

MBMBaM 677: Am I the Sphincter?

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Intro (Bob Ball): The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids. Which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme song, "My Life Is Better With You," by Montaigne, plays]

Justin: Hello! Welcome My Brother, My Brother and Me, and advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother Justin McElroy.

Travis: Well, me? Well, partner, I'm your middlest brother, Travis.

Griffin: Where the fuck is this coming from?

Justin: Here on the new Red Green Show, new Americans—[chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] What if it—

Justin: I don't know why I had that voice when I started talking.

Travis: I'm almost positive Red Green Show is Canadian.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I am like 99% sure it is as well.

Justin: This is the American version.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Hey, I'm Griffin McElroy. The youngest one. What if I was blue, and then it was the Red Green Blue show, and it was like cyber? Like cyber... like screens.

Justin: Ooh? That's good.

Griffin: Or like led lights.

Travis: Or like the Red, White and Blue show.

Griffin: Oh, that could be cool. Yeah, we would have to get rid of green in that one.

Travis: Yeah. What about just white and blue?

Griffin: Okay, that could be fun. Now we're having fun, really narrowcasting.

Justin: Now we're having fun. Hey, right before we started recording this podcast, which we have done for many weeks and many years, over the weeks.

Travis: Several.

Justin: Travis said he had a new skit. Is that accurate, Travis?

Travis: No, a new segment. A new segment.

Justin: A new segment.

Travis: But I should preface here—

Griffin: And then forgot?

Travis: No, I didn't forget. I was just waiting for the right time.

Justin: It's now.

Griffin: It is.

Justin: We should do it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I was letting the foreplay commence before we got into the—

Justin: Ew! Oh, no!

Griffin: Well, okay. Well, we talked about... we talked about obscure public broadcasting television for a while. And so, I think that's for play for us.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Okay, great. So, I should confirm, because I said a 'new segment,' but it's the segment like everybody's doing. But I wanted like to get our hand on the ball, because they always do well.

Griffin: Carpool Karaoke.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: No, it's Am I the Asshole?

Griffin: Fuck.

Justin: Top 10 lists.

Travis: Am I the Asshole?

Griffin: Am I the Asshole?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Now, Travis, this does just sound like a Reddit. Are you just going to read sort of subject lines from that? Because that's unprecedented for us. We're not the biggest Reddit heads.

Travis: Well, I've got a really good one here, okay? So, you guys—

Justin: Wait, no, Griffin, he has a really *good* one.

Griffin: Okay, let's hear it.

Travis: I've got a really good one, okay.

Griffin: Let her rip.

Travis: "Am I the asshole?"

Justin: Yes. [chuckles] Sorry.

Travis: "I'm a sphincter in the human body."

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: Now, don't guess yet. You could guess now if you want to lock in your answers.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: And you get four points, there are four clues. So, if you want to lock in your answers now, there are four points and then three points and then two points and then one point.

Griffin: I'm going to not say—it's a sphincter in the human body?

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: Guess... What's your guess, Justin.

Justin: [chortles]

Travis: If you don't want to walk in a guess here, I can do a second clue.

Justin: [guffaws]

Griffin: Lock in a guess, Juice. This is easy, isn't it?

Justin: You really said, "I can do a second clue."

Travis: Okay—

Griffin: Yeah, there are lots of sphincters in the human body. Nice fuckin' try, though, Riddle Master.

Travis: Mm-hmm, "Sometimes, I'm said to pucker."

Griffin: Oof... [thinking sounds] I mean, the heart has sphincters, the stomach, the duodenum. The duodenal sphincter. The esophageal sphincter. These are all the many sphincters we have in our bodies. The aorta.

Travis: There's more than that. There's way more than that.

Griffin: The heart's... the heart chambers. The liver's probably got a couple of 'em going on. We are half sphincter in there, we're 98% water, half sphincter. I'm gonna say I need another clue.

Travis: You need another clue? Okay.

Griffin: What are you thinking, Juice? Hold on, but Justin's also playing this game.

Justin: I'm lost here, guys. Like, who knows? I mean, I know it's a sphincter.

Griffin: Yes or no, Juice?

Travis: And it's sometimes said to pucker.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Okay... yeah, I guess. Yeah, it's a—yeah, I think so. Am I locking it in?

Griffin: I'm not locking in. You will not trick me.

Travis: There are two more clues.

Griffin: All right?

Justin: Okay?

Travis: But Justin, are you locking it in?

Justin: No, I'm not locking it in. There's no reason—

Griffin: He said yes—

Justin: Do I get more points for locking in early?

Griffin: You get more points, yeah.

Travis: Yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah. You could get three points if you lock it in now.

Justin: Okay, yeah, then I'll lock it on. It's definitely an asshole.

Travis: Okay... okay! "When checking gut health, you might stick a camera in me."

Justin: Okay...

Griffin: I'm locking in no.

Travis: Ooh! And the final clue was, "I do make fart sounds, but they're called raspberries."

Griffin: Now, hold on. Now, we need to wait a minute. Now, we need to wait a minute. Now, we need to wait a minute.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Because we need to back up for a minute and wait. Just for a minute.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Griffin: The mouth isn't a sphincter...

Travis: The lips are sphincter.

Justin: [guffaws]

Griffin: I mean, listen, I'll take the W. But I protest the W... It's like I won the basketball game, because I had a bunch of people throw extra basketballs on the court and yell multi ball. And dunked each one and said that it was worth a million points. It's like contrary to the spirit of the game.

Travis: Well, Griffin was right, I am not the asshole.

Griffin: Okay, but it's not...

Justin: I am so excited for round two. I've gotta be honest.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Listen, I have a round two.

Justin: [laughs] I feel like I've got the game now. I feel like I've got my sea legs underneath me and I'm ready to know.

Griffin: See, that's—you'll have to find someone else to play with, though, because I'm retiring with a perfect win record.

Travis: I'll save round two for another time.

Justin: No.

Travis: No, do you want it now?

Griffin: I'm so good at your games, Travis. Great.

Justin: Trav, thank you. That was bracing. For sure. Thank you so much for that. What a wonderful palate cleanser for our program.

Travis: The beautiful thing is I think I could do this game forever. Because I think there are like 70 some sphincters in the body.

Griffin: There are so many sphincters.

Travis: So, the first clue is always going to be, "I'm a sphincter in the human body."

Justin: I don't know what that word means.

Griffin: So, here's one problem with the sustainability of this segment, Trav, is that the—I'll start—I'll counter this by saying that there's—the lips, I refuse to think of them in the way that you have. It's so gross, I can't even.

Travis: You can! It's just... it's just true.

Griffin: Okay, but I won't. But the other thing is like there's not a lot of sphincters in the human body that do a similar enough job—

Justin: I guess I don't know what that word means.

Griffin: That you could throw them off of the trail, of the, you know, the anus.

Justin: I guess I don't know what a sphincter is.

Travis: You don't know what a sphincter is?

Griffin: Go ahead and describe it. Yeah, can you define it, Trav? Do you have like a dictionary—

Travis: I sure can. It's a ring of muscles surrounding and serving to guard or close an opening or tube, such as the anus or the openings of the stomach.

Justin: So, it makes like—they know you're thinking about butts when you say it, right?

Travis: Well, yeah, absolutely.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, it's kind of a lie by omission.

Travis: But they also use it in Baldur's Gate, when you're walking through the ship in the beginning? You go through the sphincters.

Griffin: Yeah, but those are clearly—those sphincters are not—

Travis: Those are buttoles.

Griffin: They're not mouths, right? They are cloacal in nature.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Justin: It says here, I'm looking at the Wikipedia page for sphincters, and it says here in the first paragraph about them, "Sphincters relax at death, often releasing fluids and feces."

Travis: Mm-hmm!

Justin: Yeah, I mean, I think the alternative would be... just insane, right?

Griffin: Would be wild, yeah.

Travis: The body goes on full lockdown!

Justin: Yeah, the idea that like everything just shuts down—we're gonna create a perfect hermetic seal in here. Just keep it all—

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: A real locked door mystery.

Justin: Yeah. Nobody ever goes in, nobody ever comes out.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: Lock it up.

Griffin: Lock it up, lock it in.

Travis: Over 60 types of sphincters in the human body.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Wow.

Travis: Now, hold on, Wikipedia. Why didn't you lock that down to a number? Over 60 types, but less than 70. [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles] Tell me exactly how many sphincters there are! It's 69, they just didn't want you to have that delight.

Travis: Oh, I bet that's true!

Griffin: That's fun. But it doesn't say lips on their, right?

Travis: Lips is—yes, Griffin!

Griffin: All right, but probably not.

Travis: It *really* is!

Griffin: Hold on, I'm gonna call... I'm gonna call the—

Justin: Doctor?

