

Still Buffering 354: Full House

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[theme music plays]

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 Taylor Smirl.

Sydnee: Uh, happy Easter, for those who celebrate. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: That's what today is.

Rileigh: I forgot.

Sydnee: I know. It feels weird doing a show on Easter.

Rileigh: I forgot that was a thing.

Sydnee: Well, there's a big bunny that comes.

Rileigh: Well, now, Syd, I know what Easter is. I just forgot that it happened to be today.

Taylor: Day of egg. Celebrate egg. No egg. Love egg.

Sydnee: Dad made a low country boil yesterday in honor of Easter weekend.

Taylor: Is that— is that what the last supper was? A low country boil? Is that related to— there's something. There's a Jesus thing here. I don't know what it is.

Sydnee: I don't know. It was good. He started using— instead of the, um, Old Bay seasoning, he started using these little bottles of Zataran liquid...

Taylor: Oh!

Sydnee: ... crab boil. It's really good. I'm just gonna say.

Raleigh: It sounds good.

Sydnee: It was the most flavorful it's ever been. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Wow. That's a big switch.

Sydnee: I know! He's never changed his low country boil.

Taylor: I'm surprised he was comfortable with that.

Raleigh: Well, he's growing. He's evolving.

[pause]

Sydnee: It was really good, and the Easter Bunny visited us. And, um... brought us various, um, candies and kid cosmetics. As the Easter Bunny does.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: How come the Easter Bunny didn't come to my apartment?

Taylor: I think the Easter Bunny did come to your apartment.

Raleigh: Well, our mom sent me a basket.

Taylor: Mm-mm.

Raleigh: Oh.

Sydnee: That's the Easter Bunny.

Taylor: That's the Easter Bunny.

Raleigh: Oh, okay. [laughs] I'm learning so much.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Easter Bunny sent me a hat and a sleeveless t-shirt. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Easter Bunny knows you.

Taylor: Easter Bunny knows what's up.

Sydnee: The Easter Bunny knows you hate sleeves.

Taylor: I hate sleeves and I love hats, this is true. This is strange, I know, but it's true.

Sydnee: You know, the Easter Bunny didn't bring me squat.

Taylor: Aww!

Sydnee: Nothing.

Raleigh: Well, Sydnee, you are now a mother, so you have become the Easter Bunny. [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] You either, uh... I don't know. I was gonna say die the...

Raleigh: The recipient of...

Sydnee: The recipient of the Easter Bunny or—

Taylor: Live long enough to become the Easter Bunny.

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: [crosstalk] become the Easter Bunny. I've lived long enough to become the Easter Bunny. I am Easter Bunny. Easter Bunny is me. We are one.

Taylor: Hail egg.

Raleigh: Easter Bunny becomes her.

Taylor: Yes.

Rileigh: Hail egg. [laughs]

Sydnee: I still— I... like, the girls don't ask a lot of questions about the Easter Bunny. It's not like with Santa where we talk a lot about Santa. But the Easter Bunny's kind of like, we are pleased with the things that result from this, this creature. Like I wake up in the morning, I'm allowed to eat candy in the morning first of all. For some reason there's a day where we just eat candy at 7 AM. And they like that. They like that the Easter Bunny is usually like "Here's some sidewalk chalk and some bubbles," 'cause that seems like appropriate Easter Bunny presents.

But they don't want to know much more about it, and I think it's just because, like, it's either a man-sized bunny... or it's just a... bunny. That's...

Taylor: Oh, I thought you were gonna say bunny-sized man. I thought that was—

Sydnee: No. Ew.

Taylor: No. That wouldn't...

Rileigh: Oh.

Sydnee: No. No, no. Just, like, a sentient bunny. So you just imagine a rabbit that just, like, is also talking to you. And how does it carry things? And... [pause] it's very intelligent. I don't know. That scares me. A highly intelligent rabbit that can talk but that's just, like, a regular rabbit.

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: That's less scary than a man-sized bunny, though. Like, walking upright in a little vest.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] It's the vest that really does it.

Taylor: Yeah. Well, and those dead eyes that the...

Rileigh: The dead eyes! That's what I was gonna say.

Taylor: [laughs] The dead bunny eyes. Bunnies and sharks, why do they have the same eyes? I could tell you, but you don't wanna know.

Sydnee: Hmm...

Rileigh: And why do— why does he just— why does he always just have a bow tie on, but it's just sitting there? What is it attached to? How is it attached?

Taylor: Well, I mean, that's [unintelligible]. You can buy bow ties like that. That's less of a mystery than the giant bunny man.

Rileigh: There's no shirt, though. There's no shirt on underneath. It's just on his— on his... bare... bunny-man fur.

Sydnee: It's a pasty.

Rileigh: Oh... [laughs quietly] Well.

Sydnee: It's a bow tie pasty.

Taylor: [crosstalk] perhaps.

Sydnee: I don't— I don't think we really— like, we have these fictional— especially, like, large animal characters. Like, it's an animal but it's bigger than the animal really is. And when you put clothes on them, I think you really need to think about the implications of the clothes. Because if it wears a vest and a bow tie, why doesn't it wear pants?

[pause]

Rileigh: So really you're questioning, like, the Winnie the Pooh situation?

Taylor: Yeah, exactly.

Sydnee: Yeah, it's a Winnie the Pooh conundrum. It's a Porky Pig situation.

Taylor: Donald Duck.

Sydnee: [simultaneously] Donald Duck.

Rileigh: Goofy and Pluto. Explain that. They're both dogs. One wears—

Sydnee: [simultaneously] No one knows that.

Rileigh: —pants and a vest and a shirt.

Sydnee: And, I mean—

Rileigh: And the other wears nothing.

Sydnee: Mickey's got his, you know, situation covered. But he's still just, like, always shirtless.

