

## Still Buffering 351: "Perfect Match" (2023)

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

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Teylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:** Sorry. I was trying to adjust my...

**Rileigh:** Your little screen is so tiny.

**Sydnee:** I know. I was trying to adjust my Audacity thing so I could see our blips, our blips on the...

**Rileigh:** I was trying to spot our blips, make sure they're blippin'.

**Taylor:** Gotta be—those blips be blippin'.

**Sydnee:** I know. [laughs quietly] I wanted them to blip appropriately. Teylor, what are you drinking? It looks so refreshing.

**Rileigh:** It looks really refreshing.

**Sydnee:** I'm drinking a mug of coffee, which is delicious, but not refreshing, I would say.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** I mean, I do have—I have my—my coffee. But I have, also—it's just—it's just seltzer, but it's in this beautiful pink goblet.

**Rileigh:** Ohh.

**Sydnee:** Ohh.

**Taylor:** So it just makes it look... I like to drink everything out of this glass, 'cause it makes me feel like a fairy. [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I mean, it is beautiful. It looks refreshing. Like, it does. It looked like you were drinking some sort of special, magical...

**Raleigh:** Elixir.

**Taylor:** No, it's just...

**Sydnee:** It does look like something that would be handed to someone on a quest in, like, a fantasy movie.

**Raleigh:** [laughs] That's not a glass. That's a goblet.

**Taylor:** It is. I'm telling you, if you need to find a little bit of joy in your day, just get the fanciest looking glass you can possibly find. You could get it probably at a party supply store, you know? And just put a beverage in that all day long. You can't—you won't ever feel too bad, 'cause then you'll look at your glass and like, "Nah. I'm fancy."

**Sydnee:** I think this is, like—this is a better personality test than maybe, like, I don't know, your zodiac sign. I have... so, my favorite thing to drink out of is I have this big mug. It's not like a coffee mug. It's like a big, block—like a block glass, kind of. So it's, like, geometric shape, but it's a mug with a big handle that I got from a local restaurant, Backyard, that they would serve their big servings of beer in. But it's not like the tall beer—you know what I'm saying? It's like a shorter, fatter... block glass mug. And I love it, and it's my favorite thing to drink out of. Just anything. Just, I mean, water. I'll get ice water and drink it out of this big block glass that's like a heavy... tough, mug. And it's huge. It holds—I don't—I love it.

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** It's my favorite thing to drink out of. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Rileigh, what is your favorite thing to drink out of?

**Rileigh:** I... [sighs] I'll be honest, guys. I usually drink things, like, out of the... the thing they come in.

**Taylor:** Oh. [laughs quietly]

**Rileigh:** Except—except for when it's like—if you get, like, a fresh pack of sodas and they're not cold yet but you want to drink one, so you want to put it on ice so it's cold. If that—if that happens then you have little glasses I got from Amazon that look like mason jars almost, but they're smooth and they, like, lip up or curve up at the top, so they have a little bit of, like, a curve that's going inwards.

But they're just, like, standard clear glass, and they came with little clear glass straws. So, like, you can see what—like, sometimes I'll put my coffee in those if I make it at home and it's cold coffee, instead of putting it in a mug. So I guess I do drink drinks out of that. But, like, when I drink energy drinks or sodies or whatever... usually they're in cans.

**Sydnee:** I don't know. Maybe we could build an entire zodiac out of what drink—[laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Your preferred vessel. I feel like this more just, like—I feel like this determines your D&D class. [wheezes]

**Rileigh:** Yeah. Your alignment?

**Taylor:** [through laughter] Yeah. I think it does.

**Sydnee:** That's possible. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Sydnee likes to drink out of a stein. Let's call it what it is, Syd. [through laughter] You like—you drink out of a stein.

**Sydnee:** It's not, but yeah. I mean, like, I get—yes. But it's not. [crosstalk]

**Taylor:** That's the feeling you want to reinforce in yourself. I want to feel like a magical fairy prince. You want to feel like a... a—a warrior of some kind.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm, mm-hmm. That's fair.

**Raleigh:** I'm just—am I just true neutral?

[all laugh]

**Taylor:** I do think that—

**Raleigh:** [crosstalk] [unintelligible].

**Sydnee:** It's something—it's something unfussy, and practical, but somehow pretentious also?

**Raleigh:** Hey!

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** I was gonna say, those—

**Sydnee:** Because of the glass straw.

**Taylor:** Yeah, the glass straw, that's a very specific—I know the glass you're talking about.

**Raleigh:** [simultaneously] It's very aesthetic, yeah.

**Sydnee:** It's somehow passing judgment on our more, like, fanciful glassware. Like, "I don't think all of that is really necessary, is it?" [laughs]

**Taylor:** "I have the most correct glass for each beverage."

**Rileigh:** I—I almost splurged and got one that's the exact same shape and exact same style off Etsy, but it had Taylor Swift—like, the name of an album on it, but it was color-changing, like, material. So, like, it looks white and you can't really see it that well, but then when you pour something cold in it it turns the color of, like, the album that is on it. And I almost bought it to splurge a little and be a little fun. But then I was like, "Do I really need that? Like, it's just the same glass I have." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Rileigh:** It's just the same glass I already have, but like, something different on the outside. And I live a—I live alone and, like, people don't come over so, like, who really, like—who's gonna see it? It's just gonna be for me.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Rileigh...

**Taylor:** That's for your joy! That's it.

**Rileigh:** It's for my joy. I know.

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] Yeah, it can be for your joy.

**Rileigh:** They are very cool. There's a whole Etsy store that just does, like, color-changing stickers on glasses, and I think that's fun.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Um, well, it is St. Patrick's Day, so...

**Taylor:** Oh boy.

**Sydnee:** We can... drink whatever your preferred celebratory beverage is out of your preferred celebratory glassware. Or not glassware. It doesn't have to be glass.

**Rileigh:** Or plasticware.

**Sydnee:** Plasticware. Porcelainware.

**Raleigh:** [through laughter] Porcelainware.

**Sydnee:** Ceramicware? I don't know.

**Taylor:** I'm working at a bar tonight, uh, on St. Patrick's Day, which is one of those things you're supposed to try not to do in my industry. [laughs] I know that sounds... like, we want to do it, but nope. You don't. You don't wanna do it.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** But my bar has chosen to pretend that they don't know that it's St. Patrick's Day.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** [through laughter] That's what we're going with!

**Raleigh:** Honestly, that's not a bad, like, mode of attack, I think.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Like, you come bursting in there with your friends all dressed in green, ready to... do dumb things, and everybody's like, "What is up with you?"

