

Wonderful! 29: Tito Taylor

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[theme music plays]

Griffin:

This thing got really stinky, like, a couple weeks ago. It got really stinky and I cleaned it off since then, but now I have, like, phantom stink.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Do you get... Does that ever happen to you?

Rachel:

It's my least favorite Star Wars.

Griffin:

Like you know how... That was very good. But you know how, like... This is the episode by the way. You know how sometimes something stinks but then you clean it and then you look at it, and you're like, "You stank once."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

That's how I feel about this water bottle.

Rachel:

Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin:

Hey, it's Griffin McElroy.

Rachel:

And this is Wonderful!.

Griffin:

Do you like how cas that was? Hey, it's Griffin McElroy. Oh hey, Griffin here. Griffin McElroy for Radio Loud. What's the one we do? I'm sorry I opened up with our stinky bottle bit.

Rachel:

Wonderful!

Griffin:

This is a podcast where we talk about all the greatest stuff that we're into and you're into and it's also the Max Fun Drive and that's very good.

Rachel:

And also stinky bottles.

Griffin:

And stinky bottle day. Go wash those bottles. It's so important 'cause I look at it and I'm, like, I know how that stink got there and it was from my mouth.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

My mouth put the stink on it.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

And I have to live with that...

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... because I don't know what's going on in there, what kind of...

Rachel:

I... hey, I kiss that mouth. How do you think I feel?

Griffin:

You kiss that mouth sometimes. That's disgusting!

Rachel:

I know.

Griffin:

I'm glad you...

Rachel:

[crosstalk] I don't know.

Griffin:

Okay. Um, so yeah, it's the Max Fun Drive. This is that time of year. We did it last week and this is the last week of the Max Fun Drive so if you're waiting for an invitation... Buster, uh, time's... time's running out. I don't know who you're waiting on, an invitation?

Rachel:

If you're name is Buster, we would like you to donate.

Griffin:

All Busters must donate. Uh, who else? If your name's Buster, Melissa...

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

S... uh...

Rachel:

Shawn.

Griffin:

Shawn, Shawnda...

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Money time.

Rachel:

Trevor.

Griffin:

Trevor. Come on. You owe us, Trevor, specifically. You know what for.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, no, we are part of the Maximum Fun Network and the Max Fun Network is supported by listeners like you, so if you have the means and you enjoy our show, uh, and maybe a bunch of shows on the network, then consider becoming a supporting member of the Max Fun Network.

Just go to maximumfun.org/donate. You're gonna get a bunch of bonus stuff when you do, including a bunch of bonus episodes of all the shows on the network, um, from, well, throughout time. There's hundred of hours and a bunch of other gifts that we're gonna get to, um, when we get to 'em. I don't know, you know? Pretty loosey goosey here. Do you want to start doing the show?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Hi, uh, this is Griffin and my bottle stinks.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Do you want to do your first thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

What is it?

Rachel:

Uh, interview podcasts.

Griffin:

Interview podcasts.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

So you're talking about, uh...

Rachel:

I mean of course Bullseye with Jesse Thorn on this network.

Griffin:

Bullseye with Jesse Thorn on this network then...

Rachel:

Also, Fresh Air with Terry Gross.

Griffin:

Fresh Air is Terry Gross' one where she...

Rachel:

It's not really a podcast but it can be listened to in podcast form.

Griffin:

True and she... on that one, on Fresh Hair, will talk to people and be, like, "Who's your stylist?" And they'll be like, "Oh, you know, Hurricane." And they'll be like, "Oh, I love it." Maybe you can't hear... I said hair.

Rachel:

Oh, Fresh Hair.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

That's fun.

Griffin:

Yeah, so, wouldn't it be funny if Terry Gross, for like April Fool's Week, just missed it, but maybe next year, I'll call her up and be like, "Do a thing with me, Fresh Hair. Um, it's gonna be really good." Justin got Roman Morris to do a funny thing with him. I want Terry Gross.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, yeah, and I listen to a lot of like other, like, celebrity ones too. Like, WTF and Arm Chair Expert and listen to Anna Faris' podcast and, um, yeah, I just... I found that I really like listening to people being interviewed about what makes them them.

Griffin:

Yeah, is this an interview podcast?

Rachel:

I mean, in a way.

Griffin:

In what way? [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs] We ask... we kind of get to know each other.

Griffin:

Oh, I see.

Rachel:

Like we bring something to the table and then we ask each other questions about it.

Griffin:

Okay, so I could ask you like, grapes, the purple ones or the green ones? And now it's basically Fresh Air.

Rachel:

Purple.

Griffin:

Yeah, that's right.

Rachel:

You're really good at this. [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Well, I went to school for it.

Rachel:

Yeah, so here's the thing. I actually wanted to be a journalist, um, when I was junior, senior in high school and I...

Griffin:

You were in the band Junior Senior in high school? Did you do Shake your Coconuts? Did you write that one?

Rachel:

No, baby.

Griffin:

Whatever happened to Junior Senior, huh?

Rachel:

I don't even know who you're talking about and I'm sorry.

Griffin:

They did that song that was like... [singing] Everybody! Get on [mumbles] feel united! Whoa-whoa-whoa. [speaking] I can do the whole thing.

Rachel:

Hey, I might need you to.

Griffin:

Okay. Uh, yeah, you wanted to do journalism school.

Rachel:

Yeah so I went to, uh, Mizzou, University of Missouri Columbia...

Griffin:

Great j-school there.

Rachel:

... uh, and took my very first journalism class, uh, and did not like it.
[laughs]

Griffin:

What was it about my profession that you hated so much and you judge me for it to this day?

Rachel:

It was not that, not that. I actually still have a lot of respect for journalism, hence my interest in the interview.

Griffin:

Sure.

Rachel:

Uh, and that was actually the reason I wanted to be a journalist, is I very much liked asking people questions.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, I found that I didn't have, kind of, the competitive spirit needed, you know? Like I felt like a lot of people in the class with me were real hungry...

Griffin:

Uh-huh.