[pause]

Rileigh: And Donald. No pants.

Taylor: It's a... there's a lot of variance in this world. Sometimes those things contradict each other. It's alright. It's a good lesson to teach kids. Some people wear pants. Some people don't. Well, no, not that one.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Taylor: Not really.

[all laugh]

Sydnee: No, because, I mean, generally—

Taylor: Let me back that up. [laughs]

Sydnee: In our culture— and everyone's different, but generally speaking in our culture if you see somebody running around outside without pants on that's not, like, "Go make a new friend!" [laughs]

Taylor: No. Well, I mean...

Rileigh: I mean... maybe that— sometimes that's illegal.

Sydnee: Well, yeah! That's what I'm saying!

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: And I'm not a prude. I don't have a problem with nudity. That's just— this is what we've accepted here, in our culture. This is what we have decided is okay and isn't. We can all take issue with it if we choose, but it is the rule.

Taylor: Maybe the mystical creatures that deliver our Cadbury eggs wear only small bits of clothing to mock our shame.

Sydnee: Hmm.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Taylor: Have you considered? Have you thought?

Sydnee: That's a complex idea.

Rileigh: I have not considered.

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: Um... no, I haven't thought about any of this. See, this is why we don't contemplate the Easter Bunny much in this house. We just accept that, like, we leave— and I think it's also kind of funny that, like, Santa usually gets a big plate full of various kinds of cookies arranged neatly and, like, you know, like a nice mug of milk. And the Easter Bunny got... a carrot and a cup of water.

Rileigh: Why the cup of water?

Sydnee: Well, because both Charlie and Cooper looked at me and said, "Does he need a drink?"

And I was like, "Oh. Well... I guess. Well, what does... what does the Easter Bunny drink?"

[pause]

Rileigh: Water.

Sydnee: I mean, right? Like, what is the answer to that? Like, milk feels weird. Milk and a carrot?

[all laugh quietly]

Raleigh: Just leave him a little shot.

Taylor: Leave him a margarita. Margarita.

Sydnee: I mean, it's always been hard, right? 'Cause, like, ideally leave out an alcoholic beverage, please. But, like, then we're showing our hand.

Taylor: Syd, you get to create the fiction. You just start— "Yeah, you gotta leave out the Easter margaritas. That has to happen... every year." [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: [sighs] Oh... I don't know. I think Charlie is starting to be on to us.

Raleigh: I mean, okay. Easter Bunny was the first one to go for me. Like, that's the least believable of all of the— even the tooth fairy I was like, "I don't know. That's her business if she wants my teeth. Like, I wouldn't know if she's real or not."

But Easter Bunny? Santa's a magical man. Easter Bunny is a giant rabbit. I don't know how long we expect children to believe that one.

Taylor: I'm just trying to get this ranking here. Like, okay, mystical man? Definitely. Absolutely. Tooth fairy? I don't know about that, but I don't wanna mess with her, 'cause she's after my bones, and that doesn't seem like someone you want to cross, so okay.

Raleigh: Exactly.

Taylor: Giant bunny? Absolutely not. I've met bunnies. They're not giant. False.

Raleigh: Exactly.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] I— I would not be surprised—

Raleigh: [crosstalk] fairies could be real somewhere. Easter giant bunnies, I don't want to believe that's real. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yeah, but if fairies are real, the last thing you want to give 'em is your bones, so we're all making a mess of things there.

Sydney: I also would not be surprised if at any point Cooper looked at me and was like, "You know I don't believe in this crap, right? Like, you know I'm... I'm playing along for you, Mom, but..." [laughs]

Raleigh: [simultaneously] I would expect Cooper to catch up sooner.

Taylor: Well, but don't you remember— I mean, I remember that when I was young. Like, knowing fully, like, none of this is real. But it would make my parents sad if I told them that, so I won't. 'cause they seem to want to believe it."

Sydney: Yeah, no, that's true. I mean, I would not be surprised if they have private conversations about this. Like, "Well, I guess we'll keep this up for Mom and Dad. It seems like a big deal for them." [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yeah, they've got this shared delusion that we have to engage with.

Sydney: Either way we get to eat candy in the morning, so it's worth it. Um, well... I don't know. Um... I was gonna try to go from shared delusion to Full House, which seemed like a natural transition there somehow, but I didn't have it.

Taylor: Are you calling Full House a shared delusion? [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydney: I— I'm calling, like, the version of life that Full House sometimes asked us to accept a shared delusion.

Raleigh: That's fair.

Sydney: We're talking about Full House. Not Fuller House. We're not talking about that. We're talking about the original Full House, which many have—

Raleigh: Although I do have many thoughts about Fuller House.

Sydney: Well, I mean, you— let me say, you are welcome to share your thoughts about Fuller House. I will not limit you.

Raleigh: Thank you.

Taylor: [laughs] This is not a Fuller House free podcast.

Sydnee: No. Full House aired... hold on. That's the final episode was in 1995. When did this show start?

Taylor: Wow. I think it started in what, '86 or '87?

Sydnee: '87, there you go.

Raleigh: Wow.

Sydnee: I know. I was four years old when this show aired. And it was the— the story of a family, um, Danny Tanner and his three children. I don't remember why the mom passed away, but the mom passed away. I don't remember.

Raleigh: It was a... car accident, right? Or something like that?

Sydnee: Was it a tragic accident? I don't remember.

Raleigh: I thought it was an accident of some kind.

Sydnee: I thought she was sick.

Raleigh: Oh, was she?

Sydnee: I don't— you know what?

Taylor: I don't know. I watched— I rewatched the very first episode and they do not say. They just say that she died. But... it's possible they gave her death a backstory at some point.

Raleigh: Oh, they did, in season 8 apparently. Six and a half months after giving birth to Michelle, she was killed by a drunk driver.