**Raleigh:** "It's just Friday."

**Taylor:** [crosstalk] "Oh, is this—you're celebrating something? Okay, that's fun."

**Sydnee:** "Oh, that's so fun!"

**Raleigh:** [simultaneously] "Is it someone's birthday, or...?"

**Sydnee:** "What is—yeah! Oh, that sounds like a fun day. Good, have fun with that!" [laughs]

**Taylor:** It's not as severe as the stance that, like, New York takes on Santas during Santa Con. This is a very specific—well, I guess it happens on the West Coast too, but you all know what Santa Con is, right?

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Like, just—it—it cracks me up, all the signs up on every bar and restaurant. Like, "No Santas!" [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Like, if you didn't know what Santa Con was and you were just a tourist in New York for the day like, "What is going on? [through laughter] Like, what is—"

**Sydnee:** "Why are there no Santas?"

**Taylor:** "New York hates Santa Claus!"

**Raleigh:** "No Santas!"

[all laugh]

**Sydnee:** "It's exactly everything they told me on Fox News!"

**Taylor:** "[through laughter] I know, they're right!"

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** "It's a war on Christmas!"

**Sydnee:** "They're trying to kill Christmas!"

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "It's exactly what Bill O'Reilly said they would do!"

**Taylor:** Oh, man... real Santa is okay. False Santas, no.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Man.

**Sydnee:** Um, today's also Match Day. I don't know if any of our listeners are awaiting their match results, but good luck.

**Taylor:** What is—

**Raleigh:** Like—oh, like for—

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] Perfect Match?

**Raleigh:** —like, residents. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. For med students?

**Taylor:** I know that's what we're talking about. I didn't know it was a holiday. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, it's—it's always around—

**Raleigh:** [simultaneously] [through laughter] Like for Perfect Match.

**Sydnee:** It's always around this time of year, so sometimes it does fall on St. Patrick's Day. Like, it's always a Friday... at this time of March. And so occasionally it will land on St. Patrick's Day. And, um... it's a... it's a, you know, I don't know, a big day. It's either a big party day or a big sad day. 'Cause you just—like, you open an envelope and it tells you, like, "Here's where you're gonna go work for the next three to five years to be the thing that you've studied and gone into debt for for the last eight years to be. [laughs quietly] Good luck! I hope it's what you want in there."

**Taylor:** Then it's a big sad party day.



**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. But some—yeah.

**Taylor:** A big sad party. [wheezes]

**Sydnee:** It's both. It's like—'cause, you know, for me it was like, I got what I wanted. So I was like, "Yay!" But not everybody will, so.

**Raleigh:** I got it all over my TikTok right now. Like, videos of past Match Days where people—like, schools I guess do, like, people come up to the microphone and open up their letter and read it out loud in front of everybody, like, for the first time. Which is wild! Because watching those videos it's like, half the people up there start happy crying and they're, like, dancing, and they're so happy 'cause it's exactly what they wanted. And then you can tell the people that go up and read it and they're like... "[dejected] Yeah! Okay. Okay." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** It's—it's rough. They didn't do it that way when I came through. Like, we all were in a big room together at tables with our family or friends or whoever we wanted to bring with us, and we opened our envelope at our table. But now they do something similar, I believe. And the only merciful part is that if you didn't match, you know—

**Raleigh:** They tell you before today, right?

**Sydnee:** You know early in the week, and it gives you time to try to find a slot so that you're not... 'cause that would be the worst, to stand up in front of everybody and open an envelope and it's like, "Nope."

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Yeah, I don't think I could handle that. I don't think I could handle opening an envelope and it telling me where I'm gonna move. I don't have enough control over that.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** For my personal liking.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. There's a lot of criticisms you could level at the system.

**Raleigh:** Um, speaking of matches...

**Sydnee:** Hey, yeah. Did you like that?

**Raleigh:** Good job.

**Sydnee:** That's where I was going with that.

**Raleigh:** Okay.

**Sydnee:** That was my—it was a—Match Day was a transition point.

**Taylor:** Hmm.

**Raleigh:** Um, Perfect Match.

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Raleigh:** [holding back laughter] I made you all watch Perfect Match.

**Taylor:** Yes you did.

**Raleigh:** Well, really I made Taylor watch Perfect Match.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Because Sydnee had already started watching it. And I had already watched all of it. So really it was just Taylor that I made watch it.

**Taylor:** Well, I didn't—I don't feel made though. 'Cause I will say, I started watching it, and I couldn't remember—I couldn't exactly remember what dating show you told us to watch. I was pretty sure it was this one, and then by the time I got, like, three episodes in I'm like, "I'm gonna keep watching

this one anyway, 'cause this is what I'm gonna talk about either way."  
[through laughter] So I'm glad it was the right one.

[all laugh]

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Um... well, I'm glad you watched it. [laughs]

**Taylor:** [through laughter] I was fully invested.

**Sydnee:** I mean, we were—Justin and I found it, uh... just natura—like, it was just organic. We were looking at Netflix and we were like, "Oh, is that like the Netflix version of Are You the One?" That's what we thought. We thought it was like a stolen thing. And so—

**Raleigh:** The name is misleading.

**Sydnee:** And so we watched, like, a trailer. And we were like, "Hey! That's Joey! Wait, we know these people!" [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** And then we were in.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. For those of you unaware, which I don't know why wouldn't be up to date on the Netflix dating show scene, um, Perfect Match is one that just came out a couple weeks ago that only features cast members of other Netflix reality shows.

**Sydnee:** And it's sort of predicated on the belief that you probably have a perfect match for you. Like a romantic perfect match, somewhere in the Netflix... not even dating show, reality show universe. 'Cause they're not all from dating shows.

**Raleigh:** No. Um, and it's very... the whole way it's set up, like, I don't know if this is how it really is, but it looks like every single night someone is, like, leaving. Like, they bring in two new people, and then two people leave, 'cause you're not in a couple. Like, it looks like it's every day or every other day, which is kind of wild. Um, to expect you to, like, decide who your

perfect match is after meeting them, and like four hours later you're like, "Alright. You're my perfect match."

**Sydnee:** I don't know the pace of it. I know that at one point early on when we were watching it, somebody had said they loved each other, and all this happened, and someone said "We've been here, like, ten days," and I was like, "Whoa, whoa, whoa. Wait, wait, wait. Back it up. Back it up. You've been there ten days?! That's it? Ten days?!" [wheezes]

**Taylor:** Well, and I think it's important to note that there is a monetary prize for being the perfect match at the end. So you have an incentive for... falling in love? [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Which is interesting, because Netflix obviously has other dating shows, but the only other ones that have a cash prize are, like, Too Hot to Handle, where the point isn't really to meet someone and fall in love. It's, can you not mooch and make money? Like, if you can just not touch each other for a couple weeks, then you'll all make money and you'll all share it.