Rachel:

... for the scoop and I was more interested in just kind of having a leisurely chat about interests which is why I chose English major. [laughs]

Griffin:

I'm loving this because I had the same realization my freshman year at the Marshall Journalism School...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... I attended, only I went, "Eh, it's just four years."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"I can do it for four years." It's... you know? I don't, uh, I'm uncomfortable talking to strangers and I have virtually zero ambition in my career and there's only, like, you know 180, you know, broadcast news networks in the country and so there's like very few jobs and so you have to be ferocious and I'm not like that but it's really just four years and I can do anything for four years.

Rachel:

Well, part of it too was that I didn't have great grades my freshman year.

Griffin:

Uh-oh.

Rachel:

And our journalism school was pretty competitive.

Griffin:

Okay. Well, there's the other difference because I had terrible grades my freshman year but...

Rachel:

Yeah, you had to have a minimum GPA requirement and I was not...

Griffin:

Yikes.

Rachel:

... there. Well, my freshman year I took biology and geology...

Griffin:

I thought you were gonna say like I took... I took...

Rachel:

... and statistics.

Griffin:

I took weed.

Rachel:

[laughs] No, well... [laughs] Uh, so let me tell you a little about the interview. So I actually found this... I found a piece on Terry Gross in the New York Times from 2015.

Griffin:

Mm.

Rachel:

And because Terry Gross is Terry Gross, they talked a little bit about the history of the interview because she's like the best, you know?

Griffin:

Do you think when she gets interviewed about stuff like this, she's like, "That's your fucking question?"

Rachel:

I know, right? [laughs] Or she helps them out, "The question you want to ask..."

Griffin:

The question... "Yeah, were you trying to get at this?"

Rachel:

Uh, so journalistic interviews in the United States began to appear in the 1860s, uh, as we know them today. Before that, reporters didn't typically quote sources which I think is interesting.

Griffin:

What?

Rachel:

This is... this is something I found in that article.

Griffin:

No, I'm not saying you're lying, I'm just saying it's unbelievable because, like, the press was established in America for all intents and purposes as we know it in, like, the late 18th century...

Rachel:

Yeah, no, I know.

Griffin:

... and so the... what did they do for a 100 fucking years?

Rachel:

I mean, I think they told the story but they didn't necessarily feel the need to talk about who they were talking to.

Griffin:

Jesus.

Rachel:

I know, isn't that interesting?

Griffin:

So they'd be like, "George Washington Carver said something about some peanuts. It was really interesting. I should have fucking written it down."

Rachel:

Like for example if a building burned down they would be like, you know, "Neighborhood person says fire was big." [laughs]

Griffin:

"Or something like that. Again, like, I didn't get it word for word."

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, and so this was, uh, a largely an American phenomenon until after World War II when television gained popularity and the age of the broadcast interview began. Uh, and also, in this time psychoanalysis, the other great innovation in opening people up was beginning to be practiced more widely.

Griffin:

Mm, you know that I was deep into that when I was in J school. Just all about, just peeling back the layers of these strangers I didn't know who I definitely was very anxious to talk to.

Rachel:

Well, you also... I mean, I don't know if you want to talk about this but you also had to the, uh, MTV Chose or Lose thing.

Griffin:

Yeah, so I was in, uh, I chose in every state in the 2008 presidential election. One sort of young person was chosen to cover the election from that state. I applied not thinking I would get it and I did and so I was West Virginia's hard nosed political reporter for this thing and it involved me going out on the street and talking to people about their political views which basically I didn't do and instead just talked to my friends about their political views...

Rachel:

[laughs] Which I'm sure a lot of the correspondents did.

Griffin:

Oh yeah, 'cause here's the thing. I know my friends.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I did on election night have to go to both campaign headquarters in Huntington and interview people there, um, and that was tough, dog.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

No, I'm sorry... one of them was awesome because it was a fucking party and the other one was real tough and also full of people I used to go to church with.

Rachel:

Oh, no.

Griffin:

"Hi, what's up? Oh, I'm in a nightmare? Yeah, I'm in a nightmare."

Rachel:

Uh, so Terry Gross talks a little bit about how interviewing is like therapy. Uh, she said that she herself started seeing a therapist and said, "When she

asked me a question that gets exactly to the heart of what I'm trying to say, but maybe haven't articulated clearly, it just feels so good. My ideals and interviewer is to be the person who get it. Like somebody can tell you something really personal."

"You can ask them something that can help them comfortably move to the next place and go deeper. Hearing someone speak really personally and having that affirm your experience as a sexual person or a sick person or just a person trying to get through daily life is really valuable and I think that's why we turn to literature. I think that's why we turn to film beyond the entertainment it gives us."

Uh, so yeah. I guess what I respect about that is the thing I always found most interesting about listening to interviews is somebody is being asked questions maybe that no one's ever asked them before, the information they haven't really volunteered before, uh, because there's this intimacy there that you wouldn't get to hear, maybe even if you were one of their really good friends.

Griffin:

That's literally it, like...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, this is the... I did journalism for a very long time. I would not call what I do now that, even close at all, a little bit, um, which is just to say making, um, video game fart jokes and videos and podcasts and stuff. But what I learned over doing it is, like, really trying to think of something you can ask them that hasn't been asked...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and published 45 fucking times is, uh, like, that's the job.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, and it's... It always drove me wild when I would like read an interview or and not to sound like a... like a dick but like be the subject of an interview and just be like, "I can answer this one before and I'll, you know, I'll be attentive and I will give you a good quote but, like, this story has existed for a long time."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And I think that's the mark of really good, like, interview podcasts, um, and I think that's what makes these folks so talented and successful is it's... We talked about Nardwuar...

Rachel:

It would be a podcast and like the late night talk shows too.

Griffin:

Yeah, for sure.

Rachel:

Like, when you're watching a talk show too. That can be something that happens. It's really exciting.

Griffin:

They have a little leg up because the folks who are coming on these shows...

Rachel:

Have been prepped.

Griffin:

... know that they need something new to talk about...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... that they... like, that's... that's kind of on them.

Rachel:

Well yeah and the host has been set up usually of like, "So, uh, take any great vacations in your time off?"

Griffin:

Yeah sure.

Rachel:

Like they're ready to go.