Sydnee: Wow.

Raleigh: Apparently DJ shares this story in the episode, uh, Under The Influence.

Taylor: Oh man. I was like, did they give her a tragic backstory to have a very special episode? And they [crosstalk]

Raleigh: That's what it sounds like.

Sydney: About drunk driving.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydney: That makes sense. So Danny has to raise his three children on his own, except nope, because he's gonna get help from, um, Joey. [pause]

Taylor: Who's his best friend.

Sydney: Who's his best friend, and a comedian. And—[laughs quietly] as I say it, it sounds really weird.

Raleigh: Well, it sounds like in today's context it's a very, like, Bert and Ernie situation. Of like, oh, but... were they more than friends? You know what I mean?

Sydney: I never got that vibe from either of them. That—

Raleigh: I know, I never got that vibe from them. Just saying when you phrase it that way.

Sydney: Yeah. From his best friend, who's a comedian, and then his brother-in-law, so his late wife's brother.

Raleigh: John Stamos.

Sydney: John Stamos. Jesse. Katsopolis.

Raleigh: John Stamos.

Sydney: And then they all live there together and just, you know, go through raising kids in the wacky— this wacky thing called life. And the main theme of Full House is stagnation. The important thing is that no one leaves.

[all laugh]

Taylor: Wow, we just went right into it!

Raleigh: Is that why... Syd, is that why you like Full House? Because in your ideal world, like, all of us in one big family live in one giant house and no one ever leaves?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: I was thinking that. Like, Sydnee's got these two rooms in her basement. "Well, you know, if you ever needed a place to stay." And like, that's, you're just trying to create a Full House situation. You just want some wacky sister, brother-in-laws, aunts, uncles to move in. And, uh... and shenanigans ensue.

Sydnee: Yes.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: No, I mean, this is all accurate. Like, this is—

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: "Yes."

Sydnee: Yes. This is—

Taylor: Plans are laid bare.

Sydnee: This is true.

Raleigh: Are you Danny Tanner in this situation?

Sydnee: I guess? I guess that's me? I mean, 'cause Danny was the one who always wanted everyone to stay. But he also liked cleaning. That's not like me.

Raleigh: No.

Sydnee: But—

Rileigh: You and Justin collectively are Danny Tanner.

Taylor: You are, as a unit, Danny Tanner.

Sydnee: We are Danny Tanner.

Taylor: We are one, we are many, we are Danny Tanner. [laughs]

Sydnee: No, but they do. I mean, like... obviously the kids always live in the house. But, like, uncle Joey has various, like, successes in his entertainment career. Like, he gets to be Ranger Joe on the Woodchuck Show for a while. And, I mean, like, there are things he's doing. He gets, like, a— he's a successful jingle writer along with uncle Jesse for a while. You get the impression there were probably moments where he could've gotten his own place. Especially once, like, Jesse's there. He gets married. And they just stay in the house in the attic. Then they have twins, and just stay in the house in the attic. Which is wild. Like, they're married adults with jobs and twin babies and they're like, "We're just gonna live in this attic."

Taylor: Yeah. Also to consider is there was an attic this whole time, and yet... when they introduce, like, where everybody's gonna sleep, uh, Jesse gets a room. And Joey gets an alcove.

Sydnee: Yes.

[all laugh]

Taylor: There was a whole attic!

Sydnee: Well, not only is there a whole attic. Do you remember later they introduce the basement.

Taylor: Well, there's the garage. Is that—

Sydnee: But there's the basement with the recording studio.

Taylor: Oh, okay. So why was... I don't think Danny wanted Joey to stay. Like, "Yeah, there you go. You can sleep by my bookshelf on this day bed."

Sydnee: Well, and it was never clear, too, how many bedrooms there were in the house. Because, like... you can see— there was the bedroom that was well established that was both DJ and Stephanie, and then there's Michelle's nursery. And then there's the room that uncle Jesse moves into that has the pink bunnies on the wall that's all very funny. That was what we called a joke back in the 80's.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: It's funny, 'cause he's like a cool rock and roll dude and his wallpaper has—

Raleigh: He wears a leather jacket.

Sydnee: [laughs] He wears a leather jacket and rides a motorcycle and his wallpaper has pink bunnies. Funny. But, like, ostensibly Danny Tanner has a bedroom.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Unless he and—.

Sydnee: Where was that?

Raleigh: —Joey share the alcove?

Taylor: No, no. I'm sure he had his own. I'm sure there was a bedroom.

Sydnee: It was unclear where all these rooms were, 'cause also there had to have been a bathroom!

Taylor: Is this a House of Leaves situation? Did the house continue to expand and change shape to contain and trap but also accommodate the family within?

Raleigh: Do we ever see Danny in his room? Now that I'm thinking about it, I'm like, I don't know if that's ever...

Sydnee: He has to have a room.

Taylor: I'm sure it is established at some point.

Raleigh: Right? I don't know why I just can't remember. 'Cause there are lots of moments in, like, the girls' bedrooms and the attic and... I can't remember. I don't know.

Sydnee: "[slowly] Do we ever see... "

Raleigh: It's a big house.

Sydnee: "... Danny Tanner's bedroom?" I can't be the first person to google this.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: I mean, he's got, like, a... I mean, it's like one of those, like, row houses in San Francisco, right? Those things are split up into four different units by today's standards. I know, I live in one of those. [laughs]

Sydnee: Okay. You do get to see... hold on. Danny's room—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] Is this a topic of discussion online?

Sydnee: —seen only in a few episodes. It has its own bathroom, a fireplace... and of course is always neat and tidy. And in Fuller House that becomes DJ's room.

Raleigh: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: He has his own bathroom.

