dress pant yoga pants, what should they do?

Taylor:

Well, right now, our listeners can get 30% off their Betabrand orders when you go to betabrand.com/buffering. That's B-E-T-A-B-R-A-N-D.com/buffering for 30% off your first order for a limited time. And when you use our special URL, you're supporting our show too. Find out why people are ditching typical work pants for Betabrand's dress pant yoga pants at betabrand.com/buffering for 30% off.

Raleigh:

Um, I, I thought it was amusing that I also noted that I think they keep getting more money to make these movies—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... and our dad did, made the same observation, but his reasoning was because in the very opening scene, they have a lot of extras.

Sydnee:

[laugh]

Raleigh:

He said the like, you know, before they just had like a handful of people. Look how many people they have there. Now there's like 200 people there.

Sydnee:

[laugh] I also wonder how much of that has to do with when they shot various things. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Because [laughs] there are a lot of TV shows and movies that have startlingly few people in scenes—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... um, for a while. Uh, but yeah, no, I agree, too. I, and I see it's funny because like it's the same actress with all three leading men, so to speak.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And so it's, it's weird to compare chemistry between couples, because then you start to like, am I comparing Vanessa Hudgens' chemistry with each of these people? You know what I mean?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But you do. Like, the first prince guy from the original, their thing is sort of like, she knows about life like sports teams and—

Raleigh:

Baking.

Sydnee:

... baking, and just things that people do. And he's like, "I don't know about anything but royalty." I mean like really like that's sort of their interaction.

Raleigh:

That's... Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs] She does, he doesn't even know like idioms. Like she uses a colloquial phrase and he's like, "I don't... I don't understand. Does it have to do with crown jewels?" That's about it.

Raleigh:

She, yeah. She decides to bake right in the kitchen—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... instead of having them bake for her, and he's like, "I don't... I didn't know you could do that." [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] "I didn't know we had a kitchen."

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm. "What is this white stuff? Flour, you say?"

Sydnee:

I mean, that's really like that's sort of their thing, is like, isn't it funny he doesn't, he doesn't know about anything in life—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... and she does? And then with, uh, baker guy—

Raleigh:

What?

Sydnee:

... they share that spontaneous thing. That's their thing.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

They both like to do things [laughs] spontaneously, like, you know, pretend you're a baker lady instead of the queen of Montenegro.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Spontaneity. That's their thing. And then with, uh, uh—

Raleigh:

Kevin.

Sydnee:

... Kevin. Thank you. And then with heist guy.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

They have this long, beautiful, history of being friends at boarding school, whose parents abandoned them there for the holidays.

Raleigh:

[laugh] When they were very, very small.

Sydnee:

When they were very little, and they had to have a very sad candlelight dinner [laughs] just the two of them in a giant lunchroom. I don't know.

Raleigh:

In Hogwarts. [laughs]

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And it, and it's just the two of them in Hogwarts alone, eating at their candlelit dinner—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... when they are children.

Taylor:

Is, is Vanessa like a producer on these movies? How much to the point is just like, Vanessa Hudgens gets to smooch three different attractive men in character? Because she does.

Sydnee:

I thought about that. Yeah.

Taylor:

There's that scene where they're all kissing, like it cuts to each of them, and I'm like, "It's funny, because it's just, it's just Vanessa Hudgens." [laughs]

Raleigh:

Sure.

Sydnee:

And she, she also makes out with, uh, bad guy.

Raleigh:

Yeah. The hotel guy.

Sydnee:

Yeah. The ho—

Taylor:

Oh, that's right. Sure.

Sydnee:

... Yeah. Bad, bad hotel man. [laughs]

Taylor:

That's right. That was the guy. Like I'm not, I'm not going to do a fourth character, but I need a, a fourth man to make out with.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I, I thought a lot about, there's several scenes where it's like all three of the couples, I guess, like the three Vanessa's and then the respective boys. Um, can you imagine filming those? It's just those three guys just with various like body doubles.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Because I noticed in the credits, there's a different double for each version of Vanessa Hudgens. So, like you've got the various body doubles like switching in and out, and then you just got Vanessa Hudgens popping back to refilm the scene every time wearing a different costume, doing a different

voice, just with those three same guys, just standing there for the whole thing. [laugh]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

That has to take a long time though. I mean think about it. They have to film stuff like that, probably like film the whole thing once with every Vanessa Hudgens version. Right?