Griffin:

We talked about Nardwuar a couple weeks ago and... The Canadian music, uh, journalist and, like, he is the fucking best at this because he goes so deep and spends so much prep time figuring out shit from like their childhood.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And that opened... they're, you know, putty in his hands at that point like...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

They'll tell him anything. It's so impressive.

Rachel:

Uh, so one thing in this article that Hour Glass says about Terry Gross, uh, and Hour Glass as you know host of This American Life, said, "There have been times when I re-listen," and he's talking about Fresh Air, "just to hear the order of the questions and to figure out what was planned and unplanned. Like a magician sitting in on another guy's act for two nights so

he can figure out the trick to steal it." Glass goes on to say that Gross is, uh, has... "Gross has great improviser's performance jobs. Not surprising that she loves jazz artists and stand up comedians so much. She's their journalist peer."

Griffin:

I would love to see a show called Glass and Gross.

Rachel:

Oh, my gosh. [laughs]

Griffin:

These two... not doing journalism but, like, crime fighting.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Or just like talking about movies they saw that week.

Griffin:

That would be good too. I would see it.

Rachel:

Uh, so I wanted just to close out my little segment to talk about the top three most watched interviews on television.

Griffin:

Oh.

Rachel:

Uh, so number three, not a surprise, Richard Nixon by David Frost.

Griffin:

Oh, yeah.

Rachel:

In 1977. That was 45 million.

Griffin:

Saw the movie but it wasn't... I was not there at the... Where was I?

Rachel:

1977.

Griffin:

Yeah, where was I in '77? The cosmos.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, number two, Monica Lewinsky by Barbara Walters in 1999. That was 74 million. Do you know what the top one is? Can you guess?

Griffin:

Jesus. Is it... is it recent?

Rachel:

Uh, it's in... yeah. It's in our lifetime. Not super recent, not in the past ten years.

Griffin:

Uh, I have no idea.

Rachel:

Michael Jackson by Oprah. 90 million viewers in 1993.

Griffin:

Wow.

Rachel:

Nothing has beat that to date.

Griffin:

That's wild.

Rachel:

I thought...

Griffin:

I mean, you get that.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

You get two heats there essentially.

Rachel:

Yeah, exactly and it's somebody who's super mysterious...

Griffin:

Yeah, for sure.

Rachel:

... that everybody was like...

Griffin:

In '93 especially.

Rachel:

... I wonder, I have no idea what he's gonna say, what he's gonna do.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

So yeah, so I thought that was... that was interesting to know that you know the highest, most watched interview is significantly old at this point.

Griffin:

Yeah. What's going on? Who we need to... who we need to get on the horn? Who's a famous person? Lady Gaga? No.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Do you want to know my first thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

My first thing is super slow motion videos.

Rachel:

Oh, yeah. I've seen you watch these before.

Griffin:

You've seen me watch a lot of stuff before because these days, I don't know, like, when this change happened in my life but I am prone to going down, like, internet rabbit holes for hours, um, and I used to, I guess, have a lot more focus than I currently do, um, but if I see a video that's, like, a cooking video or people who are, like, turning bolts and other hardware into like pieces of jewelry or someone making a table out of some pallets...

Rachel:

But you know what I think a lot of it is too is the Facebook kind of auto play video thing...

Griffin:

That's it.

Rachel:

... is that you're scrolling through your feed, it will start playing and then you're suddenly watching it.

Griffin:

I started... and the other problem is the way they curated it, is I started watching a video once of somebody making a, you know, nut and bolt into a pretty ring...

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

... and they were like, "Well, sounds like Griffin loves pretty ring videos," and I was like, "Oh shit, I do." Um, but yeah, Vine compilations, videos of hydraulic presses crushing things, uh, air soft gun tournaments. Like what? Why am I...? But I will.

I spend a lot of time consuming these things but my favorite rabbit hole to go down is slow motion videos, um, specifically ones showing, like, sort of natural phenomena rather than, like, dope skateboard stunts.

Um, and I have a reason for why I think this is, um, and... First off, this genre of, like, slow motion videos, what's really cool is that it has gotten more, like, exponentially buck wild in the last decade or so because camera technology has actually evolved pretty significantly.

Um, because in order to get a slow motion video the camera has to be able to capture a higher number of frames per second, um, and then it shows that video that it recorded at a more standard speed like 60 frames per second so it stretches it out to this like long, longer length.

So like to define those numbers if you're not, like, super familiar with how it works, the average movie is shot at 24 frames per second.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Except for Peter Jackson's Hobbit movies which were 48 which was, like, fucking disgusting. Uh, the standard for, like, video games is 60 frames per second and newer phones, when you record a video on your phone...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's 60 frames per second.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

So you're literally seeing... you're seeing 60 images essentially in one second.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

And that creates the moving video. So newer phones can record slow motion, um, and the standard before was 240 frames per second.

Rachel:

Yeah, I was gonna bring that up because I've noticed that.

Griffin:

Yeah, you... we all have had this on our phones for several years now. 240 frames a second, you play that back at 60 frames a second, you're looking at a four times speed down, right? The Samsung Galaxy S9 which came out very recently has super slow mo, which does 960 frames per second so that's a 16 time, like, slowing of the video.

It's really impressive. But those are just phones. This is where things get a little wild. There are DSLR cameras like the Sony RX10 II which can shoot at 2400 frames per second.

Rachel:

Oh, my gosh.

Griffin:

Uh, which slows down the video by 40 times, which you can get pretty slow and a lot of, like, the YouTubers who do shit like this are working with, um, sort of specialty equipment. There are also specialty camcorders.

Uh, there's one called the Phantom that can shoot a million frames per second and you show that back at 60 frames per second and eventually you're talking about diminishing returns because it can only get really so slow.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, but like that you... that allows you to see, like, uh, a bullet shooting through a pane of glass...

Rachel:

Yeah, okay.

Griffin:

... and then that sequence lasting 45 minutes.

Rachel:

I still have a hard time thinking of any practical application.

Griffin:

Um, I mean the only practical application is like we're gonna set this thing on fire and you're gonna watch as the molecules individually combust.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

In 2011, MIT invented a camera that captures footage at a trillion frames per second.

Rachel:

That's absurd.