**Taylor:** [quietly] I'd make so much money on that show...

**Raleigh:** I know! It's so easy! I don't know why these—these, just... I don't know.

**Sydnee:** I know.

**Raleigh:** [laughs] I'll never get Too Hot to Handle.

**Taylor:** No.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, I will never—that's a whole other thing. I will never understand how everybody isn't just like, "Oh. Well, okay. Just no one touch each other. Got it? Okay."

**Raleigh:** Let's all just hang out for a couple weeks. We're at a free resort with lots of free food and alcohol. Let's just, like, chill.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Um, yeah. But, I mean, Love is Blind is one where, like, the point is supposed to be to meet someone that, like, you genuinely have a connection with and want to marry. And there's no cash prize there. Like, I'm sure there's, like, when it comes to the weddings and stuff they do on this show, Netflix probably pays for a lot of that, but I mean, you don't win money. Perfect Match is like, "Yeah, come fall in love! But also if you're the best at falling in love, you'll get \$50,000."

**Taylor:** "The best at falling in love," that's...

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Hmm.

**Sydnee:** It's kind of—it's kind of mean. Um, in a way that—I feel like a lot of the shows sort of hedge up on being kinda mean. And this one is like... so, all the couples are matched up. And then one power couple has the opportunity to bring two new people in the house and send them on dates with other members to try to, you know, mess everything up.

**Raleigh:** Which is wild.

**Sydnee:** And cause chaos. And, like, sometimes the result of those dates are that the person who has, like, been totally devoted to their person, to their match, goes on one date with someone else and then comes back and is like, "I'm so sorry. I actually... I have... this is my perfect match now." And, like—

**Raleigh:** "I've fallen in love."

**Sydnee:** It strips away all the artifice of, like, you can't say "We just connected so much. We just really get along well. We have so much fun together. We have—our personalities, blah-blah—" No, no, no. You've been together on one date for, like, an hour. Let's be honest. It's about, like—it's about the muscles. It's about the butt. Like, let's just be honest! Like—  
[laughs]

**Taylor:** It's about the butt!

**Raleigh:** It's about the butt.

**Sydnee:** It's about the butt. It's about something... very surface, because there's not enough time for it to really be about much else. Which is kind of mean! [laughs] It's like, "Oh, ouch! Eesh... " [laughs]

**Taylor:** Well, and because it switches from, like—you know, so one episode, I guess, it'll be that there's two extra guys, and then the next week it'll be there's two extra girls. So it's like, it's odd that people's love confessions are always timed with the week that, you know, they're in the party that could go home. It's just, "Oh, no."

**Raleigh:** Every time.

**Taylor:** This is—"I could perhaps go home tonight. I better tell somebody that I love them. But then next week I'm gonna dump them because I'll have the upper hand." [laughs] It's pretty brutal!

**Sydnee:** And I don't understand, like... so, early on in the show, two—two... I was gonna say characters. [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** I mean... well...

**Sydnee:** Whatever. Two humans, um, Nick and Savannah, kind of have this, like, agreement. Like, we're not really feeling each other romantically, but if we play well together... maybe we could win this.

**Raleigh:** Or even, like, if we keep matching up, then at least we both can stay on the show until we both find someone that, like, we actually like.

**Sydnee:** Which also, like, is a good deal—I mean, whether or not you're gonna win the \$50,000, what you want from this is exposure. 'Cause they're all, like, what—actor or model.

**Raleigh:** Influencer.

**Sydnee:** They're all, like, multi—multiple slashes. Actor, model, influencer, whatever. You know? So, like... that's what you want. So why would that not have been something everybody just, like, "Okay. You and me? To the end? Got it. Okay. Let's have fun now."

No. They can't—nobody can make that work.

**Rileigh:** I think Joey and Kariselle did that. We just didn't see them do that. Because I—Joey and Kariselle knew each other before the show, and I guess had hooked up before the show. But then he, like, ghosted her. Which if I were Kariselle, that would not have necessarily been the first person I ran to to be like, "You're my perfect match. We're never gonna be with anyone else."

But they are, from day one, the entire time, and neither of them even, like, hint at looking at someone else. And part of me is like, I feel like they just decided early on, like, there's no one else here that I'm into. You and I just, like, we'll vibe, we'll hang out, and we'll win, because we'll be together from day one.

**Taylor:** I love how much credit you're giving them. Um... [wheeze-laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** For strategy.

**Rileigh:** I just—I don't under—I... I couldn't understand the whiplash I got as a viewer from Kariselle saying "Everyone in my family told me to never speak to him again and that he's horrible, and he ghosted me after telling me how much he cared about me, and we hooked up and everything."

And then ten minutes later is like, running into his arms like, "Oh, Joey, I love you so much!"

**Taylor:** No, but see? That was the one relationship that felt, like, not authentic in, like, a good way, but like, yeah, that's exactly what happens.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Like, that is that couple that they never—they're al—you know, you go out to dinner. "Oh, we're just gonna go out to dinner together, have a chill night." And then, like, they're fighting and screaming, and then also making out, but then fighting and screaming again. [through laughter] Like, that's that couple. Like, that's... of course they're together.

**Raleigh:** They're Chandler and Janice.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Well—

**Raleigh:** Is what you're saying.

**Taylor:** [unintelligible] I don't think—I think that's, like...

**Raleigh:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** I think—I don't think there's a Chandler in the room. [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** [laughs] No, Joey's a Joey. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I was gonna say, there's a very straight, like, corollary between Joey and Joey.

[all laugh]

**Sydnee:** Uh, no. I felt the same way. Like, Joey and Kariselle are that—I can see that couple together. And everybody's like, "Gosh, they're so bad together." But then also, can you imagine either of them with anyone else?

**Taylor:** No!



**Sydnee:** No, not really. I don't know. And at least they were fun.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Like... I—there was no—I—I can—I buy that she was into him.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I'm not sure what Joey is doing. He's really hard to read. I found him hard to read on The Circle, too.

**Taylor:** But I found—well, I liked him—I don't wanna say I... these are all—everything's edited and they're, you know, it's TV, so I don't wanna say "I didn't like this person as much." But I enjoyed him more on The Circle, maybe because the relationship stuff, it's hard not to kind of, you know... that adds an extra element in, where I didn't like him as much on this show. Which is...

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I felt the same. He does this, uh, negging thing to Kariselle early on.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** That, like, really just icked me out. Like, uh, no, no, no, no. I don't—'cause he knew she'd come running back. He knew it. And... I didn't—I didn't love that.

**Taylor:** [crosstalk] She was asking him, like, point blank for validation in their relationship and he was like, "Nah." [laughs] Like, c'mon.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. And she tells him like, "Hey, I wanna be married soon."