Griffin: The GW Hospital here and talk to head surgeon there, Dr. Samantha... Brain Medicine. Hold on. [spoofs dial tone] Hi. Hey, is the lips a sphincter? Oh, gross. We've never... I guess so. We've never really thought

of it that way before. Let me ask the guys. Yeah, they're all shaking their heads, but they're making a yucky face! All right, I guess it is.

Travis: Yup! In human anatomy, the orbicularis oris muscle is a complex of muscles in the lips that encircled the mouth. It is a sphincter, or circular muscle, but it is actually composed of four independent quadrants that interlace and give only an appearance of circularity.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: Okay. All right. Code cracked.

Travis: That's also the kissing muscle.

Justin: Okay, thank you.

Travis: It's your kissing sphincter!

Justin: Your kissing sphincter.

Travis: Your lips are your kissing sphincter!

Griffin: Touch sphincters with me, is the new kiss request.

Travis: Hey, let's lock sphincters.

Griffin: May we?

Justin: My sphincter is sealed. That's what I say when I've got a secret.

Travis: Mm-hmm!

Griffin: [sings] My sphincter is sealed!

Justin: I have a broken outdoor—everybody knows that Steven Tyler has a famously big sphincter. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, yeah, powerful.

Justin: Julia Roberts is known for her... her voluminous sphincter. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: I bought this ointment the other day at Sephora that says it'll pump up my sphincter. I'm really excited.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I'm really excited to try it out. Get me that—

Griffin: I think my—

Justin: [sings] 'Style me up! My sphincter's open and I'm singing songs!' That's Mick Jagger with his notable, historic sphincter.

Travis: We're children, I think is the problem. Like, we're grown-ups doing this show, but we're children.

Griffin: That is an issue.

Justin: Yeah, that's beautiful. This is—you know what, Trav? You're right. Let's help people. We've been helping ourselves to a lot of these great jokes. But let's help the listening public. "I have a broken outdoor trash can. I've tried three trash pickups now to throw it away. I've tried putting notes on it, putting it upside down, but the sanitation workers have left it on the curb each time. How do I communicate that the trash vessel... the trash—" That's a mouthful. "The trash vessel is in fact also garbage." That's from Cluttering the Curb in Pittsburgh. And I... wow, you guys know this one hits close to home for me.

Travis: I do!

Griffin: I do.

Travis: That's why I included it, Justin. Because I think it's time we solve this. We put an end to this.

Justin: You think about the obvious stuff. Like, here's an example: you write 'garbage' on it. And the trash guys are like—well, I would assume, yeah, I mean...

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Yah, you put garbage—what are you, eight? Are you Ms. Rachel? Like yeah, you put garbage in the garbage can, dunce.

Travis: I have to assume, too, like these garbage—the sanitation workers have been burned before, right? So like, beyond a reasonable doubt that this must hit, for them to be *sure* that you want them to take this garbage can away, right? The barrier has to be so high. Because like if I was a sanitation worker and I'm out there collecting stuff, I don't want to get like a call that's like, "Hey, did you *take* their trash can? That's like 101 stuff, man. You empty the trash can and leave it! What are you doing?!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I have struggled with this before and I will tell you how it was solved, and you will not like it.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: Powerful stuff.

Justin: There was a big storm... [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: Oh, no! [chuckles] You're right, I won't like it!

Justin: [chuckles] There was a big storm...

Griffin: And god was like, "Don't worry."

Travis: And the trashcan got struck by lightning and came back to life?

Justin: There was a big storm and it blew away, and I never looked for it again.

Travis: Now, Justin, I'm sorry, you didn't solve that. That's not a solution, Justin.

Griffin: It is!

Justin: It is a solution.

Griffin: Because he prayed for it.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: And god was like, "Don't worry, Hoops. I got you." [spoofs gust of wind]

Travis: "That one path of footprints and wheel tracks is when I took you trashcan away!"

Griffin: Do you know why you never found it, Juice? It's because it blew into someone else's yard who very badly needed a slightly used but gently loved trashcan.

Justin: I hope it found a good home. I like that idea.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: This is why it's really important—I have worked for multiple years to foment a really powerful relationship with my trash guys. Like, I have

worked for years to—like, every day that they come, I have both of my adorable little children go out and say thank you.

Travis: Every day?

Justin: What?

Travis: Every day?

Justin: Well, every day when they arrive. Yes, every day on trash day, they go out and say thanks.

Travis: Do you just keep them home from school on those days?

Justin: Well, I mean, no. They come early enough so that it times out well. And then once Christmas time rolls around, oh, I'm pulling out the Franklins like, "Come on, guys. I really... I love you guys. This is so important to me. This is my most important relationship after like my family and friends." Because I don't... I need this one place in my life to be safe for trash, without second-guessing myself.

Travis: Mm-hmm, yeah.

Justin: And I need a really—they need to know, "Hey, it's Justin." You know? Like no matter what you see in there, we're close. Were tight. You're just going to throw it away no matter what, right? And they never fail me. We've got a great relationship. And it's really important to have a relationship where you can go out and talk to your trash guys and say, "Hey, dudes! This can is broken, can you take it?" And they'll be like, "No problem, Justin. You're our guy."

Griffin: Yeah. Hey, did you just call \$100 bills 'Franklins?' [chuckles]

Justin: Franklins, yeah. What, would Benjamins be more accurate?

Travis: I mean, people do often say Benjamins...

Griffin: Yeah, historically, I would say, is sort of the common vernacular and in sort of pop fiction, pop sort of culture history, we do refer to them as Benjamins.

Justin: Are you guys telling me—

Travis: No, no, Justin's out there, he just breaking some Francos off... some James Francos off the stack.

Justin: Are you telling me you don't... Are you telling me you don't know who Ben Franklin is?

Griffin: No, I do know Benjamin Franklin is, Justin. [chuckles]

Justin: Do you—okay, so wait, so—shut up. You're telling me then you don't know who's on the \$100 bill?

Griffin: No, Juice, you're really trying to—

Travis: I'm actually going to back out of this one.

Griffin: He's trying to steer—no, Travis, don't let him—

Travis: Don't look at me!

Griffin: Don't let his sorcery get you twisted around. Nobody says—

Justin: But I wanna understand what you're saying, Griff?

Travis: But he's saying it with such confidence, Griffin!

Griffin: I know, and it's horrifying.

Justin: You're saying you don't know who's on the bill?

Griffin: No, I know who it is. It's Benjamin—

Justin: So, you know who's on the bill...

Travis: Yeah, Griffin! You don't know who's on the bill?

Griffin: What?! How is this happening to me?! No one calls them—it's not called It's All About the Franklins, baby! They don't call it that, that's not the name of the song. They don't say that. It's Franklins.

Justin: That song, Griffin, came out... Do you know when It's All About the Benjamins came out, Griffin?

Griffin: 1998.

Justin: [chuckles] That's a really good guess. Let's see how close you are... Griffin, it came out in 1997. So like, great.

Griffin: Oh, shit!

Justin: Do you want to talk like somebody from 1997? Or do you want to sort of be on the forefront of language as it evolves? Because I'm not here saying Benjamins like we know—

Travis: No, you're saying Franklins. Justin, please don't twist it around.

Justin: Yeah, you're right. You're right.

Griffin: Oh, wait, no, hold on! That was interesting, what just happened. That was interesting, what just happened there. Travis, did you see what just happened there?

Travis: Yeah, that's called a Sigmund slip.

Griffin: It's not—oh my god. [chuckles]

Justin: Yes, it's Sigmund's famous slip. [guffaws]

Griffin: [laughs] Okay...

Justin: I do like the alliteration. I gotta say! A Sigmund's slip!

Griffin: You guys are trying to like Nelson affect me right now and I don't really like it.

Travis: [chortles]

Justin: [laughs] You know what I mean, the Nelson effect. [in silly high-pitched voice] 'Ha-ha!'

Griffin: Uh-huh!

Travis: You get it. [in silly high-pitched voice] 'Ha-ha!'

Griffin: All right, yeah.

Justin: [in silly high-pitched voice] 'Ha-ha, you messed up!' A lot of things people call Sigmund slips, are really just mistakes. I think it sucks that you can't just make a mistake anymore, you know? Ugh.

Travis: You need to cut the trash can in half.

Justin: If you get a big hammer and smash the trash can to bits, and throw those bits in a bag—

Griffin: No questions asked. That is, yeah, the correct answer. Everyone at home knows that, right. You could smash it.

Travis: Now, but if you see you could go down one side, across the bottom and up the other side, and just have two perfect halves laying in the street when they come, that's so clearly garbage.