Griffin:

That is high enough to visualize waves of light coming off of a camera flash.

Rachel:

Oh, my gosh.

Griffin:

Uh, there's a video of this online. It came out in 2011, uh, of they taking... a, uh, picture of a bottle of water, a full bottle of water that's lying on its side and you can actually watch this wave of light pass through the bottom of it, through the water and through the cap.

Rachel:

That's like time traveling, almost. It's ridiculous.

Griffin:

And I'm so glad you said that, because that's why I'm so fascinated by slow motion videos. It's not just, like, a neat visual trick. It feels like a way of seeing these secret, invisible parts of our world.

Rachel:

Yeah, it's like a microscope.

Griffin:

It's like a microscope. It's very similar to a microscope, the first time you look through a microscope and you're like, "Oh my god that's what..."

Rachel:

There's stuff in that stuff.

Griffin:

"...that's what stuff looks like." That's really interesting to me because we are all very... When you see a drop of water splash against the surface in real time, it's nothing. You've seen it countless times, right? It does not stand out as anything and you keep on going about your day. When you watch it in super slow motion, it reveals this like beautiful, magical aquatic detonation...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... that's been there the whole time, you've just never really been able to appreciate it before you saw it like this and I really, like...

Rachel:

We watched that video with the balloons, remember?

Griffin:

Yeah, so we watched water balloons being thrown at a man's head.

Rachel:

They stretched so much, I, like, couldn't believe that they were regular sized balloons.

Griffin:

Yeah, but they... that's just how balloons... that's just how water balloons do it.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I really, uh, I'm not being, like, silly I feel like when I say that, like, I think it's really incredible and science has so many ways of, like, revealing this stuff to us to expand your world in a way by making you see these common everyday things that you can't really perceive with your human eye that technology can only be like... the only gateway into that stuff.

It really does feel... it feels magical. It feels like there's secret stuff happening around you all the time and I think that's like so... that's so rad and there's, uh, so many, like, YouTubers and personalities who have capitalized on this idea.

Um, really good slow motion videos will show you, like, the event being recorded in real time, like a water balloon hitting a dude's face and you're, like, "Okay, that's a good prank."

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah.

Griffin:

Sorry Steve, about your face.

Rachel:

What if America's Funniest Home Videos was slowed down. [laughs]

Griffin:

Oh shit, hit 'em with that MIT camera.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Every episode would take 48 hours to watch and it would just be one guy getting hit in the balls at mini golf. And he'd be like, "It's 6:00 PM. We're, uh, you know, we're 18 hours in and the club hasn't even connected with the shorts."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

You come back at like 11:00 AM tomorrow, the club will just be touching the shorts.

Rachel:

And it's just like 25 minutes of [slow motion] who-o-o-oo. [laughs]

Griffin:

Um, but you see a water balloon hitting a guy's face in real time and it's, like, okay, good prank, and then they slow it down, you know, a thousand times and the way that, like, the water sticks to them, almost like a plaster cast and, like, leaves behind this watery shell that forms, uh, like, to the shape of their face as before it falls? Like, that's really fucking cool.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And that's what happens every time anybody ever gets hit with a water balloon.

Rachel:

I know. That's what's hard to, like, really get my head around when I watch those videos. I'm, like, "Oh, this is incredible." And I, like, almost don't even think about the fact that, like, this is always the way it happens.

Griffin:

Um, yeah. I should mention I'm very high right now.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] No, but there is an element of like... I am not. But there is an element of like, I think that's a pretty common joke of just like when you're high or whatever, it's just like, "Oh man, the flowers are so beautiful." But here's the thing, the flowers are pretty fucking beautiful!

Rachel:

Yeah, that's true.

Griffin:

And these slow motion videos are, like, I don't know a way of kind of [crosstalk]

Rachel:

Griffin and I are not high, but so much of this podcast, honestly, is a little like that. [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Probably. Um, so yeah, I just, I like 'em because it makes me believe in magic. Not magic, science. But cool science, not the one where it's just, like, we, uh, you know, gonna see how this bird mates and it's, like,

what have you done for me lately, science? And then, like, yeah, but here's a super slow motion...

Rachel:

[laughs] Then they slowed it down. They slowed down the bird mating.

Griffin:

They slowed it down and then there's a lot of fluid. Ugh, can we talk about the Max Fun Drive?

Rachel:

Yes, please. Speaking of fluid...

Griffin:

Why are we speaking of fluid?

Rachel:

If you have fluid assets... [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Um, the Max Fun Drive is happening right now. It ends this Friday, um, and we ask you during this time, if you enjoy our show and many shows on the network, please considering becoming a supporting member of the Max Fun Network. You can go to maximumfun.org/donate and look at all the donation levels.

Rachel:

Do it right now 'cause there's cool pins.

Griffin:

Do it right now. There's cool pins. There's all kind of neat prizes. Prizes is probably not the right word.

Rachel:

Rewards.

Griffin:

Rewards, um, and you'll help us get to our goal of 25,000 new and upgrading members, um, and just help support us doing this show. It's our first year doing the Max Fun Drive as Wonderful since we sort of changed formats and so you know it's kind of an intimate, not intimate, vulnerable maybe time for us...

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

... so your support, uh, means a lot.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

This is kind of our proving grounds a little but.

Rachel:

Uh, the monthly membership giving starts at \$5.00 a month and if you do that, you get days on days of bonus content from all the shows on the network.

Griffin:

Our bonus content for Wonderful this year was us just, uh, talking about listener submissions. We got like 20 listener submissions and went through them all and...

Rachel:

You get to hear a lot about Griffin's, uh, musical theater background, if I remember correctly.

Griffin:

Yeah, but I mean that's literally every recording I've ever done in my whole life. Yeah, that's really cool. We've done so many... uh, we've done so many bonus episodes and so if you enjoy the show but you've run out of episodes, you're fully caught up, here's a bunch more.

Uh, at \$10 a month, you can get a Drive exclusive enamel pin designed by Megan Lynn Kott. Uh, we've done this last year, but this year we have all new designs for Wonderful! This year, it is some French fries with, uh...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... a little banner that says Wonderful! in front of it. It's very good.