He's like, "Yeah, I'm never gonna get married, ever. I don't do that. I don't see myself as that kind of guy."

And then the next episode [wheezes] he proposes! I don't know. I couldn't get a good read on Joey in that one. That's why I feel like he just deci— maybe it wasn't... like, a unified decision, then. Maybe Kariselle really was into Joey, and wouldn't have picked anyone else, but maybe Joey early on was like, "Yeah... I could win if I stay in a relationship from day one, so I'm just gonna... "

**Sydnee:** Well—

**Raleigh:** "... stay here."

**Sydnee:** I mean, I think that's what adds an extra layer to the show that makes it kind of interesting to watch, is when you watch a lot of reality TV, you're watching people who are not used to being filmed 24/7 and having every random thought and dumb idea—that we all have, we all have dumb ideas—just sort of, like, put out there for the world to know about you and have impressions of you.

Like, it's usually all fresh. These are all professionals, in a sense. They know that. They know that's the game. And so there's that added layer of, they are acting to some extent. They are very aware of who they're going to— they know that a narrative will be built around things. And I don't know how you account—you know? It's just so many layers of stuff going on, then.

**Taylor:** Well, and I'm sure we're gonna spoil the ending. But I do think it's interesting that with that in mind, the fact that they're all kind of, you know, versed in this, that the couple that got together originally and stayed together the longest wasn't necessarily the best planned. You had to just weave the most dramatic, like... you know, like, love story. The one that touched your heart the most. Which was who won.

**Sydnee:** Um, which we will talk about.

**Raleigh:** We will spoil it.

**Sydnee:** And we will spoil it. But first...

**Rileigh:** Let's check the group message. So, I gotta tell you all, I'm on spring break so I've had a little bit of free time. And there was only one thing I wanted to do in my free time, because I'd already binged all of Perfect Match, so I didn't really have anything to watch. And that was solve a murder and catch a killer.

**Sydnee:** Ooh.

**Rileigh:** As you do in your spare time.

**Sydnee:** That's exciting.

**Rileigh:** Um, well—and I was able to do that because of Hunt a Killer. I personally have been a long-time fan of Hunt a Killer. Syd, you actually introduced me to Hunt a Killer many, many years ago. They send you packages where you can examine the evidence, eliminate suspects, and catch the killer with immersive, engaging storylines filled with plot twists. It is so much fun.

It is so different from some of the other sort of, like, immersive murder-mystery things out there, because Hunt a Killer includes, like, puzzles and riddles and, like, physical locks to undo and maps to use. Um, this past week Mom and Dad and I did one together that had, like, a flag that you had to fold in a certain way to get a clue, and it had a lock box and you had to figure out how to get the code, and there was a riddle and, like, a cipher and all that, and it was just so much fun.

Um, and it's all—we had, like, a little interactive app to use with it, so it's a lot of fun for family game nights, if you want to do it on a date night, maybe a team-building event, or you want to do it on your own. It's totally able to do on your own.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, it's a great thing for Justin and I to do, because we have kids who go to bed, and we don't just wanna watch TV every night, but we don't have the option of going out every night, so it's a really fun thing to do together.

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm. And I know if you're like me and maybe you live alone, there's no—you don't have to have a co-detective. It's also totally able to do solo. So really, any night you have a free night to solve a murder, Hunt a Killer is there for you.

So, Tey, if our listeners want to check out Hunt a Killer, what should they do?

**Taylor:** Well, they should head over to Hunt a Killer at [bit.ly/huntakiller\\_buffering](https://bit.ly/huntakiller_buffering) and use "buffering" for 10% off your first order of immersive murder-mystery games today. Thank you, Hunt a Killer, for sponsoring this episode.

**Sydnee:** Um, now, I will say, we're going to spoil the show, but not just for our listeners, but for me. I don't know how it ends.

**Raleigh:** You don't?

**Sydnee:** No.

**Taylor:** Oh!

**Raleigh:** You didn't—oh!

**Sydnee:** I have not—Justin and I have not watched to the end.

**Raleigh:** Well, is it okay if we spoil it for you?

**Taylor:** Yeah, are you okay with that?

**Sydnee:** [simultaneously] Yeah, that would be okay.

**Raleigh:** Okay.

**Sydnee:** I'll still watch it.

**Taylor:** I also—I was watching it until about 6 AM [wheezes] last night. But I didn't get quite to the end, so I decided to look it up. Like, I need to know who is still together! Uh, spoiler alert...

**Raleigh:** Nobody.

**Taylor:** Nope.

**Raleigh:** [laughs] Not a one.

**Sydnee:** I didn't figure anybody would end up together.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Part of it is that they filmed this over a year and a half ago.

**Taylor:** Oh, wow.

**Raleigh:** Like, it's been a long time since they filmed this, so these couples would've had to have been together for, like, a pretty serious amount of time for them to still be together at this point. None of them are still together. And sadly, yes, Joey and Kariselle who had been together since day one, who did get literally engaged before the show ended, did not win.

**Sydnee:** Did they vote?

**Raleigh:** They voted. They brought back all of the people, and everyone got to vote. Everyone that had been on the show at any point got to vote for one of the four final couples.

**Taylor:** I feel like there's gotta be one reason that the couple that won won.

[pause]

**Raleigh:** It was Georgia and Dom.

**Sydnee:** Why did they win?

**Raleigh:** I don't know.

**Taylor:** I—

**Raleigh:** Do you have a theory?

**Taylor:** Well, I think it's because of how—how Dom got—I mean, again—

**Raleigh:** Ohh.

**Taylor:** Like, editing always comes into play on these shows, but I think it's how Dom got treated by Francesca. If we're just talking, like, narrative arcs, it led this whole, like, oh, he got treated so poorly and he was ready to go and Georgia swooped in and was like "You're a really good guy, you deserve a chance at love. I'm gonna pick you just so you get to stay."

And that was, like, a good romantic origin story that people were rooting for them in the long term.

**Raleigh:** That's true.

**Taylor:** I was rooting for them. I bought into the narrative.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Well, I liked Dom because he seemed like a good—good guy, and Francesca seemed like she maybe wasn't the nicest going about things, so.

**Sydnee:** Well, and I—now, I think—I think him telling Francesca that he was in love with her after... what, it would've been, like, four or five days? I don't know.

**Raleigh:** Yeah, less than a week.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I don't know that—I mean, I think that that move—it's hard to be like, "Well... I mean, that's a little fa—I mean... that's a little fast, man." You know? Like, it's hard for me to say she's a bad guy for not also being in love with him after four or five days. But she then went on to do things that were

pretty mean, and—I mean, even by reality TV standards. And especially as a veteran of reality TV, was really willing to lean into the villain role, you know?