Raleigh: And Joey still sleeps in the alcove? And he's got his own bathroom and a fireplace in his bedroom and everything?

Sydnee: Hold up. Hold up. Six... and then eventually three more... nine. So nine people live in this house at some point, and Danny gets his own bathroom? [laughs]

Taylor: And a fireplace.

Raleigh: And a fireplace.

Sydnee: And a fireplace! Plus they have a big dog!

Rileigh: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Well... [laughs quietly] well, but I think it's also established at least in the beginning Danny's the only one paying rent, so... or mortgages. I don't know if they rent to own. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Yeah. That's true. 'Cause, I mean, Joey definitely is not in position to pay. And I don't know— what is Jesse doing in the beginning? In the beginning he's trying to make it, right?

Taylor: Yes, but he's also— he's an exterminator at some point, so I think he's working odd jobs, uh, while he's trying to make it. And Joey is working for tips at comedy clubs while he's trying to make it.

Sydnee: But what you've gotta figure though is, like, it all c— I mean, it's fair in the sense that Danny has three children to raise, and if he had to do it on his own he'd either have to pay for full time childcare or he'd have to cut back on his hours at work or something, right? So, like, Joey and Jesse are providing value. You know what I mean? I know they're not handing him a check, but they are in the sense that they're saving him money on other— he has to take care of his kids.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Taylor: But I mean, I imagine he has a pretty well-paying job though, right? Like, he's...

Sydnee: A morning news anch— a morning news guy.

Taylor: I have no idea what that actually looks like.

Sydnee: I don't know. But, I mean, that's what he does. He does a morning show. Wake Up San Francisco.

Rileigh: I forgot that's what he did.

Sydnee: Yeah. That's how we meet Becky.

Rileigh: That's right, that's right.

Sydnee: 'Cause at first you wonder, like, is this gonna be a romantic interest for Danny? And then, you know, as soon as she lays eyes on Jesse Katsopolis she's like, "Forget Danny Tanner."

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: "Look at this guy. It's John Stamos. Look at that hair."

Rileigh: [simultaneously] Can you blame her?

Sydnee: No.

Taylor: "He has a mullet."

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] That hair, that jacket.

Taylor: He's got a jukebox in his bedroom.

Sydnee: He's so cool! [laughs]

Rileigh: He's so cool.

Sydnee: For me as a child, as a young woman, that is the— he was the epitome of cool.

Taylor: Oh, sure.

Sydnee: Like, there was not a cooler human than uncle Jesse. Like, well.

Taylor: Which in retrospect being in the early 90's and your whole thing is, like, channeling Elvis now seems like, that's a— that's a little weird.

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: It does.

Taylor: At this time.

[all laugh]

Sydney: That is weird that that was his... yeah.

Taylor: Like, uncle Jesse. Grunge is happening. What are you— how are you— change up your aesthetic a little bit!

Sydney: it just reminds us that, like, the people who are making TV shows are so rarely of the generation that is currently happening.

Taylor: Absolutely.

Sydney: Like, uncle Jesse is considered cool because he's like the Fonz.

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydney: You know? 'Cause, like, that's what our model is. Like, remember when we grew up and we loved the Fonz? So let's make that. And it's like, well...[stammering] but that was a long time ago. [laughs quietly]

That's not really it anymore.

Taylor: This is TV for an older generation. [laughs quietly]

Sydney: Imagine a character like that showing up on TV now as, like, the cool character. Like, "My whole thing is I'm like Elvis." [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Yeah. What would be, like, the current articulation of that? I don't know. "I'm really into the Backstreet Boys?"

Sydney: Yeah? Like, "My whole thing is I'm kind of like I'm a boy band."

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydney: I guess, right?

Rileigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Unless it is, like, grunge.

Taylor: [simultaneously] Justin Timberlake.

Sydnee: Unless grunge is the cool thing now, unless you show up and you're like... you know, a flannel, and... greasy hair, and...

Taylor: That's not fair, because it is the cool thing now. Like, it is unironically. All of that is back.

Sydnee: Or do we just think that because of how old we are?

[pause]

Taylor: I have no idea.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Well, while you all contemplate that question...

Rileigh: Let's check the group message.

[all laugh quietly]

Sydnee: Sorry. I didn't mean to make everyone question their reality.

Rileigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: Uh, so... You know, I love, um, listening to music, listening to podcasts. Um, it's really important for me, though, that when I'm doing that, especially when I'm traveling— I love to spend time that way— that my earbuds don't fall out of my ears. And that has been a consistent struggle for me until I found Raycon wireless earbuds. Uh, they are great because they're high quality. They don't fall out. They have a great fit. They're very comfortable. Um, and you're getting the best price. So you're paying less for a high quality brand of earbuds

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Teylor: Well, they should go to buyraycon.com/buffering today to get 15% off your Raycon order. That's buyraycon.com/buffering to score 15% off. Once again, that's buyraycon.com/buffering.

Sydnee: As I was looking up the rooms, um...

Rileigh: [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] You're right that, uh, the garage was the basement, Tey.

Teylor: Okay.

Sydnee: It was the garage, but then there's an episode called Joey's place where they turn it into a bedroom for Joey. [laughs quietly]

Teylor: So how many seasons does he have to wait to move out of the alcove?

Sydnee: It's later in season one.

Taylor: Oh, okay.

Sydnee: So he's only there for a little bit.

Taylor: Alright.

Sydnee: Um, but then of course there's the attic. Now, the garage— it's interesting because, like, they say later on it becomes Jesse's studio.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: So I don't know. Where does Joey go at that point?

Taylor: Maybe Joey got Jesse's room because Jesse moved into the attic.

Sydnee: Hmm.

Raleigh: Ohh. I bet you're right.

Sydnee: That would make total sense.