Taylor:

You've got to change wardrobe entirely. That's, that's a lot.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. But you got to think, they've been doing this kind of thing since like Parent Trap technology.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

So like, you know.

Taylor:

But I think—

Raleigh:

Right now it's even more.

Taylor:

... I feel like we're testing how many pe—how many people one person can play with this format.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

That's why there wasn't a fourth. They were like, "We can, we can have a very deep crowd scene with a lot of extras, or we can have one more Vanessa Hudgens, but we can't have both."

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

They're like, "Okay. Well, fine."

Sydney:

Well, fine. I, I, uh, demand that they do another of these movies and add another Vanessa Hudgens.

Taylor:

Of course.

Sydney:

I demand. I need that. I need that next year.

Raleigh:

Did you notice the credits, or just the first three names, or just Vanessa Hudgens, Vanessa Hudgens, Vanessa Hudgens, for each of the three characters?

Taylor:

Love it.

Sydney:

I think it's great.

Taylor:

It's cool.

Sydney:

I, I really like, I, I enjoyed the heist. It was wild. Like, okay, think about that. I want to make a Christmas movie, but I want it to be different. Well, you know, you're going to have a romance in there. How different can it be? I know, but I don't want it to be your usual Christmas romance movie. Well,

we got the royalty thing. Yeah. Hallmark's all over that. They've got the royalty thing.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Oh, what other, what about a heist? How many other Christmas heist movies are there?

Raleigh:

Um, is Home Alone a heist?

Taylor:

Well—

Raleigh:

Or is it just a crime?

Taylor:

... that's a robbery. I don't know if it's a heist.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

But you know what? And I do think it's different, although I, there are certainly things you could compare, because like the, the intricate traps laid by the child—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... for the adults [laughs] in order to, to attempt to murder them. Um, that, that is similar to sort of the setup of a good heist movie, you know, that, that kind of intricacy and like—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... planning out and all that, but is different. It is, I mean like, the, it's similar though.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But I do think it's fundamentally different from a, what you think of as a heist movie, because a heist movie isn't just something gets stolen. Like if the whole movie was just, if the only theft in the movie was the initial theft, that's not a heist movie. They just broke in, they drugged everybody, they stole the Pope Star—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... and they left. That's not a heist movie. The end is a heist movie, because you see like they have to go, they have to do all this planning, and they set up like a fake one in their own castle so that they can practice. That's a heist there.

Raleigh:

And of course, you got to hack into the video feed—

Sydnee:

Yeah, got to hack.

Raleigh:

... to replace the security footage—

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

... with, uh, you know, a fake security footage.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. You have to have scenes of the security guards who are sort of like not really paying attention, they're kind of like, you know, they've gotten bored with it—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... they know nothing's going to go wrong, so they're not paying attention too well, and then the moment where they go, "Oh no, oh no," like spill their coffee—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... or spit out their donut or whatever the usual thing is.

Taylor:

There's, there's always—

Sydnee:

I think they might literally do that.

Raleigh:

I think they do.

Taylor:

I don't know how real heist technology works, but there's always the moment in a movie when you replace the video feed with a repeat feed, that there's a glitch—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

... and like, if I ever work security, I would not remove my eyes on that camera, because I know what it means now [laughs] if there's a glitch. Your camera just buzzes for a minute, a heist is taking place, and that is fake video feed. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs] I, I think the best part though, is when it's still a fake looped video feed.

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

So, it looks like everything is as it should be, but then the alarm for the entire castle building, whatever they're in, starts going off.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And they're watching the video feed where everything is fine, but actively listening to the big alarm going off. And they have a whole moment where they're like, "Should we, um, oh well, it went off. That's fine."

Sydnee:

I'm sure it's fine.