Justin: Let's talk about this, though. Okay, let's talk about smashing it to bits with a hammer.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Justin: Where is that happening? Would you say it's happening in home or out home? Because in home is bad, right? For very obvious reasons. That's

my home. That out home is like, "Hi... are you okay over there? Are you doing all right?"

Travis: Yeah, I was gonna say do it under cover of night, but I actually don't know if that's better.

Griffin: That's way worse.

Justin: That's worse!

Griffin: That's fucking straight disturbio territory.

Justin: That's way worse!

Travis: "Hey, honey, we need to move."

"What? What happened?"

"Last night, around 3:30, I saw our neighbor, Travis, just smashing a trashcan with a big hammer and saying, 'They'll love this. They'll definitely take this.'"

Griffin: Yeah, I'm putting an ad on Craigslist to offer my services as a sort of like... 'The Wolf' from Pulp Fiction type. Of just if you need me to discreetly dispose of your disposal. Don't do it in the yard, your kids are gonna be home from school and just a couple of hours. When they see the big trash can mistake you made out front, they're never gonna speak to you again.

So, call us, the trash trasher. Who trashes the trash men? We do. We will discreetly destroy and dispose of your garbage. Please hit us up, it's \$10. Not that much money. I do have a wizard here. This one is from Jacqueline and it's gonna... I'm excited for sort of the conversation that it's going to lead to. Almost like a smart conversation book club, guys. Right?

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: It's how to bathe a horse.

Justin: Mm-hmm?

Griffin: "If you're going to his show, or your horse—" What's that?

Justin: Tongue... tongues. Tongue bath.

Travis: Oh, I see. Like lick a horse.

Justin: Tongues. Are you kind of giving a horse a tongue bath?

Griffin: No. No, no, no. Because I don't think you would need a wikiHow article for that. Because that would be like—

Justin: Yeah, just start licking and quit when you pass out.

Travis: Yeah. Start licking and quit when it's kickin'.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, that's a great.

Justin: That's a great rule.

Griffin: Great farm wisdom, right there.

Travis: That's my rule!

Griffin: If you're going to tongue bathe your horse, first of all, just go to jail and ask them how long—

Justin: To hold you. [chuckles]

Griffin: Just go right to jail.

Travis: Like when you know you're about—like in a movie where you're about to turn into a werewolf and you're like, "You need to lock me up! I know I'm going to do some terrible if you don't lock me away!"

Griffin: Go right on to jail, tell them what thought you were harboring. And then just see what they think.

Justin: Tell 'em you did a thought crime.

Griffin: And ask how long would be good.

Justin: In Biden's America, you're not allowed to think whatever you want. Even just thinking it's illegal. You know?

Travis: Yeah, Tom Cruise gets the red ball out and it says, "Travis was gonna lick his horse." And then they come and they arrest me. Thanks, precogs.

Griffin: Right. Yeah. No, but I do like that sort of government overreach, obviously. That's great.

Travis: Oh, that one's fine.

Griffin: If it's stopping horse licking, then that's great. Keep it up, panopticon. You're really killing it, sweetie. So, "Prepare the horse for a bath." Oh, wait, I skipped the thing. "If you're going to a show or your horse is covered in mud—" Those two situations, for me, are usually very different. Like, if I'm going to—if my horses covered in mud or I'm about to go, you know, catch a concert down at the 930 Club. Those two don't usually happen at the same time.

"You'll need to give the animal a bath. Bear in mind that a horse can become chilled in cold weather. So, it might be best to postpone until a sunny day. If your horse is sick, consult your veterinarian before bathing the animal."

Travis: Hey, I also don't want to be out there spraying water on my horse on a cold day.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. You feel that, too.

Griffin: Let me hit you guys with this; I love a horse and I want to have one, obviously. But you think a lot about the financial investment of a horse, you don't think about sort of the sweat equity that goes into it. "Chief among

the supplies you need are a shampoo and conditioner specifically designed for a horse. Don't try to cut corners here."

Travis: No, actually, that's fine because I use Mane 'n Tail.

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: So, I can just use the same shampoo for my horse.

Griffin: Now, see, I actually use Garnier.

Travis: [sings] Shampoo for my horse! Shampoo for my head.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And it's just the same shampoo.

Griffin: I use No Tears Garnier Fructise and me and my horse both use that. And that's been going okay so far.

Justin: I use prescription dandruff shampoo!

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh, okay. Yeah, I've dabbled in that, too. It smells—how's it smell? Because my experiences were never good.

Justin: Like chemical!

Griffin: [chuckles] Uh-huh. Cool. So, you're gonna need a bunch of grooming tools such as a sweat scraper, body brush, curry comb, main comb and chamois leather or towels. chuma—chumma... chamois leather or towels. You also need access to a water source, obviously, as well as a step stool if your horse is too tall for you to reach his back. Guys, to wash this fucking animal, you need three different brush instruments. Special-fancy leather from France and something called a sweat scraper.

Travis: That was, if I'm being honest, the most off-putting.

Griffin: Is the sweat scraper?

Travis: Yeah, because like three different types of brushes, right, you got the mane. Right, that requires a different brush than the body. And I don't want to use the mane brush on their butt hair. Which is what I call their tail.

Griffin: Yeah, no, no, no.

Travis: I get that.

Griffin: Right, that's the curry, I think. [chuckles]

Travis: I'm rubbing them down with leather, which feels like the horse is gonna be like, "Hey, where the fuck did you get that?"

Griffin: [chuckles] "Hey, that skin, bro... hey, partner?"

Travis: That's weird and gross, and I hate that.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: And then I'm like, yeah, but let me just get this squeegee out?

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, I don't know about that. Here's another thing that also I've never had to contend with when bathing my children or any animal; "Tie up your horse using a quick-release knot." [chuckles] Hey, how rowdy is this about to get? Because this sounds like it's about to get—

Justin: You need to be able to release him in case of emergency. Like, you need that option immediately open to you.

Griffin: [chuckles] Let me just say, if a living thing hates getting bathed so much that you have to like tie it to a tree, maybe it's good? Like, maybe—

Travis: It's so obvious that you guys don't—have never owned dogs. Like, sometimes your horse things like shit. [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah, but like the flip side is, what this person is saying is you need a knot that is specifically designed to let you give your horse away instantly. It's gonna be so mad that you're gonna need to make the split-second decision to not have a horse anymore. Because that's what we're talking about. We're talking about letting it go. [chuckles]

Travis: Well, you don't want to be mid-horse bath when the rustlers strike. And you're like, "Oh, shit. Okay, wait, guy, please don't steal my—god, give me a second. I gotta untie this elaborating knot."

Justin: I guess. I guess the threat of rustlers is the least—

Travis: You didn't think about rustlers! Rustlers Frushtick show up and steal your cattle.

Griffin: [chuckles] I don't want Rustlers Frushtick to show up. I'm just saying, if the horse doesn't like the bath so much... so much that you must tie it to a tree, maybe that horse just doesn't have baths. And that's okay.

Justin: It stinks like a horse. What do you want from it?

Griffin: What do you want? It's a fucking horse, dog.

Travis: What if, new law, you can only own a horse if you're within riding distance of a waterfall. Right?

Griffin: That's special.

Travis: So, then you just walk through the waterfall with your horse and your horse is like, "Yes, this is how I would normally bathe." And you're like, "Cool, man."

Griffin: Yeah, let's go ahead and—if we could go ahead and stop calling them waterfalls, by the way, because that has never been like the coolest name for what is a very, very cool thing. And just go ahead and call 'em horse swashes.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: To take your horse to the—

Travis: Horse bidet!

Griffin: I'm taking my horse—well, no, it's not going... Bidets don't down, Travis.

Travis: Oh, that's a water riser. You're right.

Griffin: Hmm... I've lost track. Okay, so, we use the curry comb on the body of the horse. And you use that to stir up and loosen dirt and debris within the coat. You can skip this step. This is me and—

Justin: Oh?

Griffin: This is Griffin, Justin and Travis saying, pretty confidently, you don't need to use this first brush. It takes so long to clean a horse, do not even sweat the curry comb. The other two combs will get the job done. I promise you. If not, the leather will do it.

Travis: What does the leather do?

Griffin: I mean, we'll get to it. I guess static electricity gets it off the horse?

Travis: Mm-hmm, you don't want your horse sticking to other horses.

Griffin: Yeah. Pardon me, I don't know if this was listed in the original... in the original list of brushes. So, we may be about to add a fourth brush into the mix.

Travis: Oh, boy.

Griffin: Use a dandy brush on the horse's legs.

Travis: Ooh, la-la!

Justin: Wow! How many brushes do I have to have for this horse?

Griffin: So far, we're up to body brush, mane brush, fuckin'...

Travis: Curry brush.

Griffin: Curry brush, a dandy brush...