**Taylor:** I liked her the—she was my favorite at the beginning because she just seemed so chill and confident, and she wasn't gonna play games. And so I was really—like, I felt like it was a big sort of, like... out of character moment when she just, like—her and Dom had won best couple, and they were sent into the boardroom to choose the next people that came in, and she saw someone on the board that she'd had previous... unresolved feelings for, and was like, "You know what? Actually, I'm gonna go on a date with this guy. Peace." [laughs] I was like, "Whoa!"

**Sydnee:** It shocked me.

**Raleigh:** That's the craziest part, yeah.

**Sydnee:** It was a huge twist.

**Raleigh:** That you can—I didn't even know that was an option, that you could send yourself on a date. Like, that seems like a wild strategy to implement, that you do a competition to see which couple is most compatible, and you send that couple into the boardroom and also give them the option to like, yeah you're the most compatible, but if one of you wants to go on a date with someone else, go ahead! [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yep.

**Sydnee:** Well, but I mean—and I don't know if, like, in Francesca's mind there's a long game, here. Yeah, \$50,000 is nice, but if I play this right, they're gonna want me on every reality TV show they ever do.

**Taylor:** Oh yeah.

**Sydnee:** Because somebody who's willing to do stuff like that, to be the villain, to say stuff to the camera, like in all of the little solos. Like, she is willing to say the thing that you're like, "Oh my god, I can't believe she just said that!"

Like, she doesn't care. You're always gonna get cast on reality TV shows if you're willing to be that person.

**Raleigh:** And she—

**Sydnee:** And she's very attractive.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** She has that in her corner, too. She's very attractive.

**Raleigh:** And she was the villain in *Too Hot to Handle*. 'Cause she was in the very first season, and right off the bat is like, "I wanna... make everybody mad. I'm gonna... kiss... another girl just for fun so that we lose money, and everyone else can get mad at me."

Um, and then she came back for *Love is Blind*, not to be on it, but to be, like, a wrench in Damian's relationship. He was about to get married in *Love is Blind*. Like, that's been her role in the sort of [holding back laughter] Netflix Cinematic Universe.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Um, is—is the villain.

**Taylor:** Hmm.

**Raleigh:** So, I mean, she plays it well, I guess.

**Sydnee:** Was she one of the final couples with Abbey?

**Raleigh:** No. Abbey was a final couple... with Bartise.

**Sydnee:** Okay...

**Raleigh:** Yeah. It was Joey and Kariselle, Georgia and Dom, Abbey and Bartise, and... oh, why am I blanking? Who else was there towards the end that I'm not thinking about? Oh, was it Chloe and Shane?



**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Chloe and Shane.

**Sydnee:** So Chloe ditches Mitch and gets back with Shane.

**Raleigh:** They get to go to the boardroom, Chloe and Mitch I think, and she says "I wanna be back with Shane," and brings him back herself.

**Sydnee:** Is it because Mitch says "ferk" so much, do you think?

**Raleigh:** I mean, that has to be part of it. He also looked at her and said "I don't want a relationship."

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** And she was like, "You're on a show called Perfect Match. What do you mean?" [laughs]

**Taylor:** How much of this—'cause some of those moments it's like, I mean, that's good TV. I really wanna know how much of this is actually, like... are there, like, little sneaky writers and editors going in like, "You know what would be really dramatic? If you did this."

'Cause that moment, like, bringing back him, like, oh, that's... that's good TV. I get it. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** I think so.

**Sydnee:** Well, I mean, I—I—I think there definitely are. I think there are producers who are constantly talking to them.

**Raleigh:** And also telling them what to talk about. I've heard them say that several times. It was like, "Oh, they told us to talk about this, or this person," or whatever.

**Sydnee:** And they'll also, like, sort of... commiserate with you, and then be like, "But you know, I just have to say, like, you and Shane looked really good together."

Like, you can see that happening behind the scenes, right? Like, I don't know. Maybe...

**Raleigh:** It's the show Unreal.

**Sydnee:** It is.

**Raleigh:** Except that's real.

**Sydnee:** Like, stuff like that is happening in the background that we don't know. Where they're, like, pushing them in directions.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Um, so yeah, those are your four final couples. And Francesca basically chooses on her own. Like, "There's no one here for me. Um, I'm out."

**Sydnee:** That's interesting.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. 'Cause she doesn't want to be with Damian anymore. She tells Damian "I don't see us being together." And he cries, and leaves. Um, 'cause Damian I guess is also in love with her very quickly.

**Sydnee:** So, I think... [clears throat] the least realistic part to me—and Justin agreed—is that someone like Ines is on this show and nobody is hooking up with Ines. And maybe it was that her standards were that high.

**Raleigh:** I think that's what it was.

**Sydnee:** Maybe that's what it was. But, like, to me she was the most attractive, funniest, smartest, most interesting, caring, like, actually seemed to be considerate of other people—when she hurt Georgia's feelings she went right to Georgia and apologized and explained.

**Raleigh:** She was fairly, like, emotionally mature. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Like, I—she really struck me as like, "Now, there's a catch right there."

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** I don't know why she was having so much trouble... I don't know.

**Raleigh:** I will say, I was unfamiliar with her because she was from The Circle: France, I believe.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. I didn't see that.

**Raleigh:** And I haven't seen that. But when she got put on a date with Bartise for her first date on the show I felt bad for her already because I knew who Bartise was, even though I didn't know who she was. And then when she started talking and I realized, like, oh. She doesn't want to just rush into, like, a reality TV show relationship. She, like, actually wants to get to know people and doesn't wanna, I don't know, like, make out with someone. 'Cause she's like, "Well, that's not real. Like, that's not authentic. Like, I want us to just know each other as people. I wouldn't do this if we were out in the real world, why would I do it now?"

Um, [through laughter] she is the one person I've ever seen on a Netflix reality show that has that mindset. I think she was just too... I don't know, realistic. Had too high of standards.

**Taylor:** Well, I think also the whole .5 episode Colony there had that same vibe. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Colony did.

**Taylor:** Somebody from—it was—I don't know the [crosstalk]—

**Raleigh:** Selling Sunset?

**Taylor:** She's like a realtor, right? Like a high-end realtor?

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Selling Sunset, but in—there's, like, a specific—they have, like, cities for them, and I forget which city she was from.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** She popped in. She looked around and was like, "None of these people have real careers. I'm out. Thanks. I got a job. I'm rich." [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [simultaneously] "I'm good." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. I think that was so weird to include people from those shows. Because, like... you have such a range, and you can make some corollaries between, like, do you want to go on a show where you talk to strangers through a wall and then have to propose to one? Do you wanna go on a show where you're all really hot but you can't do it? Do you wanna go on a show—I mean, like, these have similar vibes, right? Like, you're kind of—do you wanna go on a show where an—

**Taylor:** [through laughter] Why do these—these all sound like weird purgatories.

**Raleigh:** They are! [laughs]

**Sydnee:** They are! Do you wanna go on a show where you're locked in an apartment and you talk to people through social media and they might not be real people, or whatever? Yeah. So the—I mean, like, this is all weird.