Raleigh: This— you guys could make a great YouTube video that would get so many views if you, like, put together a whole timeline of when people where in which rooms in the Full House canon.

Sydnee: Well, 'cause there's, like, seasons 1-4 there's Jesse's room. Prior to that it was Stephanie's room. Then it becomes— no, you're right. It becomes Joey's room. [pause] Uh...

Taylor: I mean, again, is this a Haunting of Hill House situation where there's one room that is whatever anybody needs it to be, and this is just some sort of eldritch being's... a full house.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I do— I think so! And, I mean—

Taylor: When does this IP come up for grabs? Can we make some sort of terrifying... this house won't let you leave? You must stay here and be family?

And anybody that tries to move forward in time or in their life is replaced by, like, a younger version of themselves?

Sydnee: I mean, that's basically—

Raleigh: Get rebooted.

Sydnee: That's what's happening, right? With Fuller House, which I know we're not talking about Fuller House, but like, they just all return to the house. They cannot leave. They must return, this next generation, and carry on their existence within in the house.

Taylor: That is— as you were destined to do. Your inescapable destiny of the house.

Sydnee: Which I don't know if these are all— if this is all, like, a commentary on how, um, ridiculous high housing costs are in San Francisco.

Taylor: I was gonna say, back in this time period, these people could maybe find housing. But absolutely not now. A comedian? No!

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: I think we personally know, like, 15, [through laughter] like, living out west.

Sydnee: That is a good point. So you've got, like, a comedian, a, uh... morning show host, and then Jesse does a series of odd jobs until— I mean, I guess his band does become successful enough to make a music video.

Taylor: That sounds like the three careers that are barely paying month-to-month a three-bedroom apartment in Brooklyn, for what I understand.

Sydnee: Now, they do bring— like, Becky moves into the house and she's also a morning show host. So they bring that income. Um...

Raleigh: But then they add two more babies.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Just so many babies.

Raleigh: That's two more— yeah, two more people to feed, and raise. Pay for.

Sydnee: And there's lots of, like, bedroom remodelings and makeovers and new looks people are constantly getting. [laughs quietly] You know what I mean?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I don't think it's practical.

Sydnee: Well, and then they buy the club! They buy that— that bar, right?

Taylor: Yeah. That's true.

Sydnee: So that Jesse and the Rippers will have a place to play.

Raleigh: What does that say about his band that they had to buy a club so that they could have somewhere to play?

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: I— listen. I know what you're saying. I mean, that's all fair. And I don't think we have great evidence on the show that, like, Jesse and the Rippers becomes, like, an international success or something. Um... I mean, if they do you would think they would have moved out of that attic.

Raleigh: You would think so.

Taylor: That's not— no. That's not the rules of this show's universe.

Raleigh: You have to stay.

Taylor: Yeah.

Sydnee: But, I mean, I think that because it's John Stamos, sometimes it's somewhat believable. Because when he is singing that— like, when he looks at Becky and he's like, "[singing] If every word I said... could make you laugh, I'd talk forever." I mean, it's just like, your heart melts, you know?

Taylor: You— your heart melts, I guess.

Sydnee: [laughs]

Raleigh: [laughs] I didn't know you loved John Stamos so much, Syd.

Sydnee: Well, he's just— you know, he's John Stamos.

Raleigh: I mean, yeah.

Sydnee: He still looks the same, too.

Raleigh: He does.

Taylor: Is that what you get— the payoff for living in the house forever is you get eternal youth, but once you step outside you shrivel and die? [laughs quietly] Just trying to get the confines of this horror movie that I'm writing in my head.

Sydnee: I mean, I think that— I think it's fair to address the, um... whatever I was about to say there was gonna be offensive. To address the fact that Candace Cameron whatever is part of this.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Like, it does become a horror show. Because now on Fuller House... she is our Danny Tanner. And that's just— you know. It's sad, because DJ Tanner was such an idol to me when I was young. [laughs quietly] All I wanted—

Raleigh: I can see that.

Sydnee: —was to look like DJ Tanner, to have her bedroom. Her— like, the color scheme when she gets her own bedroom, in the season when she moves into Michelle's room and she has her own room, um, that color scheme of her bedroom, I modeled my first— like, when I got to pick my own bedroom colors and stuff, it was after that.

Taylor: Oh.

Sydnee: It was all those— you know? Like, mauve and... teal, and... remember that? And kind of shimmery.

Taylor: That was before the moons and stars bedroom?

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Okay. Yeah, I remember that one.

Sydnee: Yep. And it was all modeled after DJ's room 'cause I just thought she was the coolest. And she had that big hair. Gosh, I wanted her big hair.

Raleigh: She had huge hair.

Sydnee: I wanted that hair.

Raleigh: She and aunt Becky. Aunt Becky had some big hair too.

Sydnee: I mean, it was the era of big hair.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: But, I mean, DJ and the actress that play her are not the same character. I haven't watched enough Full House to know. I mean, I don't know if they bring... I know that she's a pretty hateful lady in real life. I don't know if they bring those politics onto the show. Boy, that would be a spin! [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: I was gonna say.

Sydnee: I would doubt it.

Raleigh: I feel like I didn't know that about her until— 'cause Fuller House is over. Like, it only lasted two years, right? Two seasons?

Sydnee: Oh, I thought it— is it over?

Raleigh: I didn't know it was still going. That shows you how much I know about Fuller House.

Sydnee: I have no idea. I watched a little bit and I— it was— I mean, like, there was a little nostalgia at first, and then... and I knew— I mean, so, like, Candace Cameron, now Burr, Bure, Buré, something, I don't know how to pronounce her

new last name, it's Kirk Cameron's sister. So, like, I mean, you kind of always had to imagine that if you asked her enough questions she'd give you answers you wouldn't be thrilled about.

Taylor: Sure.