Justin: You know how many brushes I brought with me for my human body to Seattle?

Griffin: How many?

Justin: None!

Griffin: None of them.

Justin: [chuckles] I forgot! I forgot the one that I normally bring, and that reduce me to zero.

Griffin: Yeah, how many sweat scrapers did you pack in, my man?

Justin: [rap sings] Four in the backpack, six in the suitcase. Gotta have 'em all if I wanna have—save face.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [rap sings] Got a sheen of sweat and I don't regret leaving this house with four scrapers.

Griffin: Now, Juice, you gotta come up with a rhyme like that, that you can say as you're going out the door for the rest of your brushes. You know what I mean?

Justin: The rest of my brushes, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, like sweet as—

Justin: [rap sings] Not a body brush, I'm not in a rush.

Griffin: [chuckles and rap sings] Sweet like candy, don't forget the dandy.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, [rap sings] 'don't be in a hurry so much you forget your curry' comb.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: You do need to specify that, right?

Griffin: Comb.

Travis: Yeah, or else I'm grabbing some curry on the way out the door.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Not the best road food.

Justin: Dad had a curry—

Travis: Oh, god.

Justin: The first night we were in Seattle.

Griffin: I love a curry.

Justin: The first night we're in Seattle, dad had a curry.

Griffin: What kind?

Justin: It doesn't matter because the only context I heard about it is, "That curry's really messing with me." And it's like fucking three days later and dad's like—right? Like, back me up.

Griffin: Yeah, he got shredded.

Justin: Dad's like, "Oh, boy, that curry is still—" [chuckles]

Travis: Well, it's interesting because he ate that curry and then also proceeded to eat spicy food at least two other times in the following 48 hours. And then he was still like, "Yeah, the decision I made three days ago is the problem, not the collective miasma of decisions I've made."

Justin: Of seven decades of decisions.

Travis: [laughs] "Not all the poor life choices up until now. Just, I was... I was running 100% until it got to that curry."

Justin: "That was the first little... little hiccup in the works!"

Griffin: [chuckles] A snafu!

Justin: [chuckles] "First little... first little rust on the gears here."

Griffin: [chuckles] "Use a mane comb on the horse's mane and tail." Okay.

Travis: Obviously.

Griffin: Now, we're done.

Travis: Mane and tail? No, thank you.

Griffin: Yeah, that—guys... I don't know how to tell this to you. That's just the pre-bath brushing.

Justin: We're not even bathing it?

Griffin: We haven't even wetted the horse yet.

Travis: It's already taken like 12 hours?

Griffin: Step one of part two bathing the horse, "Wash the horse's face. The horse is likely to be sensitive about having his face washed. Do this first before the rest of the bathing." Okay, I think if the horse is going to fight me

and I only have a limited amount of like human energy I can use to fight the horse as I clean its body, I'm going to focus on like the butt, probably. Just the main stink areas. Just, that's going to be my strategy. The face... beautiful face, I don't want to mess with 'em.

Travis: Here's my worry with the face, that while I'm watching this horse's face, whether I mean to or not, I will make eye contact with this horse. And there will be a moment—

Griffin: Their eyes are so big.

Travis: And it will be so obvious in the horse's look that they're like, "What the fuck are you doing? I trusted you."

Griffin: "Take me to a waterfall, Sheila."

Travis: Yes! Please!

Griffin: Step two, wet the horse. Here we go. Okay. [chuckles] Here we go. "It is best to wet the coat all over before applying any shampoo." That's also human... how we do it. So...

Travis: Yeah, I don't like wash quadrants?

Griffin: No, yeah, I don't put in a dry shampoo layer. But I also don't use four brushes on my hair before, just to loosen up the all the grime. Maybe I should. To wet the horse—

Justin: My kid is telling me, by the way, Charlie is telling me now that the thing is, you condition and then shampoo.

Travis: What do you mean 'the thing is?'

Justin: The thing is—

Travis: It's not a TikTok trend?

Justin: Yes. No, it's 100% that.

Travis: What the fuck.

Justin: Like, or I don't know if she's seen it on YouTube Shorts or something.

Griffin: I don't know what kind of shampoo the kids are using, but the shampoo I use devastates the texture of my hair. The conditioner comes in as a sweet—

Justin: What they're saying is, the idea is the conditioner protects the hair against the chemicals in the shampoo.

Travis: Wait, then hold on. Then that feels like a shampoo problem. I don't need the conditioner lining—

Justin: Make shampoo different.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: My dudes, I want you guys to listen to me really carefully. If science... if the scientific consensus comes back that this is correct, I think we have to stop doing My Brother, My Brother and Me. I think that our shampoo guidance was one of the first things we ever told people, how to do this. And if science takes that away from us, some 13 years later, I don't know that I can look our audience in the face anymore.

Justin: To be clear, what Griffin is referring to is like maybe the first episode of My Brother, My Brother and Me, when he said that he didn't need to use body wash because he used shampoo and just let it drip down his body.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, that's the advice that we've like built this temple on. And what you're saying is if that was... if the common thinking on shampoo changes that drastically, this shifting sand that we've built our empire on—

Griffin: It will swallow us whole.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, we will disappear and then a new podcast will build upon the bones. And our spirits, our unquiet spirits will come up to haunt them from time to time.

Travis: Your move, science.

Griffin: The distance I feel between a man who did not use body wash because he thought the shampoo would clean his body is so vast, I'm having a bit of an existential crisis.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: You know how your body replaces all the cells in the body every like seven days or whatever?

Justin: Yeah, Ship of Theseus.

Griffin: It's like that for now, for me, from 2010 Griffin.

Justin: Griff of Theseus. [chuckles]

Griffin: Griff of Theseus, so yucky. "Clean the horse's anus and genitals."

Justin: The what? [laughs] Sorry, again? I [covered up??] the best part.

Griffin: It says here, "Now that you got him wet, clean the horse's anus and genitals."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Now that you got him wet, now is a good time to clean—

Travis: I... Listen, without even—

Justin: Why would you dry wash a horse's genitals? [chuckles]

Travis: Without even getting into that—

Justin: The idea, a dry rub. [chuckles]

Griffin: Hold on, I'm looking at my watch. Hold on! Yes, now is a good time to clean the sheath on a male horse, and around the anus—

Justin: [laughs] Now, what's the sheath?

Griffin: [rap sings] 'The time is up, the time is now.' The sheath is the...

Travis: You know.

Griffin: Foreskin.

Travis: The sheath is the part that holds the secret penis.

Griffin: Although, for a horse, it's more like an eight skin, right?

Justin: You mean the scabbard?

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, well... yeah, sure.

Justin: The horse's scabbard.

Griffin: The horse's enchanted scabbard.

Travis: Because a horse can't have its whole penis out the whole time. It's running around a lot.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, "Use clean, wads of cotton wool—"

Travis: So, it has to keep it secret and safe.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] "Use clean wads of cotton wool or a clean cloth—" Eh, I think I'll go with a cloth on this one, wikiHow!

Travis: You know what? I actually think I'll be fine with a hose from about 20 feet away. Because one of the defining defense mechanisms of a horse is kicking. And there's no way that horse is going to be like, "Yeah, man, I wasn't happy about you washing my face. But I'm going to stand perfectly still and not at all kick through your chest when you wash sheath with a cloth."

Griffin: "This sphincter's for you, Dave! Go for it."

Justin: I got a problem, though. They say use a clean cloth. If I can't use my dirty cloths to wash a horse's balls, why am I saving them? What are these things for then? Like, why did I even keep the dirty cloths if I can't use them on a horse's balls?!

Travis: Oh, it says here it says here in the details, you can use your favorite T-shirt.

Griffin: All right!

Justin: [chuckles] I do you save those for shop rags. I guess I could use some of 'em on a horse's balls.

Travis: How clean are they? Are they shop rag clean, or horse's balls clean?

Justin: I mean, there's a little dust.

Travis: Then it won't work, Justin!

Justin: [spoofing Southern accent] Might be a little dust on the shop rags.

Griffin: It is morally... morally problematic that we have put such a long gulf between the first—the point I just said and the point I'm about to say.

Because people might have gotten in there and messed this up already. You must use a separate cloth for the anus, as for the sheath. Do not try to double up. These are two—

Justin: Ask me how many cloths I use in given shop. [chuckles]

Griffin: Five? You need five combs. You need one sweat scraper. Unless you sweat scrape the anus and sheath, then you need three sweat scrapers. [chuckles]

Travis: Three? Ugh, okay.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: One for each hole.

Griffin: "Never stand directly behind the horse to wash the anus, always stand to one side." I'm looking at the lawyer, he's giving me a huge thumbs up.

Justin: Fucking lead with that! Please, lead with that!