Raleigh:

"It was the vibrations from the music. I'm sure it's fine." And that's it.

Sydnee:

That's the whole thing.

Raleigh:

That's it.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I do— I don't know how people haven't caught on by now, unless they have, unless it, because I mean, okay, let's say that that security guard is totally underpaid and he works for, um—

Raleigh:

Hotel guy.

Sydnee:

Mean hotel guy—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... and he's a jerk. And so like, maybe he's thinking, I know this is another feed.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I know that this is a heist, and that they have hacked our feed, and that I'm watching a loop. I know that.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

They don't know I know that. I don't care. Take the Pope Star back.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

What do I care?

Taylor:

I mean, that's, you know... [laughs]

Raleigh:

The Pope Star.

Taylor:

It's a good argument for raising wages, I think.

Sydnee:

I think so too.

Raleigh:

Oh yeah.

Sydnee:

Maybe if mean hotel guys raised wages, heist wouldn't happen to them.

Taylor:

No. I was, I was way too invested in, in, I don't know what, but Marie Antoinette champagne waitress woman who got fired on Christmas, and [laughs]—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... like I said—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... I didn't know what happened with her story. And then the—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... but had fired her on Christmas for not knowing where the nice champagne is.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Well, yeah, that was unfortunate, because they were just using that to show like how mean, mean hotel guy is.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like he's so mean.

Raleigh:

Um, and you mentioned it very briefly when we got started, but the most emotionally, um, heartfelt moment of this movie—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... is [laughs] is when Fiona, the mean one—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

... mean Vanessa, well, kind of evil Vanessa Hudgens... reformed evil.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Reformed, yeah.

Raleigh:

Um—

Sydnee:

She tried to, she tried to take—

Raleigh:

... Dethrone.

Sydnee:

... the throne of Montenegro and then she felt bad about it after she had to mop some floors at a [laughs] desolate orphanage.

Raleigh:

Slash convent. Yes. Um, so, when we learn about her being at the boarding school with dreamy thief boy, we know that she was left there over the holidays because her mom was like, "I got some fancy trips to go on. I get a flight to catch. You're going to stay here."

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Um, so she has never, I guess, been very close with her mom, and hasn't talked to her in a very long time because of all that. Um, and then fancy, uh, thief boy tricks her into seeing her mom for the first time—

Sydnee:

Well—

Raleigh:

... in a very long time.

Sydnee:

... he, he tricks her into seeing her mom by, by secondary heist scene.
[laughs]

Raleigh:

Staling the Pope Star. [laughs]

Sydnee:

He does another heist. He does a solo heist. [laughs]

Raleigh:

He does a heist within a heist.

Sydnee:

He does, he does his own heist.

Taylor:

It's a love heist.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

What was, what was the, what was the plan there? I'm going to steal these international jewels to, to make you meet your mom.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's what he said. He said, "I had to get your attention."

Taylor:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Well you did.

Sydnee:

You stole from the Vatican. [laugh]

Taylor:

That's one way.

Raleigh:

That, uh, yeah. Um.

Sydnee:

That was I, but like I did—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... I thought that moment was nice. I thought it was.

Raleigh:

Well—

Sydnee:

I mean, because—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... the mom owns like, "I was a terrible mother, and I feel terrible, and I just, I want, I don't want to lose more time. Can you forgive me?"

Raleigh:

And I know that kind of hit you over the head with it, but I did, there was something like meaningful about the moment where she tries to leave the

boarding school without forgiving her mom, and her, her crew, her friends are in the convertible, in the snow—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. [laughs]

Raleigh:

... telling her, "We got a flight to catch." And she's like, "Oh wait, that's what my mom always did. My mom always had a flight to catch."

Sydnee:

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon...

Raleigh:

[laughs] Precisely. Mm-hmm. Um, so then she runs around very dramatic, turns around very dramatically, runs back in, hugs her mother, forgiveness.

Sydnee:

I thought it was lovely.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I knew that would make you cry.