Sydnee: I was shocked that she's as openly, um, hateful to the LGBTQ+ community as she is.

Taylor: Wasn't she also famously rude to Jojo Siwa?

Sydnee: I— I—

Raleigh: I think so, yes.

Sydnee: I believe so. Which I didn't know, I mean, again, until later. But I was surprised. I mean, which it all— it all came out over the Hallmark movie thing, right? Hallmark movies started including, you know, gay and lesbian storylines, and so Candace was like, "Well, I'm gonna have my own movie channel where it's only straights."

Taylor: Can you imagine getting so mad about, like, "Oh, no! Instead of a—a—a man in the green sweater and a woman in the red sweater, there's another— there's another man in the other sweater! I gotta— I gotta start a whole TV show outta— a network outta this! I can't handle it! Oh no!"

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] And that really— like, I— it shocked me! I mean, I knew... you try not to assume just because someone, like, goes to church a lot, you know? I mean, you don't want to make that assumption that they're— 'cause, like... you know, not everyone who attends some sort of religious ceremony is, like... hate-filled towards the queer community. So you try to assume that, well, maybe—

Taylor: But she really wanted you to know that she was, though.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Yeah. Well, I know! Well, that's what— I mean, ahead of time I— but before that I guess I just didn't realize. And I was probably, you know... a little blinded by my love for DJ Tanner.

Raleigh: Look at Jodie Sweetin though.

Sydnee: That's true.

Raleigh: She came out, like, fully anti-Candace Cameron. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: Or whatever.

Taylor: And you can't tell me with the way that the— the Olson twins dress that they aren't at least very good friends with many members of the LGBTQ community. [laughs]

Raleigh: Yeah.

Sydnee: Oh yeah. Well, and it makes you wonder, too. And I don't know, because when we— talking about the Olson twins, that's, like, a whole other issue. Because, like, they had to grow up in the public eye. And I think that they've probably suffered a lot of the sort of, like, trials and tribulations of child stars, right? Like, their life must've been tough. Everything was always on. I mean, their whole— from when they were babies!

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: Everything is on film. And that's a tough road. But they obviously wanted nothing to do with this new project.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: Like, made a point of not just saying like, "Oh, we can't." They were like, "Absolutely not."

Sydnee: And who knows what that's all ab— you know? Is that just because, like, there's too much trauma associated with all that in the past, or did they take one look at Candace Cameron and say "Yeah, no."

Raleigh: [laughs] "Nope."

Sydnee: "No, no, no."

Taylor: I mean, I— it's the— I don't know. Like, it's... just different standards. But one of the first episodes there's this, like, Michelle Tanner's butt, like, being shown. And, like, that just feels a little... I don't know. That sucks for a baby to, like— who's now an adult to look back and be like, "I didn't get to say, like, "Hey, yeah. Let's just have my naked baby butt on national television." I don't know. I do kind of feel like— I don't know what the standards are for children in Hollywood now, but that feels a little egregious.

Sydnee: I mean, I don't know either. You would certainly hope that they've changed. But, I mean, obviously... I don't know. There was a lot— I mean, and there are lots of storylines and things that are done on Full House that would not in any way hold up to, like, our current standards of just, like... that's, like— that's not a decent thing to do or say or talk about. Like, I even remember they tried to do one— an episode that I remember well where they're trying to deal with DJ and her thinking she's overweight. Do you remember this one? So she stops eating and starts, like, riding the exercise bike till she almost passes out.

Taylor: Hmm.

Sydnee: And with that whole storyline, there are adults who give advice that isn't like, "You're beautiful, you're perfect, you're wonderful. Like, this is not— you don't— you know, your body is strong and amazing just the way it is and you don't need to do—" like, yes, all of that sort of messaging is part of it. But there's also, like, "There are healthy ways to lose weight." [wheezes]

Taylor: Sure.

Sydnee: Like, that's part of it too. And it's like, "Uh, well... "

Raleigh: "Uh... "

Sydnee: [laughs] "Almost, Full House. Almost."

Raleigh: Um, I also— we can't talk about of course drama and bad press associated with the cast of Full House without talking about... aunt Becky.

Sydnee: Oh yeah.

Raleigh: I mean, she... she—

Sydnee: Went to jail.

Taylor: Oh, right.

Raleigh: She committed crimes. [laughs]

Taylor: That's right. She— she—

Raleigh: She went to jail.

Taylor: She bought her kid into school, right?

Raleigh: Yep.

Sydnee: Into a fancy school.

Raleigh: Photoshopped her daughter's face onto a rowing— a rower, so she could get a rowing scholarship, even though she didn't... row, I guess. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: That...

Raleigh: Oh, man.

Sydnee: That whole scandal, that crime, everything I read about it, it was so wild.

Raleigh: Mm-hmm.

Sydnee: I didn't even know how to feel or think about any of it.

Raleigh: I think my main thing with it was— 'cause they did a whole Netflix documentary about it, 'cause it wasn't just aunt Becky. It was, like, a whole ring of... uber famous and uber wealthy people. The thing about it for me is if I were the kids of these people, do you know how, like, offended I'd be if my parents knew the only way for me to get into a good college was for them to, like, pay thousands and thousands of dollars for someone to secretly take my ACT for me and not tell me, and then, like, pay someone to photoshop me onto someone playing a sport I don't play? Like... [laughs] I'd feel bad! [laughs]

Taylor: And was it— was it her daughter that, like, kind of had, like, her own thing going as far as, like, an internet career?

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: Like, I don't know, what, TikTok, YouTube, something.

Raleigh: She was an influencer and didn't even want to go to college. Like, she made videos explicitly saying, like, "I just want to— I'm making money doing this. I don't want to go to school. Like, I have no interest in it."

Sydnee: Yeah.

Raleigh: It is wild. It is just a wild whole series of events.