Travis: Yeah, man—hey, bud—

Griffin: He's giving a *huge* thumbs up!

Justin: I'm already in here. Lead with that. I've sat down on my ball scraping stool already.

Griffin: Yeah, shampoo the horse's coat, rinse the horse, dry the horse.

Travis: Wait, so, after I clean the sheath, there's more? Because at that point—

Justin: That's gotta be the grand finale! You know, Peter Jennings said you save the most challenging questions for the end of the interview. And that way, if they're gonna walk out on you, you get the other stuff first. This, to me, feels like that's the most challenging part of the wash and should probably be your grand finale.

Travis: I do now see why they were so careful to say make the eye contact with the horse first, clean the face first, then the sheath. [chuckles] Because I don't think the horse and I want to be in that moment together.

Justin: I need to know when the moment to break eye contact is, because if it's immediately before I start cleaning the sheath, he's gonna suspect that I don't know him well enough to have that level of intimacy.

Griffin: And that you don't want to know him!

Justin: Yeah, but if you keep unbroken eye contact the entire time you clean the sheath, that's going to be disconcerting as well.

Griffin: Okay. I don't know you've ever seen a—

Travis: Do you keep up a friendly banter during the time, or do you treat it with reverence?

Justin: Just keep the fuckin' apples coming, man. That's all.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, and some cubes of salt and sugar. I don't know if you've seen a horse's body or if it's been a while, Juice, The sheath and the eyes could not be farther apart.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I do not see how you do business with one while also conducting business with the other. It's not impossible.

Justin: Are you saying a horse can't see his own sheath?

Griffin: I'm saying there's no way.

Travis: Not when they're tied up with a quick release knot.

Justin: Hey, wait, stop for a second.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: Can a horse see his own penis?

Travis: Hey, Justin, Google that for me real quick.

Griffin: Yeah, we need to all stop Googling these questions and just put one of us on a government watch list.

Justin: Oh, hey, bud, I'm not Googling shit.

Griffin: You're just asking?

Justin: I'm just saying, I'm just wondering aloud. [chuckles]

Griffin: I'll ask Siri.

Justin: No, don't!

Griffin: Can a horse see its own penis? She says, "Sorry, I don't understand." What don't you—[chuckles]

Justin: She's pretending.

Travis: Maybe rephrase?

Justin: If she can't parse that question, then we worry about from AI.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Griffin, try phrasing it—

Justin: Couldn't be more direct.

Travis: "Siri, has a horse ever tried to see its own penis?"

Griffin: Okay, let me try that. Has a horse ever tried to see its own penis, and succeeded? She said, "I don't have an answer for that."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Then look online, Siri!

Travis: "I'm afraid to, Griffin!"

Justin: The one horse that pulled it off, afterwards, they came to him and said, "Was this a success?" And he said, "I don't know how to answer that question."

Travis: [chuckles] "I don't know, I'm still parsing it."

Justin: "I'm still thinking through it, okay? I've got a lot of... a lot to process."

Griffin: Ask Google if a horse can see its own penis.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I'm not—is it because I say penis and she's like—her brain fuckin' shuts down? There's like a kill switch in there? This sucks. Shitty computer you made, Steve. Keep it up, Joanie... Dry the horse.

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: Are you guys still there?

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: [chuckles] Yeah!

Justin: Yeah, dry the horse.

Griffin: You both went... you both got so quiet.

Justin: I can't let him dry in the sun?

Griffin: No, this... once satisfied—

Justin: What if he gets a good run going?

Griffin: [chuckles] That's what that knot is for. "Once satisfied, the water running off the horse is clear and there is no shampoo residue left, you're ready to stop rinsing and dry the horse. The one option is to use a sweat scraper and to move it in the same direction as the hair. This squeezes the excess water from the coat." That's interesting. "You can also use the edge of your hand to squeegee the water away." I don't want to do that...

Travis: I think I'll just pay somebody to do it.

Griffin: "Alternatively, use several clean, dry towels." I think at this point, it's waterfall or, you know, I TaskRabbit this one. This particular chore.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Wash the tail.

Travis: And if we need money to pay someone to wash our dirty, stank horses, we need to go to the Money Zone.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Let's go!

[theme music plays]

Justin: Folks, you don't know anything about your body. We've just discovered that you have so many more sphincters than you had any idea. You gotta get the experts. And I don't mean going on to TikTok and trying to diagnose yourself.

Travis: I also can't stress enough, don't Google like, local sphincter expert. You don't need that.

Justin: Yes, thank you.

Travis: You don't need that kind of cookie. [chuckles] You don't need that, friend.

Justin: What you need is ZocDoc. It's going to help you find doctors and medical professionals that specialize in the care you need, and deliver the type of experience you want. It's a free app, okay? And it lets you find and book doctors who are patient reviewed, who take your insurance and are available when you need them, and treat almost every condition under the sun.

So, you know, if you've got a problem and you don't know where to turn—the whole medical thing is like such a such a maze right now. But ZocDoc can help you navigate a little bit and find—especially if you're like, this is great if you're moving. I hear from people a lot, like, "Who do I see? You know, I've been seeing this kind of person over here and now moving. I gotta find new doctors and everything."

Just go to zocdoc.com/mybrother and download the ZocDoc app for free. Then, find and book and a top-rated doctor today. Many are available within 24 hours. That's zocdoc.com/mybrother. [Zocdoc.com/mybrother](https://zocdoc.com/mybrother).

Travis: Nailed it.

Justin: Thank you, Travis.

Travis: Hey, I don't know if you guys know this, but fall's here. And you know what that means? It's layering season. And when I'm in my lair, it can get a little chilly down there, deep under the ground. Right?

Justin: [chuckles] You'd think the geothermal vents that he had installed to power it would help with that.

Travis: No, we used those up.

Justin: But he's using those to keep the titanium cages electrified.

Travis: Yeah, absolutely. Those things, oh my god, if they ever got out? Oh, god, it would be bad for everyone. Including me, I don't even know why I did it.

Justin: He's a villain, but he's not that bad.

Travis: Well, I mean, the thing is, it would be bad for me too, right?

Justin: Mm-hmm.

Travis: Anyways, let's get to the point. It's cold in my lair, and dank. Pretty dank. So, I need to stay warm. And Bombas makes it easy to stay warm while I do my plotting. With socks, tees, underwear, they feel good and do good because—wait, what? Using Bombas does good? Ah, man!

Justin: Ah, beans.

Travis: Ah, I've been trying to plot so much evil in my lair, and this whole time I've been doing good because every item purchased gives essential clothing to someone who needs it? Ah, man... let's see. Let me read on here. I haven't looked at this at all.

"Socks, Ts and underwear are the three most requested items in homeless shelters. When you buy yours from Bombas, you're also giving to someone who needs it. One item purchased equals one donated." Okay, that's all fine. That's okay, I haven't been plotting—okay, I've been plotting against people above me. This is fine. This is all fine. Okay, great. So, the Bombas fall collection is packed with nothing...

Justin: [chuckles] Whoa?

Travis: But the coziest materials.

Justin: Ah! Okay, yeah.

Travis: Sorry, I just—I had to take a breath. Sorry. Like extra soft.

Justin: What a twist!

Travis: Yeah, extra-long staple cotton and merino wool that's so plush, it feels like little pillows for your feet. If you've got kids heading back to school, Bombas has uniform styles down to a very comfy science. And all of

it's backed by a kid proof, 100% happiness guarantee. I have, at this point, converted all of, I would say... about 65% of my socks.

I still kept the whimsical ones. You know, like all my novelty ones. You know, my novelty socks? And all of my underwear is now Bombas. And I've got so many of their T-shirts. They really are comfortable and wonderful. And you can go to bombas.com/mybrother and use code MyBrother, all one word, for 20% off your first purchase. That's bombas.com/mybrother and use code MyBrother at checkout.

[Triple Click theme music plays]

Maddy: The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom.

Kirk: Diablo IV.

Jason: Final Fantasy XVI!

Maddy: Street Fighter 6!

Kirk: Baldur's Gate 3.

Jason: Starfield!

Kirk: Spider-Man 2!

Jason: Master Detective Archives: Rain Code for Nintendo Switch! No, is that me?

Kirk: [laughs]

Maddy: [laughs] It's a huge time for video games.

Kirk: You need somebody to tell you what's good, what's not so good, and what's amazing.

Jason: I'm Jason Schreier.

Maddy: I'm Maddy Myers.

Kirk: And I'm Kirk Hamilton. We're the hosts of Triple Click, a video game podcast for anyone who likes games.

Maddy: Find us at maximumfun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts. Bye!

[Triple Click theme music concludes]

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Travis: Oh?

Justin: [continues riffing]

Travis: Mm-hmm!

Griffin: Okay!