Sydnee:

Yeah, it did make me cry. It did.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, I thought that was, I thought that was genuinely nice. And I thought, um, in a movie that's kind of corny, a genuinely cool moment to me that struck me was, after they do the heist, uh, mean hotel guy walks in to find that his Star is missing, and he knows immediately that it was this other ex-boyfriend—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... that he is aware of, that Fiona had this other ex-boyfriend that he thinks is, you know, a loser or whatever.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And he has left his business card there. Like, do, "No, just let's be clear, I took it. I want you to know—"

Raleigh:

It was me.

Sydnee:

"... it was me. And I am not afraid of you. And you can come at me. I took it."

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I thought that was a genuinely, like, I, I genuinely was like, "What?! Whoa!" [laughs] This is awesome!

Raleigh:

I also like that—

Sydnee:

I like that.

Raleigh:

... they remove any possibility of hotel guy trying to get the Star back when one of his security guards or one of his people or whatever is like, "Oh, you mean call the police?" And he's like, "Well, obviously not. Like I did steal this from—"

Taylor:

No.

Raleigh:

"... from the Vatican first."

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

So like, I, I can't report it's missing. It was not mine to begin with. [laughs]
I did like that. It's like, well, that ends there.

Taylor:

Yeah. But like, given the, given the history of these movies, it's like the next one going to be a redemption story for hotel guy where he meets another version of Vanessa Hudgens [laughs] and they fall in love.

Sydnee:

[laugh]

Raleigh:

That is the only way this could go.

Taylor:

Because they do have the, the little, the little guest spot of Simon from, uh—

Raleigh:

They do. Christmas Prince.

Taylor:

... Christmas Prince, right?

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Taylor:

Yeah, it was.

Raleigh:

Uh-huh.

Taylor:

So—

Sydnee:

That's true.

Taylor:

... you know, he got his redemption story.

Sydnee:

I do like that about these movie, that we just continually redeem, like, they're not so bad.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Some are not so bad.

Raleigh:

Give them a movie.

Taylor:

It's a Christmas tradition. Some member of our family tries to overthrow the government and then next year, they fall in love. That's how it works.

Sydnee:

[laughs] And we forgive them. [laughs] I also, that, that was part of, the reason Fiona got just this community service as it were, um, and not like, thrown in prison, is because her cousin, who is queen, was like, "I don't want her to go to jail. I feel bad. I feel bad about it. She had a rough life. Like I just want her to do community service." But then like the queen, can't just say, "You know what? Actually she's done. I'm the queen."

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Like, I was wondering what the form of government was, where the, the nun at the convent was more afraid of this parole board than she was the queen.

Taylor:

That nun was afraid of doing time.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Yeah. But like—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... the, surely the queen could be like, "Actually, I did. I was responsible for this."

Raleigh:

Yeah

Sydnee:

"So, no, you're not going to put the nun in jail." [laughs]

Taylor:

No, no, that was clearly on the table.

Sydnee:

I don't know why nobody said like, "Well, but I think the fricking queen could probably get you out of it."

Raleigh:

I think that orphanage convent is probably also the jail. Right? Like they don't make that—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... they don't make that explicitly clear, but like, it's probably also the jail.

Taylor:

And why do orphans go to jail?

Raleigh:

[laughs] I'm not saying they go to jail. I'm just saying it's like an all in one.

Sydnee:

It's an all in one. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs] Like, they only have one—

Taylor:

It's a very small country.

Rileigh:

... they only have one big scary stone building out in the middle of nowhere, and it has to be the setting for the sad orphanage—

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Rileigh:

... the, uh, lonely convent—

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Rileigh:

... and the scary prison.

Taylor:

But that's not true, because there is a second one, because wherever security guy lives, he lives in a weird, old, desolate building, but then they, the way that they designed the interior where it's like, but it's techy, so it's a castle—

Rileigh:

Yeah

Taylor:

... but it's full of tech. [laughs]

Rileigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

That was weird—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... and the boarding school.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

The boarding school was also a weird desolate building out in the middle of nowhere. Like I'm sending my child to boarding school, no, and no, like I want them to have like no way of getting—

Raleigh:

Anywhere.