Rachel:

A little French fry pin.

Griffin:

And you also get a Max Fun membership card. Now, at the \$10 a month level, you'll also get the bonus content from the \$5 a month level. Every time you move up, you get everything in the previous levels. Um, if you're already a member, thank you so much for your support. If you upgrade then you'll be eligible for these rewards this year. Um, \$20 a month... the cookbook. The Max Fun Family Cookbook.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

This is curated for you by Max Fun hosts. It's got dozen of recipes from cocktails to desserts and everything in between.

Rachel:

Including my chili.

Griffin:

It's got Rachel's chili which she's cooking right now downstairs.

Rachel:

Yes, in our kitchen right now.

Griffin:

Oh, we didn't do Small Wonders. My small wonder is we live in a two story house now and...

Rachel:

All the smells waft up.

Griffin:

It wafts up. Hot air rises but so does chili stink.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I fucking love it. Um, anyway, yeah, it's got that. It's got, uh, Spaghettigeddon from MBMBaM recipe. It's got our mom's chess bar recipe and then all the... all the hosts for all the shows.

Rachel:

Can you say what chess bars are 'cause I'm not sure a lot of people know? Isn't it... I think it's kind of like what St. Louis would call gooey butter cake.

Griffin:

It's basically a gooey butter cake. It is, um, it's like cream cheese and butter and like cake mix for the base.

Rachel:

Powdered sugar, right?

Griffin:

And then the top is like powdered sugar and egg sort of a... sort of a nougat-y that's not nougat-y-

Rachel:

No.

Griffin:

... but creamy.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's real good.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Anyway you also get a set of cookie cutters. They are handsome and space themed and that's very good. And we have other levels too if you... if you really wanna go whole hog, we sure do appreciate it.

All the levels are at maximumfun.org/donate but we really don't want... we don't care what level you donate at. We really, really don't. The only thing that matters to us is that you are able to show your support for our show and say, like, this show means enough to me that I am you know gonna make contribution to help keep it going and growing.

Rachel:

We've gotten a lot of really nice tweets, uh, in the first week of the Fun Drive with the hashtag Max Fun Drive of people, uh, saying they've donated and why they like the show and that's been really awesome.

Griffin:

It's really cool to see because, uh, it's really nice to get that feedback. Um, if you don't have the means, totally understand, we would not ask you to, like, make a contribution that, uh, you're unable to keep up with but if you do have the means and you want to think of it, like, a Netflix or a Hulu where, you know, you're paying a regular amount of money for the content that you enjoy and you enjoy this content, then think about going to maximumfun.org/donate and, uh, chipping in and...

Rachel:

And yeah, you can indicate as many shows as you listen to.

Griffin:

Yeah, so...

Rachel:

Which is really great for some of the other new shows on the network, uh, 'cause they're still getting their footing and so it's a good opportunity to not just pick, you know, your favorite, but everybody you listen to and then they'll all see a little bit.

Griffin:

Whenever you, uh... whenever you donate you chose which shows you listen to...

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and it splits your donation between them. It's a very democratic way of handling this. Anyway, that's enough, we're gonna get back to the rest of the show. Maximumfun.org/donate and thank you all so much.

Rachel:

Okay, my second thing.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm?

Rachel:

And if I have done this before, then I'm a...

Griffin:

Oh, shit.

Rachel:

My second thing, and we've talked about a lot of beverages on this show, so I am nervous that this is a beverage we've covered...

Griffin:

Is Dick Tracy.

Rachel:

No, babe. [laughs] It's overalls. No, I'm kidding. Uh, it's root beer.

Griffin:

I don't think we did root beer.

Rachel:

I don't think we've talked about root beer.

Griffin:

You're talking about that bubbly sarsaparilla stuff, right?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Mm, I love this brown, sweet fluid. I get this at everywhere, A&W, Mugs, Barq's. Do they even make Barq's anymore?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Okay. Barq's is actually kind of gross but the other stuff, I'm all about this root beer.

Rachel:

What is that game... is it Scattergories where you have words on a card that you can't say?

Griffin:

Oh, yeah.

Rachel:

Sometimes doing a podcast with you is like that.

Griffin:

[laughs]

Rachel:

Where I talk about root beer and you're like, you know, that brown liquid.

[laughs]

Griffin:

I just love this stuff. Bubbly!

Rachel:

Um, so root beer has been around for a super long time. Uh, it's actually been sold in stores since the 1840s.

Griffin:

Nice. Just before we figured out how to do interviews.

Rachel:

[laughs] Right, it's a big time for America. Uh, it's a North American soft drink, traditionally made using the sassafras tree or the vine which is sarsaparilla as the primary flavor.

Griffin:

Does this have Appalachian roots?

Rachel:

I mean I didn't... I didn't go down to the actual location.

Griffin:

Okay, in West Virginia in middle school, quick aside. Uh, we had to take a West Virginia history class.

Rachel:

Yeah?

Griffin:

I didn't...

Rachel:

We had to do a Missouri one too.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

It's pretty standard.

Griffin:

I think it's standard. I didn't pay very good attention in school in general, um, but I do remember there was one day where our teacher brought in a big thing of sarsaparilla tea he had made and I was like, this is going to be gross and I drank it and I was like, well it tastes like flat root beer, so it was better than I was expecting but also kind of gross and I think he told us it was... it had, like, Appalachian origins. But he could have been full of shit.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah, I don't know. So pharmacist Charles Elmer Hires was the first to successfully market a commercial brand of root beer. He developed his root tea made from sassafras in 1875 and debuted a commercial version of root beer at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876. Um, Hires was a tee-to-tailor.

Griffin:

A what?

Rachel:

Teeto... it's when somebody doesn't drink.

Griffin:

A teetotaler?

Rachel:

Teetotaler.

Griffin:

Did you say tee-to-tailor?

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Baby, it's so good.

Rachel:

I don't think I ever knew how to say that. I...

Griffin:

Tee-to-tailor, oh, my God, you fill my life with light and love.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Oh, Rachel.

Rachel:

I think I've only ever read that word.

Griffin:

Oh god, it's so good. Yeah. Yes.

Rachel:

Um, teetotaler.