Sydnee: It was— yeah. It was also wild, and it was, like, I don't know. I didn't know how to feel about any of it. Um, other than, like, I was disappointed in aunt Becky. I just didn't... [laughs quietly]

Taylor: This is very against the open, loving atmosphere that Full House establishes.

Raleigh: This is what happens when you leave the house!

Taylor: [through laughter] You become a monster.

Raleigh: You become a monster! [laughs quietly] DJ and aunt Becky strayed too far from the house.

Sydnee: This is why you must stay in the house!

Taylor: I think this is— again, this is like a metaphorical sense, Sydnee. We're not moving into your basement.

Sydnee: Okay.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Taylor: [laughs]

Sydnee: You can have your own bathroom. You don't have to share one.

Taylor: Syd, it's your basement.

Raleigh: It's your basement.

Sydnee: It's a walk-out basement, though! So, like, you know.

Raleigh: Your cats live down there.

Sydnee: You both love cats.

Raleigh: I have guinea pigs.

Taylor: You're just gonna keep putting cats in the basement.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] I'm trying to draw Taylor in.

Taylor: There are 82 cats in the basement now.

Raleigh: Taylor, you have to come! Taylor, it's just cats!

Taylor: It's all cats all the time. Just go— it's just like— there's no— you can't see the ground anymore. It's just cats. Like, "Ah, become one."

Sydnee: I'm gonna start putting, like—

Taylor: Maybe. Maybe then.

Sydnee: I'm gonna hang, like, 50 birdfeeders outside the windows, so then there's, like, flocks of birds and it's filled with cats. Look! You can be amongst the cats and look at the birds.

Taylor: With all those cats and birds, how will I have time for wacky hijinks with the children?

Sydnee: Uh... we'll have to watch Full House again to figure it out. I know there's time in there.

Raleigh: You also— you have to have a third one to complete the...

Sydnee: Nope.

Raleigh: The image.

Sydnee: Nope.

Taylor: Okay, well, see, then you don't— you don't get the—

Raleigh: [simultaneously] So there you go, yeah.

Taylor: —you haven't completed the ritual, so you don't get [wheezes]. You don't get the Full House.

Sydnee: I will not have a third one. I will not do it. I will— I will not. I'm done.

Raleigh: Well, you can't be Full House.

Sydnee: Sorry. [laughs quietly]

Taylor: That's how it works.

Sydnee: Uh... it is— it's—[laughs quietly] it's sad to think about, um— I try to focus on the fictional characters of Full House and not have to [crosstalk] too much on—

Raleigh: Well, it is a fictional TV show.

Sydnee: Yeah. I mean, that's really... you know. Um, I— they all did love each other and support each other and they stayed there together forever, and that's so nice.

Taylor: Aww. There were a few people— like, Bob Saget seemed like a— I mean, he was a very... very, you know...

Sydnee: Raunchy.

Taylor: Yeah, comedian. But I think beloved otherwise, as far as media goes. You can... he seemed cool. [laughs quietly]

Sydnee: We can't— we can't get into the whole Dave Coulier, Alanis Morissette controversy.

Raleigh: Yeah!

Sydnee: That's too big for this episode.

Taylor: John Stamos, he's never done anything... wrong, right?

Raleigh: I don't think so.

Taylor: He's fine.

Sydnee: You know, Tey, I'm at this point now where, like, I don't think so? But I also try to just hold this place in my heart, like, sacred and say, like, anyone can hurt you, Sydnee. Don't—

Taylor: Oh, wow! [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] You never know.

Taylor: That's fair. Even uncle Jesse.

Sydnee: If DJ Tanner can hurt you, anyone can hurt you. [laughs]

Raleigh: [whispering] Yeah.

Sydnee: But it really was— I mean, we all watched it together. This would've been before you, of course, Rilo. But we all sat and watched it together. It made Dad cry a lot.

Taylor: Yeah.

Raleigh: That makes sense.

Sydnee: Yeah. I learned everything I know about hair and makeup from DJ Tanner, which explains a lot.

Raleigh: Yes.

Sydnee: [laughs quietly] Um...

Raleigh: Your hair's not quite that big, though.

Sydnee: I can't— I can't make it that big. I had perms when I was younger in an attempt to look like DJ Tanner.

Raleigh: Hm.

Sydnee: But... eh. I can't get there.

Raleigh: I always related more to Michelle.

Taylor: [laughs] Is that...

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: Well, 'cause she just— you know. She's not... a lot of times she's not, like, an essential part to a plot, but then she just shows up every once in a while and everyone's like, "Aww. There's Michelle. She's cute."

Sydnee: [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: I get it.

Taylor: Does that make me Stephanie? Is that... is that where I'm at?

Sydnee: I don't know. I think you get to pick.

Raleigh: Yeah.

Taylor: I don't think I get to pick. [laughs] I think the house decides.

Raleigh: [laughs] The house decides.

Sydnee: There's always Kimmy Gibbler.

Taylor: Ouch!

Sydnee: Well, I'm just saying! There are other characters.

Raleigh: Or...

Sydnee: There's boyfriend Steve. Who did the voice of Aladdin.

Taylor: You know, one thing that became like an ongoing joke that always made me uncomfortable even as a child was how much Danny Tanner hated Kimmy Gibbler. [laughs]

Raleigh: I know!

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: Like, that was a child!

Sydnee: Yeah. That part—

Raleigh: Like, wasn't just annoyed by her. Like, visibly, like, hated Kimmy Gibbler.

Sydnee: Yes.

Taylor: Like, this is like a— like a well-received joke. Like "Oh yeah, you know, every— every child has that best friend that you just loathe as an adult and just talk down to constantly." [laughs]

Sydnee: And you're openly hostile to.

