Wonderful! 47: LYLAS

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[theme music plays]
Rachel: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.
Griffin: Hello, this is Griffin McElroy.
Rachel: And this is Wonderful!
Griffin: Do you wanna know what my first thing is?
Rachel: Yes.
Griffin: Do you like that shit?
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: Do you like that shit? You didn't expect that shit.
Rachel: But first, I wanna do small wonder.
Griffin: No, no, no. This is quick in the dead style, baby.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin:

You saw me over here, you're like, "Hi. Welcome to the..." It's begun. We're in it. We were downstairs, and we were having a frank talk about how this show is becoming a little bit longer runtime.

Rachel:

And I made a suggestion.

Griffin:

Rachel said, "Well the, you know, sometimes you do sort of a freestyle scat intro and it's fun." She said, "It's fun and funny. And the people love it—"

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... and I love participating in it." Um, but it goes on for about 15 minutes. And here I am doing the damn thing again, aren't I?

Rachel:

Small wonder.

Griffin:

Shit.

Rachel:

Do you have any?

Griffin:

Uh, I got a new hat.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Went to Houston Astros game with my boys—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... and, um, I had just sort of a fun weekend outing last weekend. And, uh, remember that I can't drink alcohol anymore with my 31-year-old body.

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, but I did get a new hat at the game, and it's a nice hat, and, uh, I like it a lot. And the Minute Maid Park where the Houston Astros play baseball is indoors and—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... it should be a legal requirement that all athletic, uh, place, places, venues have roofs. Rooves, is that the plural?

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] They should have rooves on them because, damn, middle of summer baseball game but not sweating just through my clothes is an absolute treat.

Also, there they have what's called the Torchy's Party Deck, where they have just like Torchy's Tacos, like, there and it's like a little deck that people can hang out and sit in chairs and get table service and watch a baseball game. It was the ideal way to. It's the Alamo Drafthouse of watching baseball games. It's so funny choice.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, so that, yeah, I don't know. There's new Hearthstone expansion out. It's good. It's a good little card game. I don't know if I've talked about it before, but—

Rachel:

I feel like you have.

I maybe have.

Rachel:

Maybe just to me. [laughs]

Griffin:

I really just like all the Blizzard's games. They're the game developer who made that World of Warcraft, um, which I also got a code for the new, the, a new expansion, but that also came out, uh, yesterday. Uh, and so I dabbled in that and then got kind of terrified at how big that game has gotten, but I just appreciate that these games have run for so fucking long and they're so fucking big. I just like that there's just developer out there making these huuge games. Um, yeah, a lot to be grateful for this week.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

What is your small wonder?

Rachel:

That was a big list.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

I was just gonna say kimchee.

Griffin:

Kimchee is really good.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

It's like, um-

Rachel:

It's like a fermented cabbage.

Rachel: [laughs] Cabbage.
Griffin: This fermented ciabbiage.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: [in a silly voice] It's spicy, spicy. You eat it with rib eye.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: Uh, no, yes. We get it from a place called Chi'Lantro, uh, very frequently-
Rachel: Mm-hmm.
Griffin: which is like a How do you even Like Korean mex—Tex-Mex?
Rachel: Yeah. It's, it's like a fusion.
Griffin: Fusion? Um, which, as you can imagine, Korea and Mexico and Texas get together and form a sort of army against my stomach because none of their—
Rachel: [laughs]

 \dots foods are known for being especially gentle to me, but holy shit. They have kimchee fries.

Cabbiage.

Griffin:

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

They got cheese and, like, special sauce on 'em, and you can get rib eye like beef and stuff in there too. Or you can get that shit inside a burrito. Kimchee, fries, burrito, it's out of control.

Rachel:

You can get it in a burrito?

Griffin:

It's so good. Oh my God, yeah. Did you not know that?

Rachel:

I did not know that.

Griffin:

Yeah. I had one of those, actually, when it was still just a food truck. They used to be a food truck, and so I got it, was covering—

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... um, I think, uh, like, South by Southwest Gaming, so it's downtown. I got it, and I was like, "Uh-oh, I have to go home right now." And I missed an interview.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs] Anyway...

Rachel:

All right, all right.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

That's a good one.

That's a real good one. It's a classic. So, uh, first up this week is Rachel McElroy. Rachel McElroy, what is your first topic of discussion?

Rachel:

She's 5'4"-

Griffin:

[laughs] Hey.

Rachel:

... weighing [mumbles] pounds—

Griffin:

Right? Ack.

Rachel:

... coming in with her first thing.