Griffin:

Oh, man.

Rachel:

[laughs] Okay.

Griffin:

Can we... can we renew our vows right now? Yes!

Rachel:

[laughs] Okay.

Griffin:

So sick.

Rachel:

So he wanted to call the beverage root tea however, he wanted to market the product to Pennsylvania coal miners so he decided to call it root beer, uh, and it also during prohibition became very popular as a nonalcoholic drink.

Griffin:

Was it just because it had the same name and they like, "We can just make pretend."

Rachel:

I know. The other was so little alcohol to be find. So...

Griffin:

You knew there was some, like, folks back then who were like, "What is this? Root beer? [laughs] Yeah, let me give it a shot. Whoa, I'm so faded right now." Like, just faking it.

Rachel:

So here's something interesting that's worth noting. So you mentioned sassafras and, uh, one thing to know is that safrole, the aromatic oil found in sassafras roots and bark, uh, that give traditional root beer the flavor was banned for commercially mass produced food and drugs by the FDA in 1960 because lab animals that were given oral doses sassafras tea, uh, that contained large doses of safrole developed permanent liver damage or various types of cancer.

Griffin:

My fucking middle school teacher made me drink this!

Rachel:

So sassafras is no longer used in commercially produced root beer and is sometimes substituted with artificial flavors, natural acts...

Griffin:

Natural Axe body spray.

Rachel:

Natural extracts with the safrole distilled and removed are available.

Griffin:

God, fucking millennials got us again.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Took my cool GI Joe's with their real bladed swords.

Rachel:

I mean, it was banned in 1960s so...

Griffin:

Yeah, I know. I know, the millennials. Time traveling millennials.

Rachel:

So Barq's started in 1898, uh, and then in 1919 came A&W Root Beer. Uh, and so yeah, this is, like... this is a real old soda. My connection to root beer...

Griffin:

Yeah, please.

Rachel:

Uh, so naturally, sassafras root or whatever variation they make now, doesn't have caffeine in it and so when I was a kid I had this rare skin condition called urticaria pigmentosa, which was my skin was real blotchy and real sensitive to irritation, and one of the things they thought would exacerbate that was caffeine so I didn't have caffeine a lot as a kid and so I could have root beer.

Griffin:

Interesting.

Rachel:

So I developed a real taste for it as a kid and that taste continues today.

Griffin:

Huh.

Rachel:

They used to think, or at least the one doctor I saw, thought that it was complicated by caffeine so I didn't have any when I was younger.

Griffin:

I also turned to root beer because of a health condition because I had a horrible kidney stone in college...

Rachel:

Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

... that, like, shut my ass down for, like, three months, um...

Rachel:

They should start advertising root beer that way. [laughs]

Griffin:

Well, here's the thing, my doctor said, um, "You really shouldn't drink dark sodas anymore."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I was drinking Coke and all that stuff everyday and so I said, "Okay, I'm gonna drink root beer."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

He was like, "That's still a dark soda." And I had already left the office. I was like, "I can't hear you."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I don't, like, get down on much, like, Coke, Pepsi products anymore but a root beer...

Rachel:

No, me either.

Griffin:

... somehow in my mind, it makes no sense, just feels like I'm doing something better for my body.

Rachel:

When we, uh... when we go to fast food places, I'll usually ask for a lemonade or a root beer.

Griffin:

It's true.

Rachel:

Just a little treat for myself.

Griffin:

Nonconformist.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

I love it. Diet Coke tries to get me back and they're like, "We got one that tastes like, uh, cayenne pepper." And it's like, "No, Diet Coke, I'm with root beer now."

Rachel:

I'm with root beer.

Griffin:

Quit trying to steal me away. Hey.

Rachel:

Hey. [laughs]

Griffin:

Um, my second thing, can I tell you about it?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

It's a song. Oh. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs] Like we've never done songs before on this show.

Griffin:

I know, I usually try to bring like one artist's, like, whole body of work or one entire album but I just wanted to focus on one song. Uh, it is by Kacey Musgraves...

Rachel:

Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

... who is sort of a country turned, sort of, country pop artist who has a new album out that just came out in March called Golden Hour and I wanted to talk about the opening track off of it which is called Slow Burn.

Um, so, like, I've only had kind of a passing familiarity with Kacey Musgraves in the past. It's been a really long time since I've been a consumer of country music, despite it sort of being the focus of my dad's career for several decades.

I had a Tim McGraw phase as I think all like young... **Rachel:**

No.

Griffin:

Well, I mean like in certain... I think in West Virginia.

Rachel:

Okay, yeah, I was going to say no. No for me.

Griffin:

No matter who you are in West Virginia in, like, 1994, you were a big Tim McGraw fan and you had all his cassettes but I passed through that fairly quickly and then never really dabbled that much.

Rachel:

What was your favorite jam?

Griffin:

Of Tim McGraw?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I mean, Jesus, don't... it's hard to beat Don't Take the Girl. And that really was, like, my jam and that's sad. Also, I Like It, I Love It, I Want Some More Of It.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

You know that one?

Rachel:

Oh my gosh.

Griffin:

Do you know that one?

Rachel:

Yeah, no, I'm just picturing little Griffin singing that song.

Griffin:

No, like standing at the big toy on the playground singing. Um, okay, anyway...

Rachel:

Oh, okay, wait, wait, wait. Can we address the fact that you say big toy because that's not something that most people say I don't think.

Griffin:

Big toy? Is that a rural... is that another sort of regional...?

Rachel:

I think it might be a rural thing.

Griffin:

Interesting. Yeah, we called the like big... what would you call it then? Like the thing that... the playground equipment with... that had like the slide and the jungle gym but it was one big thing so it wasn't just an individual slide or a jungle gym, it was the big toy.

Okay, anyway, uh, Kacey Musgraves new album, Golden Hour, uh, just came out and like I said, it kind of has more of a pop country aesthetic to it.

There's one track that's just, like, straight up disco jams. Um, it's just kind of moved away from this like pure country thing and it's... so it's a bit of a reinvention but one that is not, um, shitty.