Sydnee:

... It's like a haunted boarding school.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

It looks like a place where like haunted things will happen.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Where did they shoot all of this?

Raleigh:

I don't know.

Taylor:

That was the same building, just from three different angles. I feel like probably [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] Like it was, we're like, "Where are all these buildings?" It's like the same building.

Raleigh:

I also appreciate that the ground is always covered in at least like a foot of snow.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And they're driving around in that convertible constantly.

Sydnee:

And there's always a storm.

Raleigh:

There's always a storm.

Sydnee:

Somebody always gets stuck somewhere because of a storm. What, we always have to remove one of the guys.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

One of the guys has to have to go somewhere because of a storm.

Raleigh:

This time Kevin had to go pick up his daughter because she got stuck in the airport trying to fly there.

Sydnee:

And then, but that was just for the moment of him walking back in and finding three Fionas. Right?

Raleigh:

And that was good.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah. He also sent his daughter to boarding school.

Taylor:

But it's Ballet Boarding School. So, that's—

Raleigh:

Oh, you're right.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

It's... [laughs]

Taylor:

Ballerina boarding school.

Raleigh:

And she's a princess. Like, she's a princess at ballet board, school, Ballet Boarding School.

Taylor:

I don't know. Rich people do things differently, I think.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

This is what I've learned from these movies. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Uh-huh. Yeah.

Sydnee:

The, the one guy doesn't understand idioms—

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

... because he's too rich.

Taylor:

I [laughs] I will say I appreciated that there were several jokes about a yodeler throughout the film, and they felt the need to like, they, you know, this was one of those checkoffs guns. Like they talked about that yodeler, and then they delivered—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

... on the yodeler—

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

... at the end of the movie. [laughs]

Sydnee:

They delivered on the yodeler, and I liked it because it, don't ever think you know where this is supposed to be set. Don't ever think like, oh, well obviously these countries are supposed to be this. No, you have no idea, because the traditional yodeler has shown up at the end.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And like, they have British accents. You will never know where this is supposed to be set.

Raleigh:

I, how self-aware do you think these movies have become?

Sydnee:

Aware.

Raleigh:

... because I had a, I had a, like a question of it after the first one. I'm like, did they, I, maybe they genuinely thought like this is like a cute little switch up Christmas story, but buy this one, it's like, they know what they're doing. Right?

Sydnee:

These movies know what they are.

Raleigh:

They know what they are. I mean, they've intentionally incorporated the cannon of the Christmas Prince now into this.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Is the next one just like a ma—like a full mash up?

Taylor:

I need an Avenger style movie of this.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

But I think they have to start. I'm, I don't under, have we missed? Is there another franchise that launched this year? Because that's what they did with the, the Christmas or the Princess Switch. Right?

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

They launched it—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

... while the Christmas Prince was still happening. That's—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... MCU style. So they should have launched another one this year, and then kept going with apathy movies, and then had him bring them all together.

Sydnee:

I think next year it's—

Raleigh:

I think it makes so much sense.

Sydnee:

... time to bring them together, and I think what, the way you, you do it is you have the original Christmas Prince Princess, that one—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... you know, who's now queen of Aldovia.

Raleigh:

The one who wears the Chuck Taylors.

Sydnee:

The one who wears the Chuck Taylors.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

She finds a double.

Raleigh:

Oh. And then of course, the hero that saves them all is Queen Emily from Christmas Prince.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

The Christmas Prince's little sister.

Sydnee:

Yes. Yes. Christmas Prince's little sister.

Raleigh:

And she teams up with baker—

Sydnee:

Vanessa's Hudgens.

Raleigh:

... baker, with baker bud's daughter—

Sydnee:

Ooh.

Raleigh:

... who's a princess at Ballet Boarding School.

Sydnee:

And they get their favorite celebrity, actual Vanessa Hudgens—

Raleigh:

Vanessa Hudgens.

Sydnee:

... to come.

Taylor:

Christmas Prince Switch which, which Switch?

Sydnee:

[laughs] Which Switch? Christmas Prince.