Griffin:

Here she comes. What's—what would your intermission would be at the baseball, at a baseball, like, game?

Rachel:

[singing] [laughs] Oh yeah. Wasn't it a joke I used to make it?

Griffin:

Oh, was it?

Rachel:

I think so.

Griffin:

[laughs] Oh okay.

Rachel:

[laughs] I think I was trying to think of, like, the most inappropriate song.

Griffin:

Oh no. That was from, what, your great bit about, uh, MTV's Next. [laughs]

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

That was such a good bit, man.

Rachel:

[laughs] I'm a pretty funny lady.

Griffin:

You really are. But what's your intro song?

Rachel:

My intro song?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Oh, maybe Ace of Bass, I Saw The Sign.

Griffin:

Oh, that's fun. I feel like... I swear to God, I feel like I've heard that at the baseball.

Rachel:

Oh really?

Griffin:

Yeah. Not that like the majors, but, like, I feel like in Round Rock Express game—

Rachel:

Oh yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

... my friends would come out to. That or All That She wants is Another Baby.

Rachel:

[laughs] That'll be a strange one, I think.

Sure. I mean, so does I Saw The Sign. But what's your first thing?

Rachel:

Yearbooks.

Griffin:

Yearbooks?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Almost lost on all yearbooks.

Rachel:

That's true. When we were emptying out our house.

Griffin:

Yeah. Emptied out our garage and, uh, I was like, "I'm gonna do one last pass," and I found a box with, like, all my yearbooks and that would have been tragic.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Or good because I, um, um, I don't age well in those, those old books.

Rachel:

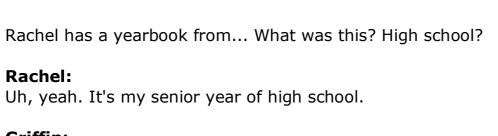
[laughs] Yeah, well, that's the thing, like, obviously there's a lot in my old yearbooks that I would not share, you know, globally.

Griffin:

I've seen some... I mean, obviously, the star of your yearbooks is not you unfortunately.

Rachel:

Yeah, I was wondering if you're gonna bring that up.



Senior year of high school. She went to school with a gentleman named Ger—Geron Vail.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Um, and there's a picture of him and he looks just dapper and happy and smiling.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And, uh, underneath, they left off his first name, so just says, "Vail."

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And it's so mysterious. And every time I go to the, your, your parents' house, I take pictures. So magical.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

What do you like about yearbooks, though?

Rachel:

Uh, so, I like they're little time capsules.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Rachel:

You know? Um, I also like the whole process of, of the signing of the yearbook. You know?

Griffin:

Ooh.

Rachel:

I like, I like reading those old notes.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

One of my friends when I was in high school, uh, because, you know, you're so concerned about, like, losing touch with everybody when you graduated, uh, he wrote his [laughs] Social Security number in my yearbook.

Griffin:

[laughs] I like that.

Rachel:

So if I wanted to steal his identity now, I could.

Griffin:

Yeah, that's fun. It's a nice little side business you've got going on there. I don't think I ever got anybody to sign any of my yearbooks.

Rachel:

When do they give them out? Did they give them out—

Griffin:

End of the year, end of the year.

Rachel:

... like, very, very end, like last days of school?

Griffin:

Pretty close to the end. We—

Rachel:

'Cause we got them a few weeks out—

Oh, I see.

Rachel:

... so you have time.

Griffin:

Yeah. I don't remember. I just, I don't think I got any. I still like yearbooks a lot though.

Rachel:

Did you sign anyone else's?

Griffin:

Yes. I do remember signing somebody else's.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. And so in that, in that exchange you said, "Oh yeah, I'll sign yours."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

And then you just held yours close to your chest. [laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah, I think it probably was not that I was unpopular. I think it was that I was too afraid to ask. Um, but yeah, I definitely signed some yearbooks. Did you ever work on the yearbook club?

Rachel:

No, I didn't. I did newspaper. I didn't do yearbook.

Griffin:

I did. And I think that, that, there is a type of person that works in the yearbook club, and it is a type of person who would very much like to be in the yearbook but knows that they have no other way of making it in the yearbook other than decide—

Rachel:

What did you do? Like, what was your role in the club?

Griffin:

Uh, I mean, mostly like taking... I remember we had an old digital camera that you would actually put a whole fucking floppy disk into to take a picture.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

You could say like eight at a time. So I'd go to, like, different club meetings and take candid photos and stuff like that.