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch.

Griffin and Travis: Squad!

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I want to munch.

Griffin and Travis: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing] [death metal growl]

Travis: Whoa?

Griffin: Holy shit?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: My name is Pumpkmanis.

Griffin: There's no way this voice is going to last.

Travis: No sustainability, yeah.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: 20 years ago, I gifted pumpkin spice against the advice of the elders. Do you—

Griffin: Can you say your name again? Sorry, say your name again?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Pumpkmanis.

Griffin: Pumpk Mannis?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Pumpkmanis.

Griffin: That's kind of a mouthful...

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Thank you.

Travis: Do you need a lozenge? Or...

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: No. 20 years ago—don't make me—please, god, don't make me repeat myself. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: And now, I've returned to Earth to put you on trial.

Griffin: [chuckles] You just said, "20 years ago, now I returned to Earth."

Travis: No, 20 years ago, gifted pumpkin spice—

Griffin: I'm so sorry, Pumpkmanis, go ahead. Don't repeat yourself. Just keep going.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Now, I've returned to Earth, and you must defend your usage of my gift.

Travis: Oh? Oh, no...

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Or be destroyed.

Griffin: Ah! Okay, I don't want to be destroyed.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: This is my bailiff of the trial, of pumpkin spice.
Justin McElroy!

Justin: Hey.

Travis: But you'll still be here to answer all of our questions, right?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Of course.

Griffin: [chuckles] Awesome.

Justin: Hey, it's Justin McElroy.

Griffin: Hey, Juice.

Justin: I have been... because of some bad deals that I made, I am in eternal servitude to Pumpkmanis. He has decided, 20 years after he gifted us pumpkin spice lattes, he has now returned to our dimension to see how we have fulfilled this incredible cursed contract.

Griffin: Can I have a question for Pumpkmanis?

Justin: Sure, you can ask Pumpkmanis, he's nodding.

Griffin: Okay. Will you tell us what compelled you to give pumpkin spice to the Earthlings? In great detail, please?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Yes. I was bored. And also, mad at my dad.

Griffin: [chuckles] Who's your dad? Telling me everything.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: The devil.

Travis: Oh, yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles] Holy shit!

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: I was mad at my dad. I'm a minor demon.

Travis: Like a child demon?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: It was fucked up!

Griffin: All right, so he cusses, cool.

Justin: Okay, so, here's the way we're going to do it. We've gathered in this hall...

Travis: It's dank in here!

Justin: If I give you a number, you're gonna think I'm lying. So, I've gathered a selection of spokespeople from America's fast casual brands. You two will be portraying these spokespeople. And we're going to see who offers the best defense of pumpkin spice! Because when you're releasing something that involves pumpkin and you're talking about it in August or September, for some reason, you have to justify your decision.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: So, guys, keep an eye on your Slack. They're gonna be coming at you. And we're gonna just—we'll just alternate here and stop to discuss as needed.

Griffin: Cool! Kick ass.

Justin: Okay, great.

Griffin: And again, if we lose this, then the spokesperson is destroyed? Or just me and Travis?

Travis: Great question.

Justin: No, one gets to stay, all others must cease production of all pumpkin spice products.

Griffin: Okay, but I was—

Justin: And be evaporated.

Griffin: Okay, there's the...

Travis: There are the stakes.

Griffin: Again, the product is evaporated, the spokesperson is evaporated, or Travis and I are evaporated?

Justin: [chuckles] You guys are safe, 'cause it's just a skit.

Travis: It would be 'Travis or I,' like okay.

Justin: You guys are safe because it's a skit.

Griffin: Okay, but you can understand if someone with a scary voice called you on the phone and said they were going to destroy you, Juice, you'd probably be a little bit freaked out.

Justin: Yeah, but I would look for the recording stuff around me and realize that it's a skit.

Griffin: Okay, could have been hackers.

Justin: I'm gonna put 'em in this chat with both of you. So, just either one of you that wants to grab 'em.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. Oh, this is... Should I read the quote or say who it's from?

Justin: Yeah, say who it is and then read the quote.

Griffin: It's Maryanne Radley, CMO of Smoothie King. "We're keeping it real this fall! We're proud that our pumpkin smoothie lineup contains real ingredients that you can actually pronounce, like organic pumpkin. And they taste amazing." [chuckles] "Like organic pumpkin. And they taste amazing. Whether guests are looking for an afternoon pick me up, or a vegan or high-protein option, our five pumpkin varieties provide a delicious and nutritious option for everyone."

Justin: Maryanne has no shot, right?

Griffin: No, 0% chance, that sucked.

Travis: I would also like to say, Maryanne, the—or Marianne? Whatever the idea of it being ingredients that I can pronounce isn't really that much of a selling point. Because there are lots of words across the planet that I could not pronounce that are delicious to eat. So, like—

Griffin: That taste so good. I can barely say cinnamon.

Justin: Travis, go.

Travis: Yeah, come on. Okay, Robeks' vice president of marketing, Mitch Baker, says, "Our commitment to menu innovation is a top priority. And we believe that pumpkin flavors are an exciting way to dive into fall."

Justin: Really?! [chuckles]

Travis: Yup!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: It says, "We're the first person to ever think about this. Pumpkin fall, we did it. The dedication we have for innovation drives us to create flavors that resonate with the essence of each season."

Justin: Like pumpkin!

Travis: "The perfectly pumpkin smoothies, which used 100% pure pumpkin puree instead of pumpkin flavoring, epitomize the warmth and richness of fall." Well, it's not warm. "Providing a deliciously delightful and nutritious way to embrace this time of year." All right.

Griffin: Here's one from Chris Ruskowski, the CMO over at Badass Coffee of Hawaii. "This fall, we are excited to invite our guests into our stores to explore our new Aloha autumn collection, complete with our own nods to the fall season and the Hawaiian islands. We expect each of our fall flavors to exceed customer expectations." [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Good! Yeah! That's a good start.

Griffin: "You'll like it! Eh, this one's gonna kick ass!"
"Especially our new mana energy caramel cat apple. Clearly, my favorite."
Clearly, my favorite. [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: How would I know clearly? How would I know anything about you, Christopher?

Justin: How would we know that, Chris?!

Travis: Clearly.

Griffin: The flavor profile—

Travis: "Think about everything you know about me!" Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] Chris.

Griffin: "The flavor profile transported my taste buds back to the days of getting caramel-covered green apples on a stick." Chris, when was that?! I don't know you at all, Chris!

Justin: And it didn't transport all of him, just his taste buds were transported. By the flavor profile of green apple, transported him back to the day that he ate a caramel apple.

Griffin: I don't know, that could be last year? That could be—I don't want to go back too far, Chris. I don't want to go to Fall of 2000.

Travis: I just, I had to look it up, for clarity's sake. Just in case you're wondering, Badass Coffee Company of Hawaii was bought in 1995 by B.J. Bill... Bilanzich. Who upon their return to Salt Lake City, she and her husband just loved it so much that they bought Badass Coffee of Hawaii and began franchising on the mainland.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Okay, great. Gotcha. Travis?

Travis: Yeah. So, just in case you were worried that Badass Coffee of Hawaii—

Justin: Travis, if you had any idea how many people have defended their use of pumpkin spice in this past month—

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I've got Travis and Griffin lined up. Travis, go!

Travis: Jeff Rinke, vice president of marketing and product development at Hungry Howie's, eliminate—

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Hungry Howie's.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Oh, boy.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: It has gone so far as Hungry Howie's?!

Travis: Oh my fuck. Okay, wait—

Griffin: I'm so sorry, bub.

Travis: Oh my god, okay. "The limited-time Pumpkin Spice Howie Bread celebrates the season's most quintessential fall flavor and combines it with pizzas' favorite side, breadsticks!"

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: What?!

Travis: "Customers love our Howie bread selection. So, with that in mind, we decided—"

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: What is Howie Bread?!

Travis: "We decided to introduce Pumpkin Spice Howie Bread as a seasonal flavor edition in 2021."

Justin: That is crazy, so late to the party!

Travis: When everyone was locked in their homes!

Griffin: Yeah. [chuckles]

Travis: "It was the perfect time to force this on everybody!"
"Over the past two years, we've seen such a positive response to Pumpkin Spice Howie Bread—"

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Don't say it again!

Travis: "Which is why we're bringing back our customer favorite fall limited-time offer."

Griffin: That's a rough ride, Jeff. Here's another Jeff. This is Jeff Hetzel, President and COO of—

Justin: Second Jeff. [laughs]

Griffin: Second Jeff, COO of—

Travis: Second Jeff, same as the first!

Griffin: He's the COO of Cici's.

Travis: [guffaws]

Justin: Cici's is an amazing brand that let you eat all the pizza you want. It used to be next to the Best Buy I worked at, and that was lunch *sorted*.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: Thank you!