**Raleigh:** [crosstalk] do that.

**Sydnee:** And then you're like, "Here's just a reality show about people who have jobs where they make a lot of money selling really high-end real estate, and they're cool and flashy and whatever." But, like, that's it. And they

might also be really attractive, but that's not the point. The point is that they're good at selling houses. That was a weird thing. Like, no wonder they showed up and went, "What is this? Why are you all half naked? Why is everyone drunk? What is going on here? No, I don't want to be your perfect ma—what do you do? You're an influencer? No, thank you. I'm... "

**Raleigh:** "I'm good."

**Sydnee:** "I'm gonna leave now."

**Raleigh:** I also—I just gotta ask. Um, Nick Lachey. [laughs quietly] I—is he okay? [laughs] 'Cause, like, I always worried about what's-his-face that hosts The Bachelor and Bachelorette, Chris... something. He's a Chris, right?

**Sydnee:** I don't know.

**Raleigh:** I don't know. He's, like, this older dude.

**Sydnee:** He had to leave, right?

**Raleigh:** I think they replaced him. But, I mean—

**Sydnee:** There was, like, a problem.

**Raleigh:** Oh.

**Sydnee:** He did someth—I don't know.

**Raleigh:** I didn't know that.

**Sydnee:** You know what? I don't watch those shows.

**Raleigh:** I don't watch them anymore. I used to, and I often worry about, like, this is a man in his 30's and 40's who's having to talk to these, like, 20-some-year-olds about their heartbreak after the guy they went on one date with who dated 20 other women. Like, is he okay? And now I watch Nick Lachey and I think the same thing. Like, is Nick—[laughs quietly] Is Nick Lachey doing okay?

**Taylor:** I just love the moments where all of these 20-year-olds, like, celebrate. Like, "Nick Lachey, yeah!" It's like, is that [crosstalk].

**Raleigh:** Every time he walks in the room!

**Sydnee:** Yeah. I don't know. And I also, because he hosted Love is Blind with his wife and it was, like, a couples' thing. And then, like, there were moment son Love is Blind where they would talk about struggles in their own relationship. Well, specifically Vanessa would talk about Nick being, like, a bad guy in the past.

**Raleigh:** And, like, not wanting to marry her, and dating other people, and yeah.

**Sydnee:** And allude to, like, maybe some major misbehavior kind of things. But not—I mean, I don't know. I have no idea what their history is. But Vanessa Lachey sort of put it out there, so there it is. And then Nick Lachey is hosting this on his own? It felt like she—like they had a fight behind the scenes and she's like, "I'm not doing this, Nick. This is stupid."

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "It's stupid. No! This is too far. Why are [crosstalk]—"

**Raleigh:** "It's our third show!" [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "And this one is a stupid one. Like, they don't really want to find love. We can't even pretend—this isn't an experiment. [through laughter] We pretended like Love is Blind is an experiment. This is not an experiment. What is it, Nick?"

And he's like, "I gotta do it. Nick Lachey hosts reality TV now!"

**Raleigh:** I mean... they also hosted The Ultimatum, which I keep forgetting that was a show, because it only existed for one season. I don't know if they ever made any more, but it was the worst premise. But one of the guys who was on Perfect Match was from The Ultimatum, and he only lasted, like, one

episode, and his name was Zay, and Ultimatum was basically couples where one of them wants to get married and one of them won't, so they go on a show where they make them fake marry someone else in one of these couples, and at the end of three weeks, after they've lived with this other person, they decide if they want to marry their original partner or not be with their original partner anymore. It's wild.

Zay was on that show, and I think was one of the people who wanted to get married.

**Sydnee:** I don't remember.

**Raleigh:** And his girlfriend didn't. 'Cause I think he was with Ray, 'cause it was Zay and Ray. I don't remember. But she ended up being with someone else at the end of it. And then Zay comes on this show and is like, "I just wanna, I don't know. Like, I've had a bad experience before. All these other people got married through a wall or, like, just got to, like, be in a fun beachy condo and make money off of it. But, like, I went on a reality TV show and got no money and then got, like, dumped [wheezes] on TV. So I'm just trying to have a good time."

And he's one of the first ones to go!

**Sydnee:** I don't know.

**Taylor:** He ended up with one of 'em, right? Like, he's—he's dating...

**Raleigh:** Yeah. So, they are—

**Taylor:** ... somebody?

**Raleigh:** —he is now dating Savannah, apparently. And they—she said that they had a relationship on the show, so I guess he wasn't the first ones out but, like, very early on, but they never showed it, I guess because both of them ended up leaving fairly early.

**Sydnee:** I do appreciate—I hope that Netflix will stop, um... their series of experiments. [laughs quietly] When they do dating shows and then they keep insisting—

**Raleigh:** Or at least just stop calling them experiments.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Stop calling experi—they're not—this is not an experiment, Netflix. This is not what an experiment is. You're not doing—and they make all the contestants say that. Like, "We just need to see if this experiment works." Like, this isn't—this isn't an experiment! [laughs quietly] It's reality TV!

**Taylor:** Let's just put a bunch of hot people in a house and get them wasted, and then film it and edit it for narratives. Which the whole—I gotta—I'm just trying to figure out what the... what are the rules with drinking on this show? Because everything's in, like, unlabeled bottles, and they always drink out of those, like... un, like—

**Sydnee:** The white—

**Raleigh:** The plastic—

**Sydnee:** Plastic.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Like, wine goblets.

**Taylor:** They can't show the alcohol? I don't know. It's a weird aspect that I'm just always like, what is going on there?

**Raleigh:** As far as I know, there's no limit on drinking, and I'm pretty sure it's all provided. But I did see—because in Love is Blind they use those gold goblets.

**Sydnee:** [through laughter] Yeah.



**Raleigh:** And I looked up, why did they use these? And someone said it was because of continuity.

**Sydnee:** Oh, yeah.

**Raleigh:** Like, they didn't want you to see, like, someone has a wine glass that's almost empty, but in the next scene in the same conversation it's full. Like, then you'd know it was edited.

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] Oh, okay.