Rachel:

Oh, so didn't do, like, layout. You just-

Griffin:

I also did layout, yes.

Rachel:

Oh, wow.

Griffin:

It was mostly, like, the club section.

Rachel:

Did you-

Griffin:

There were a lot of people in there though.

Rachel:

Did you have a title? Were you, like, associate editor?

Griffin:

No, I don't think there's anything that formal, but I did definitely put a lot of theater club pics in there—

Rachel:

[laughs]

... maybe more than... It was weighted certainly in that direction.

Rachel:

Uh, there's a fun picture of me at senior year, um, digging for like a campus clean up situation.

Griffin:

Oh.

Rachel:

Uh, and you can very clearly see the wallet in my back pocket because I was not a fan of purses.

Griffin:

Oh, that's so badass.

Rachel:

Yeah, I know.

Griffin:

There's definitely one of me in theater club wearing a big milkshake costume.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

So, that's cool.

Rachel:

Let me tell you about yearbooks.

Griffin:

Look, I'm waiting for you too.

Rachel:

Uh, so the very first year book is credited to, uh, George K. Warren, who was a early American photographer, working and living in Boston. He capitalized on the ability to take a single negative to produce many images, which was a relatively new technology in, uh, 1860.

Does that mean, like, you, a roll of, of nat—like a actual roll of film, right? Like it's, it's—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah. Okay.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. Yeah. Uh, and he would persuade students to buy multiple copies and share them with their friends. And then a lot of these people would go on to, uh, bind these images into a book.

Griffin:

What... Around what time was this?

Rachel:

1860.

Griffin:

Oh, fuck. That was a long time ago.

Rachel:

Yeah, yeah, Uh, and then I found an Atlantic article from June 2018 called Why do People Sign Yearbooks? [laughs]

Griffin:

Why do they though?

Rachel:

Uh, and so, they're... Basically, they just went through, like, decades on decades of yearbooks, uh, starting in 1914, uh, in East St. Louis.

Griffin:

Oh, wow.

Rachel:

And they talk about how in the, uh, early 20th century, people would write rhyming poems.

Like, uh, limericks in there?

Rachel:

Yeah. Do you want—do you wanna hear a couple?

Griffin:

Sure. Yeah, I would love to hear this, like, freestyle heat that these 1914 people were dropping.

Rachel:

Oh, this, this one is so reserved and removed. I really enjoy it. Uh, "Remember me early. Remember me late. Remember I am an old schoolmate." [laughs]

Griffin:

Oh, that's so good. I'm gonna, I'm never gonna say the word best friend again.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I'm only gonna say old schoolmate. Wait, wait, wait, wait. Sorry. Is it old schoolmate or is it old—

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Okay. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I thought it was like, "I'm an old school mate."

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, "When the future is present and the present is past, may the light of our friendship burn bright to the last."

Burn bright. Burn bright. I would write, like, "Burn bright in your ass. Have a good summer."

Rachel:

Oh, we'll get to those ribald entries a little bit later.

Griffin:

Oh shoot. Let's go, let's go. Not later. Now, I want it.

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, so by the 1940s, people were signing their, their year, like junior or senior—

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

... with their name, uh, which I thought that was interesting. Uh, and then in the, uh, '60s and '70s is when you started to see, like, love everywhere—

Griffin:

Oh, nice.

Rachel:

... like love so and so, which was not a common thing—

Griffin:

So this was breaking down the, the actual, like—

Rachel:

Content of the messages.

Griffin:

... the structure, this syntax of—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... of messages throughout time.

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's interesting. I mean, that's a really fascinating way of sort of tracking sort of the-

Rachel:

Yeah. To see like the common messages. Yeah.

Griffin:

The sociological progression of, like, school-aged people—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... in the US throughout the, throughout the 20th century.

Rachel:

They were talking about during the Great Depression it just became popular to just do—

Griffin:

Eat the—eat the yearbooks.

Rachel:

No j—[laughs]

Griffin:

That's not funny, Rachel. Hey, that's not funny.

Rachel:

... to just do a signature next to your photo. And they, they like, speculate that it's because of ink shortages. [laughs]

Griffin:

Probably. Yeah. Yeah. Also because they probably had lots of other stuff kind of popping at that point.

Rachel:

So, if there's an ink shortage, like, how are they printing yearbooks?

Griffin:

Also, who's buying fucking yearbooks—

Rachel:

[laughs. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin:

... in the Great Depression? Who wants to be like, "Mm, never wanna forget these great days."

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, so in the '70s is when you get to the, uh, the, the—

Griffin:

Dirty stuff?