Uh, like, I don't want to cast aspersions but I feel like there have been a lot of modern artists that, uh, are sort of the popular artists of the day, uh, who are, like, "All right, now I'm moving onto something new and it's gonna be really convoluted as I sort of experiment with this new stuff." And with

mixed success. There have definitely been folks who have pulled it off better than others.

What I like about this album in terms of, like, it being a reinvention if you wanna call it that. It's really fucking accessible. It goes down so smooth, um, and I think a big part of that is that the... all the music on it is very idealistic which is kind of another change from her past albums.

She kind of had, like, sort of more of a cynical, hard-edged country sort of bent, um, but now it's just very like... it's very optimistic. I read a review that described it as Kacey is singing about these, like, lovely things she's noticed about the world to an audience she assumes has never heard about them before.

Rachel:

Oh, I like that.

Griffin:

Which is not... It's not to say that there was something, like, naïve in what she's singing about but rather it's a reflection of sort of the earnestness with which she's singing about them and that's so refreshing.

And I have this attunement, I think because of my upbringing, despite the fact that I was, like, you know, never a big country music guy. I do have this attunement to a certain genre of country or country adjacent music that I can only describe as music for driving down, like, a country road on a nice night with the windows down.

Rachel:

I was just thinking of that the other day. There's something about listening to country music that, like, kind of conjures that feeling, even if it's not an experience you had that often...

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

And I think it's kind of the sentimentality of a lot of the lyrics often, like, you'll hear people talking about sitting on a porch swing or riding around in a truck and...

Griffin:

It gets so meta because then there are country songs literally about this explicit feeling...

Rachel:

Yeah, I know. You're right.

Griffin:

Uh, I feel like that's a huge subgenre of country music, that song that's like, "It's a little bit of chicken fried, cold beer on a Friday." You're just talking about things you like!

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

By the way, I only know that song because of karaoke. Literally, every time I go out to karaoke somebody busts that jam out.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Anyway, that aesthetic is like this album all over. So I wanted to talk about the opening track Slow Burn because I can't get it out of my head from the... literally the first time I listened to it, like, a week ago. So I'm going to play a little bit of Slow Burn right now.

[Slow Burn clip plays]

Griffin:

So, like, first things first, her voice fucking rules.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's... I don't have any, like, good poetic way to describe it. It's just very fucking good. It's a very good voice.

Rachel:

It reminds me, the music itself, reminds me kind of like a bluegrass kind of inspired.

Griffin:

A little bit, yeah. And that... I think her first album which was called Same Trailer, Different Park had definitely leaned into that a little bit more.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Now it's a little bit more subtle and again it mixes with sort of more pop stuff there, but, like, musically it is gorgeous, that, like... that droning acoustic guitar, like underpinning Kacey's voice which is very, very good. Um, it's just phenomenal, um, and that run on Slow Burn that she sings in the chorus is like...

Rachel:

It's beautiful.

Griffin:

... it's really, really good. Um, so, like, musically, great. What I really like about it also is as far as, like, autobiographical songs goes, uh, it's one of the better ones I feel like, even though it delivers that data in a very small number of words.

Rachel:

Yeah, it's a very specific, like, I think that's what separates it from a lot of the country songs we were talking about is the details are so specific.

Griffin:

They're very specific. Like, "born in a hurry, always late, haven't been early since '88." Uh, and I was like, huh. I googled and she was, uh...

Rachel:

Born, yeah.

Griffin:

... she was prematurely born six weeks, uh, early...

Rachel:

That's what I figured.

Griffin:

... and weighed five pounds when we she was born.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

It's, like, a really specific detail.

Rachel:

Yeah, that's a great way to phrase it.

Griffin:

"Grandma cried when I pierced my nose." The phrase, "good in a glass, good on green, good when you're putting your hands all over me," like, that's so fucking good. And I feel like I know a lot about you and you delivered it in three lines.

Rachel:

What is good on glass, good on green mean?

Griffin:

I think... I took good on... good in a glass means, like, I can... I can drink with the best of 'em. Good on green, like, uh, my original thing was the golf, like, I'm a good golfer but it probably just means, like, I'm good being outdoors or something.

Rachel:

Yeah, I don't know, but anyway...

Griffin:

Um, it but, like, this idea of, like, the autobiographical song, like, any song... I'm so fascinated by songs where artists sing about themselves or their history.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, whether it is more of a, you know, A Coal Miner's Daughter or anything, like, you know... any song, there's great compilation videos online of, uh, musicians, particularly rappers, saying literally the words explicitly, "just let me introduce myself." Um, which has been in, like, 40 songs or so and it's just, like, what information have you chosen to share with me?

Stop what you're doing because I'm about to ruin the image and the style that you're used to. I don't think I knew what image and style I was... I don't think I had that locked in my mind, um, Mr. Humpty.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, but I find those songs really interesting and what I think is really cool about this song is it just, like, gets across a lot of stuff really quickly, um, that even though it's sparse, it paints a really clear picture I feel like of...

Rachel:

Yeah, it's beautiful.

Griffin:

... who this person is, um, and it's a really, like... It's a really personal song on a really personal album that kind of reconciles this somewhat different, more optimistic persona than she presented and, like, the moods that were in her previous albums, um, and this is covered kind of in the liner notes if you buy, like, the physical album, there's a letter that she included about how she had this kind of moment of enlightenment while she was making this record, uh, on her 29th birthday which was during when she was making this record, is when the solar eclipse happened.

And it apparently was this huge moving moment for her, uh, that sort of inspired the direction that this album went and the notes say, uh, this is from her letter...

"There are different masks that we all wear that represent different sides of ourselves. None of them are solely us and yet they all are. There's the lonely girl, the blissful girl, the new wife, the daughter missing her mother, the hopeful girl, the selfish girl, the sarcastic, rhinestone Texan, the shy girl and the life of the party, the winner, the loser. They're all characters on this record. None of them alone are me and yet they all are. The golden hour is when all the masks come together as one and you can see in perfect light the whole picture of me."

Um, I don't know. I just think that the idea of music that musicians have written and performed about themselves is a very fucking tricky needle to thread.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, but this whole, obviously this song is very explicit in how it does it, but I think the whole album kind of paints a picture in a beautiful way, um...