Griffin: And then people started you just eat the restaurant. The plywood and all of the plaster. Jeff, the COO of Cici's, says, "Our fans adored our mouth-watering pumpkin spice cinnamon rolls so much last year, we had to bring them back again this year. We are thrilled to reintroduce a festive take on our classic sweet treat to our buffet rotation, and satisfy our customers' fall cravings once again." Did not need a presser on this one, Jeff. [spoofing Jeff in a silly voice] "We did it. We done did it again. You liked it last year? It's back!"

Justin: Jeff, that's a very—that is a weak defense. I feel like that doesn't convince me at all.

Griffin: Well, no, hold on—

Travis: Are there people who want to go to Cici's, but they just need something to push it over the top?!

Griffin: Can I speak to pumpkin...

Travis: Pumpkmanis?

Justin: Yes. He's nodding, yes.

Griffin: Pumpkmanis, I would like to say, on Earth—I don't know how much of our legal system you know about, but there is a thing called precedent that does sort of solve a lot of these cases before they even get started. What Jeff Hetzel, president and COO of Cici's has said, is we've already done this. You cannot—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: The Supreme Court didn't stop them.

Griffin: And the Supreme Court didn't stop them. So, Pumpkmanis, I feel like this has my vote so far.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: So, Matt Reiter, senior vice president of product and procurement at Caribou Coffee—I've been sitting here reading that title over and over again. What is Matt procuring? [chuckles] What is he doing—

Griffin: The coffee?

Justin: Just like the coffee, man.

Griffin: The coffee, bud?

Travis: He's going out and picking it up?

Justin: He probably like asks people.

Griffin: He asks, he's not jumping over the fence to steal beans for a witch's garden.

Justin: You sound ridiculous right now. [chuckles]

Travis: Okay... "Pumpkin is one of the most highly anticipated seasonal flavors in the industry! And we're ecstatic to welcome guests to fall with our extensive pumpkin menu."

Griffin: There are so fucking many of these.

Justin: Yeah, man! [chortles]

Travis: "With a wide variety of menu items and endless customizations, there is something for everyone to enjoy this fall season. Whether they want their pumpkin shaken, iced, blended, hot, or with nitro cold press." Now, here's what I love about that, Justin.

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: He goes on and on about how extensive it is.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: The wide variety, endless customizations. And then says, to highlight the wide variety and in his customization, "How do you want your pumpkin?"

Justin: You can have your pumpkin anyway. I will say, Matt's using a lot of passive voice here.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Not necessarily owning it. He's saying, "I don't know, people around me seem to enjoy pumpkin."

Griffin: Yeah, "They've be gotta be out there somewhere."

Justin: Check in on Tim's!

Griffin: Tim Horton, USA President... Tim Hortons, the current American president.

Travis and Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And Katerina Glyptis says, "Fall is one of our favorite times of the year at Tim Hortons. We're excited to bring a new lineup of delicious beverages and baked goods that truly capture all the great flavors of the season. Hot, iced or blended as an iced cap, in pumpkin spice, maple cinnamon sugar, spiced apple cranberry and fall peach flavors, the fall beverages provide options for everyone." Okay, Pumpkmanis, I change my answer to this one. Because a lot of those actually sound real fucking good.

Travis: Fall peach? Alexis—

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: What is an iced cap?

Griffin: I don't know.

Travis: So, we have them in the North Pole in the South Pole.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And due to our just real abuse of the planet, they're melting.

Griffin: Well, okay, let's not let Pumpkmanis and his dad off the hook.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: I hear the jury's out on that.

Travis: Well, no, Pumpkmanis... it's not.

Griffin: It's not. It's getting pretty hot up here, pal. Can you turn it down? The thermostat or whatever?

Travis: Do you have any control over that?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Yeah, they let the pumpkin demon control that.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Was that sarcasm?

Travis: Alexis Schulze, co-founder and chief visionary officer of Nékter...
Nékter! Juice bar.

Justin: The visionary looked out into the ether, and what did the visionary see?

Travis: Juice. [chuckles]

Justin: No, pumpkin.

Travis: A pumpkin, okay.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: At Nékter, which is E with an accent.

Justin: Nékter!

Travis: Nékter Juice Bar.

Justin: [in silly voice] Splash the bottle whenever I like!

Travis: Nékter!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "We understand that people today demand more than a basic beverage or bowl. Our guests crave and deserve an authentic experience, and a nourishing and nutritious menu that aligns with their fitness and wellness goals. This inspired us to reimagine fall's favorite flavor with our pumpkin pie smoothie and pumpkin chia parfait."

Griffin: Oh my god.

Travis: "Delivering essential nutrients from real, whole ingredients, for a better-tasting and better way for you to enjoy pumpkin."

Griffin: I believe in the... just God-given inherent dignity that belongs to every human soul. But I don't know what one does to deserve an authentic Nékter pumpkin pie smoothie shake.

Travis: I don't—frankly, I don't want whole ingredients. I would like you to give me—

Justin: Chop 'em up.

Griffin: Chop 'em up.

Travis: Yeah, chop 'em up there, I don't want to eat a whole pumpkin!

Griffin: Too big. Sanjiv Razdan, president of The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf brand says, "Our fall menu really celebrates the nostalgic sweet, spicy and savory flavors of the season. Complete with pumpkin, chocolate and even orange," he says. "We are excited to see our guests enjoy and indulge in their favorite flavors and beverages that are all made with the highest quality coffee and tea that are globally sourced and perfectly roasted and prepared." [spoofs snoring sounds]

Justin: Sanjiv, yeah, you've got to spice it up a little bit, if you'll pardon the pun.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Jeff Laramie, CEO of Beans & Brews says, "Fuck, man. I don't know."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Basically.

Travis: "Every year, people come in... Eh, fuck. Oh, god. I got into this business because I had a dream, it meant something." No, he actually says, "Customers look forward to our seasonal offerings. We're really proud to

introduce these new fall classics. Be sure to come by your local Beans for our new fall flavors, before they're gone!"

Griffin: Oh, Jeff...

Travis: Oh, Jeff...

Justin: Jeff...

Travis: Jeff...

Griffin: It does feel like AI wrote that one, Jeff.

Travis: AI wrote that.

Griffin: Dani Wanner, VP of Operations at Ziggi's Coffee, says, "Embracing the spirit of autumn, we are thrilled to extend the heartwarming and comforting flavors of the season to communities nationwide, through our specially-crafted seasonal menu Ziggi's. With a commitment to fostering connections, this fall brings a distinctive assortment of fall flavors. Providing convenient and enjoyable ways for our communities to come together." Thank you!

Travis: There are so many of these.

Griffin: You're healing America, Danni! Thank you so much, Ziggi's Coffee.

Travis: Nation's Giant Hamburgers president—is that a place?

Justin: [chuckles] Travis, read this person's job title.

Travis: Nation's Giant Hamburgers president.

Justin: There, yeah. My job is Nation's Giant Hamburgers president.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Because 'nation's,' so, it's apostrophe s. Nation's Giant Hamburgers president.

Griffin: [chortles]

Justin: I'm Nation's Giant Hamburgers president!

Travis: Michelle Bythewood.

Justin: Any accent—Nation's *Giant* Hamburgers president.

Travis: Nation's Giant Hamburgers *president*.

Justin: Nation's Giant *Hamburgers* president. [chuckles]

Griffin: This is a fun little exercise because you could also remove any word from this title and it would get 10 times wilder.

Justin: Nation's Hamburgers president. [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] "I'm the nation's ginat president."

Justin: [guffaws]

Travis: And we are, frankly, assuming Nation's is a business. This could just be saying like, "Our nation's giant hamburgers president." I don't know how far down the list they are in a designated survivor kind of situation.

Justin: They have a [super pack??] [chuckles]

Griffin: "I'm President Joe Biden."

[in silly giant's voice] "And I'm the giant president, Michelle Bythewood."

Travis: [in silly giant's voice] "Should anything ever happen to Joe Biden, I'm 86 in line!"

Griffin: [in silly giant's voice] "Have you seen my giant hamburgers?"

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "We are joining the seasonal pumpkin craze in our own Nation's style. Pie shakes! Have long been a secret menu item on our menu."

Griffin: You've gotta read this faster, Travis. There are so many. You're really making a meal of it.

Travis: Okay. "Pie shakes have long been a secret item menu on our menu, beloved by our regulars. But this is the first time one has ever made it to the official menu. Our pumpkin pie is made with true pumpkin ingredients, and a homemade flaky crust. The bites of pie and flakes of crust in each bite make this dessert... in a milkshake?"