**Sydnee:** That makes total sense why you would use opaque vessels, so that then—yeah. And then you can also—

**Raleigh:** You can mix things up as much as you want.

**Sydnee:** You can also mix up different nights and stuff.

**Raleigh:** Exactly.

**Sydnee:** Which they do that sometimes. Like, you think you're seeing one night of conversation, and really this happened over the course of 24 hours or something. Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Which, I mean, Bar—I think it was Bartise? Or—one of them said in, like, the—after the end of it they did interviews with all of 'em and he said he was there when Shane got splashed on when Chloe jumped in the pool that was up in the balcony. And he said, "I couldn't remember why Shane was upset 'cause I was just blackout drunk at that point. I don't remember anything."

So, like, I mean, there is a good—there has to be a good amount of alcohol going around.

**Sydnee:** I think that—'cause I know on the UK dating shows they limit that. They limit the drinking.

**Raleigh:** They don't want people to be drunk... on TV.

**Sydnee:** And that's—I mean, there are, like, a number, other than health reasons, safety reasons why that's probably a better idea.

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Taylor:** Well, paired with the fact that they then have to share a room with somebody...

**Sydnee:** Right.

**Raleigh:** A private room.

**Taylor:** And I don't know, like, what's said. But I was looking at different articles, and apparently a lot of contestants didn't know about that?

**Raleigh:** That that was how it was gonna be, yeah.

**Taylor:** And they were upset that that was a stipulation.

**Sydnee:** Well, I mean—

**Raleigh:** 'Cause that's just, like, not a thing in any dating show.

**Sydnee:** No.

**Taylor:** You just gotta be alone in a room with someone.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. The only one that does anything similar is Love is Blind, and it's the couples that get engaged live in their own little apartments. But I mean, like, Love Island, they all sleep in one big room together. Like, there's no—

**Sydnee:** Same with Too Hot to Handle, and...

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** There's no privacy. For, I mean, not just to spy on everybody. Just to, you know, be safe.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. In Are You the One this season they have bunk beds.

**Raleigh:** I gotta say, I love Are You the One.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** That is the one dating show—you talk about getting a bunch of 20-somethings to drink and then be hot in a house together, like, and then film it? That's exactly what Are You the One is, except then they make them solve a big logic puzzle. And it's so—

**Sydnee:** That involves math.

**Raleigh:** —fun! [laughs] And no one goes home. Like, there's no getting rid of people and replacing them. I've never understood show something like—because Perfect Match did that. Two people left and then two new people came the next day. And it's like, if you keep replacing people like that, or even in The Circle when it's not a dating show, it's just a competition show, how do you expect people who come in, like, a week before the finale to ever be on the same level as people who have been there since day one? I don't know.

**Sydnee:** Um, I was just happy to see Chloe back on TV. I love Chloe.

**Raleigh:** I do like Chloe.

**Sydnee:** I'll watch Chloe on anything.

**Taylor:** Chloe makes good TV.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Chloe's funny. She's very savvy. She knows what—I think like Joey. There are some people who kind of know what the deal is. And they're trying to—to do something. I think Francesca's the same way.

**Raleigh:** [simultaneously] They have a brand.

**Sydnee:** Um... I think that one guy from The Mole—not Dom, the other guy—

**Raleigh:** Will.

**Sydnee:** —was trying to do something like that, but I don't know.

**Raleigh:** It's so funny, because—

**Sydnee:** Showing up on a dating show and saying "I just want to win" is not a good vibe.

**Raleigh:** And especially because his show hadn't aired at that point, so everyone else there is just like, "Who... are you? And what did you do? What's The Mole?" Um, yeah.

**Sydnee:** That's pretty funny.

**Raleigh:** Also Georgia is now dating—just for reference, everybody, um, Francesca's example, Harry, who was on Too Hot to Handle with her in the first season.

**Sydnee:** I think I kind of remember Harry.

**Raleigh:** They dated after the first season and, like, they did the little catch up over Zoom, and he proposed to Francesca with a Ring Pop over Zoom and it was, like, a whole thing.

**Taylor:** Ohhh.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Um, now Georgia is dating him, and apparently... started dating him while she was still with Dom, like, right after the show ended. And Dom didn't know.

**Taylor:** So messy!

**Raleigh:** Yeah. It's so messy.

**Sydnee:** Somebody's gotta tell these young people that there are other networks and streaming services that you could probably find reality TV show contestants to date. I mean, if you need it to be a reality TV show. [crosstalk]

**Raleigh:** I was gonna say, or just someone who's not a reality TV show contestant.

**Sydnee:** There are also people who haven't been on reality TV.

**Taylor:** I don't... I mean, is this—[laughs quietly] in the future where everybody has spent some stint of time on a reality TV show, is this like a—I mean, I spent my 20's probably drinking too much and dating around. It's just, everybody does it on some sort of syndicated television show [through laughter] that's.

**Raleigh:** Which—

**Sydnee:** That's what the future is. You know, they predicted that really with Shock Treatment, if you think about it.

**Raleigh:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Oh yeah, they did.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** Um, Abbey was from a show called Twentysomethings. In... Austin?

**Sydnee:** I think.

**Raleigh:** I've never watched it. I assume from what she said about it and from the fact that it's called Twentysomethings and the brief clips they showed that it is just about Twentysomethings in Austin who are... living...

in Austin? And, like, going out and not necessarily dating, just, like, living? I don't know. Um... I am very confused by the premise of that show, but I guess that's just another one where it's just like watching people exist.  
[laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Can we watch attractive people exist?

**Raleigh:** Yes.

**Taylor:** [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** I'm telling you, it's Shock Treatment.

**Taylor:** It's just attractive people zoo. That's what all these shows are.

**Raleigh:** That's what it is! I do have to say that I think one of my least favorite people from any Netflix show, other than Bartise who I really don't like, um... maybe not one of my least favorite people. I don't understand him because I don't understand the game he's trying to play, I think. My least favorite one to watch is Chase. Because he comes on and he's like, "I'm the bad guy. I'm the villain."

**Taylor:** Oh yeah.

**Raleigh:** "But I don't want people to see me that way, so I wanted Georgia to know I really like her, so I'm gonna give her a rock."

**Sydnee:** Oh. Oh yeah.

**Raleigh:** [laughs] Like, that—so when I say he's my least favorite, I don't know him as a person. I just mean, like, watching him, I can't grasp what he—what his game is.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. When he gives her that rock, that... I was so glad she reacted exactly like I wanted.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Like, "Please have a scene after this of her going, 'He gave me a rock!'"

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** It was perfect! I was like, "Ha! She did it!" He gave her a rock!

**Taylor:** I mean, I think this is just something like how—how do hot people live? I don't understand. Where you just do things. You're like, "Whatever. There'll be more people that think I'm hot." And you just get to go through life that way for, like, a good portion of it.