Rachel:

Well, and so much of the industry is, like, selling a particular version of yourself...

Griffin:

A brand, yeah.

Rachel:

... that people will think is the most marketable, uh, and so to come out with kind of a complicated portrait is kind of a risky move, especially.

Griffin:

Especially when it doesn't really look like the portrait that has been, like, painted in the past.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, it like... and this happens a lot and it can be, like, anything as extreme as you know fucking Chris Gaines coming out or when, uh, Christina came out with Dirty and it was, like, this is my new style.

Rachel:

There's that whole documentary about The Dixie Chicks when they took kind of a more political stance and lost a lot of their listeners.

Griffin:

Yeah, I mean that one was more... that one was more organic, right? That was them, like, making a decision and speaking their truth and that truth had always been there. I'm talking explicitly about just, like, this is who I am now, it's a new me.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And at times that can feel, you know, like a commercial decision or it can feel like you know... it can feel like anything and I don't know, it's interesting to see a musician sort of do it in a way that feels, like, organic and it feels like, oh, okay, that's actually, that makes sense. That's who you've always... that's who you've always been. We're just, like, seeing it now.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's like a slow motion video of an artist's life, you know? A secret world, invisible worlds. Anyway, she's probably not talking about golf there, huh?

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah, I don't know. I thought you would have had it all figured out. That's why I asked.

Griffin:

Even if I don't, it still sounds good, huh? [crosstalk] Maybe she's good at golf. Maybe she's a great golfer, I don't know.

Rachel:

It does.

Griffin:

Do you want to know some submissions?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Here is one from Hailey who says, "Something I find wonderful is wildflower season. One of my favorite things about living in Austin is getting to see the beautiful patches of colorful flowers lining the highway in the springtime. It makes central Texas that much more gorgeous."

Rachel:

Oh, it's incredible right now.

Griffin:

It's so good. I mean, nasally speaking, it is horrible.

Rachel:

Oh, yeah, it's my worst allergy season ever.

Griffin:

[crosstalk] It fucking is so horrible. Um, but like, I don't think a lot of people understand that Austin and, like, Hill Country Texas is actually, like, pretty scenic and, like, environmentally interesting.

Rachel:

[crosstalk] Oh ,yeah, when I moved to Texas, I thought it was all flat.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

I thought there was a lot of cacti.

Griffin:

No, we got hills and trees and flowers and rivers and creeks.

Rachel:

The central Texas region, also called Hill Country, is very beautiful.

Griffin:

Yeah, and especially this time of year. Uh, Sharon says, "I've loved, uh... I've always loved when a dog gets so excited that it starts sneezing." I didn't know this.

Rachel:

Oh, I've seen dogs do this before. I didn't realize it was related to excitement.

Griffin:

"But I recently learned they do it to signal nonaggression so other dogs will play with them and now I love it even more."

Rachel:

Oh, my gosh.

Griffin:

"Hey man, are you cool? [sneezes] Okay, you're cool. Let's do this. I got a ball. You want to see it? [sneezes] No, I get it, you're cool, you don't have to..."

Rachel:

You think some dogs are really bad at fake sneezing?

Griffin:

Oh!

Rachel:

And then they can't make friends.

Griffin:

Or they want to attack... they're like [crosstalk] coyote...

Rachel:

Or yeah. Or they, their... yeah.

Griffin:

And they see a coyote and they're like, "Ah-choo, oh, the cedar. Well, anyway wanna play? Ah-choo. Ah-choo."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Well, this has auto corrected somebody's name to something that definitely is not their name but I'm gonna go ahead and [laughs], um, okay. Hold on. Yes, okay. This is from Loring, not Loving, which is what my document said it was. Um, "here's something that tickles me. The full scientific name for the Western lowland gorillas is *Gorilla gorilla gorilla*."

Rachel:

[laughs] Yay.

Griffin:

"I recommend saying it out loud for maximum effect."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Sure enough, this is, like, the most common sort of type of gorilla and the scientific name is *Gorilla gorilla gorilla*.

Rachel:

Oh, my gosh. Griffin, let's start a band and call it...

Griffin:

Gorilla gorilla gorilla? I think somebody's definitely, definitely done a band on this.

Rachel:

I would assume so.

Griffin:

Um, that is very good. Sorry that we did so many animal facts. It feels like maybe this show is moving in that direction.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But animals are so great.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And so are you for supporting us in the Max Fun Drive.

Rachel:

Thank you.

Griffin:

This is our last plea because the Max Fun Drive wraps up this Friday. We'll be back to sort of our regular style next week but, uh, take a moment this week and this about supporting us with a donation at maximumfun.org/donate.

Get the great rewards. Get the feeling of knowing every time you listen to our podcast from them on that, like, you've helped to support us and helped to create this thing 'cause that sense of, uh, you know cooperation is pretty cool. I was a Max Fun donor before I was a, you know, a host of a Max Fun show and I still am, um, because...

Rachel:

Yeah, we're currently Max Fun donors.

Griffin:

Because...

Rachel:

I actually independently before Griffin and I got married.

Griffin:

Yeah. Um, double dipping. Double dipping. Double carafes this year. That's one of the pledge gifts. Um, but anyway, uh, it really means a lot to us and we appreciate your support, uh, and thank you. Thank you all so much. We've had a really cool, like, a really nice turn out so far and you all have been... It really means a lot to us again because this is, sort of, uh, still a new show that we're doing here and it means a lot that y'all think so much of it.

Rachel:

Thank you.

Griffin:

Thank you and thanks to bo en and Augustus for the use of our theme song, Money Won't Pay. Find a link to that in the episode description and thanks to Max Fun and, um, I think that's about it. Yeah?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Maybe we just end it with, like, a nice stretch, like. we just say, "Hey, let's all just stretch." Oh, that might be nice like...

Rachel:

I mean, it would feel good.

Griffin:

It would feel good. Everybody just take a minute and I'll walk you through a quick stretch. Take your knee...

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

With your hand just grab it as hard as you can. Yeah, knee. What's up now? I'm stretching you!

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I feel so relaxed right now.

Rachel:

Griffin's never stretched before.

Griffin:

No, but I think this is how it is done.

[theme song plays]

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