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: Okay, fall is almost—they just take a whole pie—okay. But the weather in most—okay. "Fall is almost upon us, but the weather in most parts of the country says otherwise, thanks to global warming."

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: "So, our ice-cold milkshake—"

Justin: No, they don't say that, they don't have the guts.

Travis: What? No. "So, our ice-cold milkshake is the perfect way to stay cool while enjoying the most popular flavor of the season."

Justin: I did want to highlight here, where Michelle says that—one part that I think is very interesting is that, "Pie shakes have long been a secret item on our menu beloved by regulars." Now, to me, what that means is that someday, someone went into a Nation's Giant Hamburgers and said, "Hey, can you put a pie in my shake?" And they had to deal with that.

Travis: But then it also was so popular that this is just—

Justin: That they started telling people like, they will just put a pie in your shake.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Here's—oh, wow... this is a special one. This is Shipley Do-Nuts, or perhaps donuts, chief marketing officer, Donna Josephson. I don't know if y'all have ever had Shipleys, they're fuckin' great.

"Our pumpkin spice donuts bring the sweet aromatic essence of the season with balanced fall flavors that we all start to crave this time of year. They are perfect with a cup of our hot coffee or our signature Bold Black Cold Brew, and you'll definitely want to rush in and try them before they're gone." Juice, there are... there are a lot of these.

Justin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah!

Travis: I do have to do this one. David Skena, who, as we know, is the global chief brand officer for Krispy Kreme. A regular here on Munch Squad. "Year after year, we fall in love all over again with pumpkin spice flavored treats. And this year, pumpkin spice lovers will fall the hardest at Krispy Kreme, combining two new pumpkin spice donuts with two fan favorites. We're saying, to the spice and our fans, P.S., we love you."

Justin: Here's what we're saying to the—Hey, it's me, David Skena. I'm on the phone.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Is it weird when I say 'we're saying to the spice?' That doesn't scan for me...

Griffin: Well, Dave, I guess it depends on what it is you're saying to the spice.

Justin: P.S., we love you?

Griffin: Oh, that's not appropriate.

Travis: It's like pumpkin spice, right, P.S. But also, we love you. We're also giving our fans a pretty direct parasocial invitation to come eat doughnuts.

Griffin: Sure, yeah.

Justin: Okay, we've got two more and then we're done.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Griffin—this was not sourced to a specific person. [chuckles]

Griffin: So, this is an Ellianos spokesperson. "Every year, the anticipation—"

Justin: Now, if you want—if you feel like there are a lot of these, maybe you could bring a little something to this, you know?

Griffin: "Every year, the anticipation of our fall promotion grows louder and arrives sooner. Our dedicated customers have voiced their desire for these beloved pumpkin flavors earlier each year. So, this season, we've listened and are thrilled to introduce our pumpkin lineup earlier than ever. It's our way of saying thank you and celebrating the magic of fall with our customers."

Justin: [chuckles] This is somebody who's being very honest. Like, "Yeah, it's crazy, right? Every year, these idiots are like, 'give it to us, give it to us, give it to us.' And this season, we finally broke. Like, we'll just fucking give it to you, no problem."

Griffin: "We are executing on the basic principles of supply and demand. And what it is that, if not the magic of fall?"

"It's July."

"Mm-hmm, ta-da!"

Travis: Jill McVicar Nelson, chief marketing officer at Dunkin', "Every year, we can practically feel the buzz around our pumpkin lineup. It's truly amazing to see our fans light up for this cherished flavor. Catching their excitement both on social media and in our restaurants underscores how much Dunkin' and the fall season go hand in hand. As the pumpkin spice

season embodies Dunkin' vibrant spirit, we're all in. Splashing our signature shade of orange everywhere we can."

Griffin: Ah, gross!

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Gross.

Travis: What the fuck do you mean, Dunkin'?

Griffin: [chuckles] Don't splash it everywhere, you can't—put it in drinks and doughnuts. That's it.

Travis: We're all in.

Griffin: I don't want to be splashed with your orange stuff. I have my answer, Pumpkmanis.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Speak.

Griffin: I choose... Jeff Hetzel, president and COO of Cici's. He was direct, he was honest, he established, I would say even a super precedent. And he didn't waste my fuckin' time with a bunch of frivolous statements about how good pumpkin flavor is.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Oldest brother, do you concur?

Travis: That's you.

Griffin: Justin.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: No, wait, wait, you're not the oldest?

Travis: No. Oh, god no. Look at my youth—

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: I just assumed.

Travis: Fuck off! Pumpkmanis!

Griffin: Why did you assume he was older than Justin?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: You just look so much older.

Travis: I do not!

Griffin: Whoa.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Justin looks so young and vibrant.

Travis: No one would ever make that mistake!

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: I've been alive longer than you can conceive.

Griffin: Right.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: I think I know which one is oldest.

Griffin: Pumpkmanis, though, is Justin's youth and vibrance maybe part of the reason why he is eternally indebted to you?

Travis: Also, why he's so easily possessed by just about any like—

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: He is a bit of a floozy, isn't he?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Yeah, sure. Yeah, his soul sphincter is—

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: It stinks like chips in here.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: [laughs] I don't know which one that would be!

Griffin: He needs to do some soul kegels to tighten up.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Like leftover chips.

Griffin: Gross. Okay, well, Travis, where are you at?

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: Like wet chips!

Griffin: Great.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: In the carpet.

Travis: I... I, if I had to pick, let me see. I think I had it backup at the top... You know what? I'm going with Howie's Bread. It's the weirdest one on there and I love it. Pumpkin spice bread sticks, go on.

Griffin: That is the one that needs the most defense, I would say.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: A consensus cannot be reached. Therefore, I must return in 20 more years.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: Pumpkmanis, can I just ask real quick before you go, did Starbucks really not get a hand on the ball?

Justin: [chuckles]

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: When they invented the pumpkin spice latte, they did it by dumping coffee on pumpkin pie. And eating it. After watching that once I can't ever talk to those nasty freaks again.

Griffin: Oh, okay. [chuckles] Shit, that's gross. All right. Well, Pumpkmanis, thank you so much. We probably won't still be doing this in 20 years.
[laughs]

Travis: Well...

Justin [as Pumpkmanis]: [??]

Griffin: All right.

Justin: [big inhale and exhale]

Griffin: But you were here.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: You weren't possessed, he was—

Justin: Guys, I think allergy season's here because my throat is like burning. It's so sore.

Travis: But you spoke during that?

Justin: What?

Griffin: You talked to him. You talked during that bit.

Justin: Yeah, yeah. Yeah. Yeah...

Griffin: Great. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah... yeah. Hey, thanks so much for listening to My Brother, My Brother and Me. Sorry we couldn't come to a consensus on that.

Travis: So, you know about that part?

Justin: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

Travis: Okay. Hey! coming up, we've got more 20 Sun and Sea Surf the Vibe shows. We're going to be in Philly, and then New York Comic Con in October. New York Comic Con will require a badge to attend the show in person, but badge-free tickets will be available to watch the video on demand of the show online.

You can get info and tickets and stuff at bit.ly/mcelroytours. And if you're going to be at New York Comic Con, keep an eye out for the schedule and stuff, and we'll see you there. Let's see, what else? Griffin, what else?

Griffin: Oh, well. I mean, thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. My throat also hurts, but I didn't do Pumpkmanis.

Justin: Weird.

Griffin: That doesn't make any sense. Thank you, Montaigne. Also, we have merch, did you talk about that?

Justin: Nope.

Griffin: Mcelroymerch.com, we've got a bunch of great stuff over there. Funny like joke stuff, like prop gifts... prank gifts... Oh, we got some Besties stickers that are absolutely darling. And Hogs Gotta Hunt T-shirt.

Justin: Gotta get that one.

Griffin: Yeah, that's a good shirt. And 10% of merch proceeds this month will go to the Hawaii Community Foundation, an organization that is working to support affected communities through the Maui Strong Fund, providing resources for disaster response and recovery. All that, over at mcelroymerch.com. I think that's it?

Justin: I think that's it. Thank you so much for listening to our program. We're now going to create a cleansing sound bath for you.

Griffin: Do it, quick! Pa-pa-pa-ba-ba-ba-ba-ba—

Justin: Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh—

Travis: Moo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo—

Griffin: Wa-wa-wa-wa-wa-wa-wa-wa—

Justin: Ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh—

Travis: Moo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo-oo—

Griffin: We-we-we-we-wo-wo-wo-wo.

Travis: Oo-oooh.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: That was a gross one. I'm Griffin McElroy. The whole episode was gross.

Travis: We all timed our sphincters! Yeah.

Griffin: It was so fucking gross.

Justin: Kiss your dad square on the sphincter.

[theme song, "My Life Is Better With You," by Montaigne, plays]

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