**Sydnee:** It is weird. It is weird to think about that. Like, "Well, I don't need this hot person 'cause there are gonna be a whole series of hot people who will like me 'cause I'm hot."

**Raleigh:** He also—

**Taylor:** [crosstalk] look at me and want to date me.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. "I'll never have a problem with that."

**Raleigh:** He also had a girlfriend... before coming onto the show. And while he was on the show.

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] Oh, the secret girlfriend?

**Raleigh:** Yeah. And Georgia knew that, I guess. So, like, it was a known thing that he... had a girlfriend.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. 'Cause she was grilling him on that.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Um, so thank you all for watching Perfect Match.

**Taylor:** Hot people—

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** It is—it is ridiculous and I love it. And if you are someone who also just likes watching hot people exist and make bad decisions... then you should watch Perfect Match.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, no, I think it's funny, it's fun.

**Raleigh:** Yeah, it's entertaining.

**Sydnee:** I would not unrecommend it. [laughs] I'm still gonna finish it.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. You should finish it. So, what's next?

**Sydnee:** Well, we have a special guest here to tell us what's next.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** 'Cause next week starts our MaxFunDrive, and we try to do episodes that are a little special, a little different, um, for those. And Charlie, who I assume everyone knows, but just in case you don't, is my oldest daughter.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** She's eight.

**Raleigh:** If you're new here.

**Sydnee:** Is here to tell us what we're going to talk about next week. Charlie, this is your—something you like, right? You want to say hi?

**Charlie:** Hi. I am Charlie, and we are going to be talking about... the YouTube channel Jordan Matter.

**Raleigh:** Jordan Matter?

**Charlie:** Yeah.



**Sydnee:** Like—like the name "Jordan" and then the word "matter?"

**Charlie:** The full name is Jordan Matter.

**Sydnee:** Oh, the last name is Matter.

**Charlie:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Talk into the mic.

**Charlie:** He's, like, this photographer YouTuber.

**Sydnee:** Is this a child?

**Charlie:** No.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Raleigh:** This is a grown man.

**Charlie:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** It's a grown man.

**Taylor:** Okay.

**Raleigh:** [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Hmm.

**Charlie:** But he does have a child who's, like, pretty much always on the channel, Salish. I really like her. She's really [unintelligible].

**Sydnee:** Oh no! This—ohh!

**Raleigh:** Ohhh.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Charlie:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** That's the one that Cooper wanted me to turn on, was the kid.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Raleigh:** Okay.

**Sydnee:** So, Jordan Matter.

**Charlie:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** On YouTube.

**Charlie:** Jordan M-A-T-T-E-R.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Taylor:** Alright.

**Raleigh:** And you're gonna come talk to us about this grown man?

**Sydnee:** Can I ask you one more question before you leave? Why do you smell so fruity?

**Charlie:** [distantly] I was playing with slime. I was playing with—with slime, and it smelled really good for some reason.

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Taylor:** Playing with—

**Raleigh:** This person has 15 million subscribers! I gotta know what he does to be this popular.

**Charlie:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Well, clearly—

**Raleigh:** 'Cause just looking at the little thumbnail, I... am confused.

**Taylor:** —he matters.

**Charlie:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Alright. Well, we're gonna find out next week, when we watch Jordan Matter on YouTube, and then discuss this with Charlie.

**Charlie:** [distantly] Now I can finally watch. And my—and my parents have to.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** She said, "Now I can finally watch it and I my parents have to."

**Charlie:** [distant evil laughter]

**Raleigh:** If you want to do your evil laugh you gotta do into the mic. I think everyone missed that.

**Charlie:** [evil laughter]

**Raleigh:** There you go.

**Sydnee:** There we go.

**Charlie:** Bye!

**Sydnee:** Thank you, Charlie.

**Raleigh:** Bye, Charlie.

**Sydnee:** Bye-ee.

**Raleigh:** Alright. Well, I see Teylor has found [through laughter] Jordan Matter's—

**Sydnee:** Oh, Teylor...

**Raleigh:** —YouTube!

**Teylor:** Okay. [sighs]

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Raleigh:** Oh, this is gonna be—is there any way you can convince the other one to not pick the weirdest YouTube channel?

**Sydnee:** No.

**Raleigh:** Is there any, like, weird show she likes?

**Sydnee:** If I have influence over one, it was Charlie.

**Raleigh:** That's true.

**Sydnee:** So that was really the one we had the best shot with.

**Raleigh:** That's true.

**Teylor:** Great.

**Raleigh:** Well, alright. We'll talk about that next week. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Alright. In the meantime, Perfect Match is on Netflix.

**Raleigh:** Go watch it.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Uh, and you should go to [Maximumfun.org](http://Maximumfun.org) and check out all the great podcasts that you would enjoy. You can email us at [stillbuffering@maximumfun.org](mailto:stillbuffering@maximumfun.org). You can tweet at us @stillbuff. And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

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

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Raleigh:** I am still buffering...

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

[theme music plays]

**Sydnee:** I can't believe we're gonna watch this YouTuber.

**Raleigh:** Oh boy.

**Taylor:** This is just a grown... man. What?

**Sydnee:** I know. It's in the series of parents who look more fun than us that our kids love. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** That's an interesting vibe.

**Sydnee:** Wait till you check out these YouTube money mansions.

**Raleigh:** God.

**Taylor:** [sighs]

[restaurant kitchen ambiance plays in the background]

**Speaker 1:** [distantly] Two Oh No Ross and Carrie's, three Beef and Dairy all day.

**Speaker 2:** Max Fun Drive! Hey, chef. We got another one!

**Speaker 3:** Another Max Fun Drive!

[ding]

**Speaker 3:** People know it's the best time to support the shows they love. You tell 'em how meet up day is back?

**Speaker 2:** Sure did. They wanted to know about the live streams, though.

**Speaker 3:** Those are finishing up right now. We can even send one out on the first night, March 20th.

**Speaker 1:** March 20th, chef!

**Speaker 2:** I'll give him a heads up. They also wanted the limited time thank you gifts for new and upgrading members.

**Speaker 3:** Yep, and we got some fresh episodes ready to go, too.

**Speaker 4:** Hot stuff, comin' through!

**Speaker 2:** Alright! We got exciting live streams, meet up day, fresh episodes, limited time gifts—oh, and BoCo!

**Speaker 3:** Yeah, um, okay. Let 'em know that Max Fun Drive 2023 will be ready on, um... March 20th. And it'll only be two weeks.

**Speaker 4:** Two weeks, chef!

**Speaker 2:** Max Fun Drive starts on March 20th for just two weeks... no problem.

**Speaker 1:** Order up!

**Speaker 2:** Shoot, I forgot their water!

[glasses clink]

[chord]

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