Taylor: Yes! [laughs]

Sydnee: Yeah, that is wild in retrospect. Yeah, like I said, there are a lot of things that it's like, "Oh, well, we don't..." especially as, like, a parent. I'm like, "Well, I would never, ever..." they have a whole thing where aunt Becky teaches DJ how to wear makeup. And I was watching this and she was talking about, like, "The important thing is, no one can know you're wearing makeup." And, like, that's the trick to it, and all this. And I'm like, "Oh, no." [laughs quietly] "Oh..."

[laughs] But... I remember being given that advice, so... [laughs] it was very of a time.

Raleigh: That is the one thing I will say about Full House. It never stops being of a time. Beginning to end, that show is so... 80's and 90's coded. Just the aesthetics, the conversations, all of it. Some shows you could pick up and put in a different time period and, you know, it wouldn't make too much of a difference. Not Full House.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm. Not Full House.

Raleigh: That's why Fuller House didn't work.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Raleigh: Which, by the way, Fuller House is over. Ended in 2020.

Sydnee: Okay.

Raleigh: Yes. It lasted for five seasons, though, which is more than I thought.

Sydnee: Did DJ and Steve end up together?

Raleigh: Yes? They did, right? Because she— wasn't it, like, very— it was supposed to be similar to Danny Tanner that she was married and he died? And then she reconnected with boyfriend Steve.

Taylor: Is that what happened?

Raleigh: I think so?

Sydnee: Yes. Yes. Yeah, he—

Raleigh: Like when the show starts, the reason she's moved back is because her husband died?

Sydnee: Yes. Her husband died, and Steve is divorced.

Raleigh: Oh, that's right.

Sydnee: They run into each other and Steve has also been married but is now divorced, I believe. But yes, they... at the end of the show, he marries DJ in a triple wedding.

Raleigh: What are the other two?

Taylor: [simultaneously] Wait, who else?

Sydnee: Stephanie marries Jimmy. I don't know who that is.

Raleigh: Who's Jimmy?

Sydnee: And Kimmy marries her ex-husband and, like, they've been together and divorced a couple times or something, Fernando.

Raleigh: Oh, that's right. Well.

Sydnee: Oh my gosh. All these think pieces about Fuller House. I can't.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: I can't— I'm just— I can't even look at— well. At least DJ and Steve ended up together, I guess.

Raleigh: That's all that matters.

Sydnee: That's all that matters. Anyway, what's next, Tey? [laughs quietly]

Taylor: Uh, you know, I guess it's another kind of offbeat family dynamic, but maybe— I don't want to say not as wholesome. I guess wholesome in a different way. Uh, TikTok just feeds me movies that makes me watch them again. Uh, Little Miss Sunshine is the one I've been fed most recently. So I want to talk about that.

Sydnee: Perfect.

Taylor: I always loved that movie, but now that the main— the titular little girl reminds me of one of your kids, Syd, I rewatched it. [laughs]

Raleigh: So much like one of your kids.

Sydnee: I definitely think that's true. Excellent.

Raleigh: Well, good. I'm excited.

Sydnee: Alright. Well, we will watch Little Miss Sunshine for next week. Thank you both for enduring some Full House for me.

Taylor: [laughs]

Raleigh: You know, it is dated, but it doesn't... it holds up okay. It's still, like— it is as entertaining as you would expect Full House to be. In the wholesome, you know... family fun way.

Sydnee: Yeah.

Taylor: I watched a lot of season 1 and I found it a lot more engaging, like, the early—[mockingly] Uh, I like the early, the early stuff.

Raleigh: [laughs]

Sydnee: [laughs] You know, for me it was sort of the, like, TV equivalent to, like, Archie comics. Archie comics are rarely, like, funny-funny, you know? And the storylines are not particularly, like... like, you can't figure it out. There aren't a bunch of plot twists or anything. But there's s— but I just keep reading them. There's something about them that's comforting, and engaging, and warm. I don't know.

Taylor: Well, you go into each episode or issue knowing, like, there will be a mild inconvenience that will be warmly resolved.

Raleigh: Yep.

Sydnee: Mm-hmm.

Taylor: And that is nice. [laughs quietly]

Raleigh: That is nice.

Sydnee: It is nice. And no one will ever leave.

Raleigh: Exactly.

Taylor: Hmm. No.

Raleigh: That's Sydnee's dream.

Taylor: Yeah. [laughs]

Sydnee: Alright. Well, thank you. [laughs] Listeners. Um, thank you to Maximum Fun. Uh, thank you to everybody who donated last week, or the last two weeks as part of the Max Fun Drive, and became a regular donating member. We appreciate you. We thank you so much. Um, you can go to Maximumfun.org, check out a lot of great shows you'll enjoy. You can tweet at us @stillbuff. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org, and thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Raleigh: This has been your cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I am 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: [singing] Every day [mumble-singing]

Taylor: [mumble-singing]

Raleigh: [mumble-singing]

Sydnee and Taylor: [singing] to hold on to.

[all laugh]

Raleigh: I didn't know that was the words.

Taylor: That's so many hands. That's terrifying.

Raleigh: [through laughter] So many hands.

Alexis: Are you tired of being picked on for only wanting to talk about your cat at parties?

Ella: Do you feel as though your friends don't understand the depth of love you have for your guinea pig?

Alexis: When you look around a room of people, do you wonder if they know sloths only have to eat one leaf a month?

Ella: Have you ever dumped someone for saying they're just not an animal person?

Alexis: Us too.

Ella: She's Alexis B. Preston.

Alexis: She's Ella McLeod.

Ella: And we host Comfort Creatures: the show where you can't talk about your pets too much, animal trivia is our love language, and dragons are just as real as dinosaurs.

Alexis: Tune in to Comfort Creatures every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[music and ad end]

[chord]

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