Taylor:

Excess is which? What? [laughs]

Raleigh:

That's. There you go. There's our pitch. There's the title next Christmas 2022.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Thanks, Netflix—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

... for the deal. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Hudgens 11. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I do want that. Like, it's what I want.

Raleigh:

I do want that.

Sydnee:

I want that too.

Taylor:

And you need them to keep adding Hudgens, because I need.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

I wa—I wanted a redhead one. I'm going to be honest. I wanted a redhead.

Sydnee:

Give us a redhead Vanessa Hudgens. Give us a new one. And, uh, she's going to need a new accent.

Raleigh:

She needs something different.

Sydnee:

Yeah. We're going to need, we've got Chicago, we've got two variations of British. We need something else.

Rileigh:

One's very deep. One's very prim proper.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Rileigh:

What, we need something a little wackier.

Sydnee:

I don't know what it is. I'm not going to dictate that. You get to decide.

Rileigh:

That's up to V Hudge.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Redhead cockney Hudgens.

Rileigh:

Yeah. [laughs] That's her name? [laugh]

Sydnee:

[laughs] She's selling flowers, and we want to make her prim and proper.

Taylor:

Oh no.

Rileigh:

[laughs] Oh no.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Wait a second.

Rileigh:

Hold on. Um, well thank you all for watching this movie with me.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

It was delightful as always.

Sydnee:

I loved it. Thank you for, for bring that.

Raleigh:

Can't wait to see what they have in store for us next year.

Sydnee:

Um—

Raleigh:

What's next Sydnee?

Sydnee:

I, uh, the other thing I've, I love this movie like genuinely, no, not lying at all. Love that movie. Uh, and I also love another thing that came out this year, another Christmas theme thing that I would like to talk about, which is, uh, Kelly Clarkson's new Christmas album, When Christmas Comes Around. Uh, and then generally I, this is all I'm asking you all to listen to—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... is this, is this new Christmas album. Um, but generally I, I would like to talk about Kelly Clarkson, because she holds the key to my heart.

Raleigh:

I didn't know this about you.

Sydnee:

Yeah. My, no matter how emotionless and cold I have become [laughs], I listen to a Kelly Clarkson song, and I'm just, I just turn into goo every time.

Raleigh:

Ooh.

Sydnee:

She can get me.

Raleigh:

All right. We'll round out 2021 with Kelly.

Sydnee:

I love Kelly Clarkson. All right. So, that's next week.

Raleigh:

All right.

Sydnee:

But that's all you have to listen to is the Christmas stuff.

Raleigh:

I can do that.

Sydnee:

All right. Well thank you both. Um, thank you, Vanessa Hudgens—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... for your Academy Award worthy performance.

Raleigh:

Seize.

Sydnee:

Seize, of all of the Princesses. And uh, thank you listeners. You should check out Princess Switch 3: Romancing the Star.

Taylor:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Oh God. I cannot believe that's out now.

Sydnee:

Princess Switch 3: Romancing the Star. [laughs] Staring Vanessa Hudgens, Vanessa Hudgens, Vanessa Hudgens.

Raleigh:

The Pope Star, in case you're curious.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. The Pope's, but the Pope's not in it. There's a cardinal, but not a Pope. Um, you should go to maximumfun.org and listen to all the great shows there. You can tweet at us at @Stillbuff. You can email us at @stillbuffering@maximfun.org. And thank you to Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Raleigh:

This has been your cross-generational guides to the culture that made us. I am 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]

Raleigh:

And really did a cool theme song.

Sydnee:

[laughs] That's all I got. That's it. I'll work on it next year.

[music plays]

Speaker 5:

This week on Maximum Fun's pro wrestling podcast Tights and Fights, Austin Creed, best known as WWE Xavier Woods, tells us why his fans find him so easy to love.

Xavier:

So I, I think it's less me being good at it, and more people wanting to be a part of something. And it's very easy to be a part of these things, because I so constantly am screaming about what I'm interested in.

Speaker 5:

Austin Creed on the perfect wrestling podcast, Tights and Fights. Find it on Maximum Fun, or wherever you get your podcasts.

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