Rachel:

... the, the... Well, dirty is-

Griffin:

Come on, come on. Don't you hold back now.

Rachel:

... is a taste thing. Here, let me, let me... So they're all plays on roses are red, violets are blue.

Griffin:

Oh, nice. Give me that nasty stuff.

Rachel:

Get ready.

Griffin:

Yes.

Rachel:

"Roses are red, violets are blue. When I take out the garbage, I think of you."

Oh, man. That was a letdown. [laughs]

Rachel:

Get him. Get him. Get him.

Griffin:

Yeah. I mean, get him. Yeah, but still, dang.

Rachel:

"Roses are red, violets are blue. Toilets were made for people like you."

Griffin:

Uh, that one's a little better. And I don't know if they're talking about, like, you're a dookie person or—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... if they're talking about someone like me, who does need a toilet.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Technically, toilets were made for all of us, but nice try.

Rachel:

Uh, this is also when the acronym started.

Griffin:

Okay. I don't know what that means.

Rachel:

So, if I said H-A-K-A-S to you...

Griffin:

H-A-K-A-S?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin: Have a kick-ass summer?
Rachel: Okay, good.
Griffin: Okay.
Rachel: I wasn't sure if you would know. I was—
Griffin: No, I, yeah, yes, I mean, I say kick-ass all the time, so
Rachel: Um, there were some others I didn't know, like our RHTS.
Griffin: RHTS. Really hate to split.
Rachel: Well, that one's good. It's actually raise hell this summer.
Griffin: Raise hell this summer, that's not good!
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: Anarchy. Get 'em.
Rachel: Uh—
Griffin: Trash a Starbucks, go. I guess this is the '70s. It would be like—
Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: trash a, you know, a Piggly Wiggly? Rachel: And then they talk about how in the '90s, people used to write in the spine and say the first to sign your crap.
Griffin: Oh, I definitely did that.
Rachel: No, Griffin.
Griffin: I love it.
Rachel: Little stinker.
Griffin: It's so good.
Rachel: [laughs] And then there was also, "Wassup?" with the caret sign or like an arrow instead of the up. And then people would respond, "NMH."
Griffin: Nodding my head?
Rachel: No. Well, that would be K. [laughs] Or would it?
Griffin: Nodding?
Rachel:

Oh gosh.

Oh gosh, you know, I'm not gonna delete that too.

Rachel:

[laughs]
Griffin: It's the ref—the worst part about it. That's, that's too bad.
Rachel: Um, no. It would be, "Not much here."
Griffin: Okay.
Rachel: So be like, "What's up?" "Not much here."
Griffin: Okay, that doesn't No. [laugh]
Rachel: No, it doesn't make any sense. That was, that's like for—
Griffin: That was if somebody, somebody was pranking, uh, whoever wrote this article.
Rachel: Uh, and then also people would write, uh, that their signature was gonna be worth a lot of money.
Griffin: Oh, that's good.
Rachel: Yeah.
Griffin: So things have really fallen apart—
Rachel:

[laughs]

... just basically. Just saying. That was fun. That was a fun little trip, trip down memory lane.

Rachel:

Yeah. I, I am disappointed that you don't have more yearbook stories.

Griffin:

Yeah, I mean, um, yeah. I just liked them. I liked having a collection of, of memories of school. But, like, if I'm being completely honest, I don't wanna get, like a bummer on our upper show, but, like—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... I didn't have the best school experience, and I wasn't, like—

Rachel:

I guess, uh, some of the best things about yearbooks are looking at other people's yearbooks.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

'Cause when I think about it, I am more excited to look at your yearbooks than—

Griffin:

Oh, always.

Rachel:

... than I am, like, my own.

Griffin:

Yeah, for sure. I think that if you, if you are the type of person who, like, high school or even middle school, in middle school yearbooks, uh, was like a really great time for you.

Rachel:

We did too. We have middle school yearbooks, which was awful. [laughs]

Um, I, if that was, like, a really great time for you, then I think that it's like a nice, a nice old treasure trove of memories, 'cause there's a lot of pictures of you, you know, in, in your prime. or at the very least. Like, having, having good, good times. And it's not like my high school experience was miserable. It's just like I was very under the radar, so...

Rachel:

What if I said L-Y-L-A-S?

Griffin:

Love you like a sister? Don't even step to me on that.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Do you want to hear my first thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Um, my first thing is.. And I won't—this is probably a pretty short segment because it's brand new. We've only seen two episodes of it 'cause there's only two episodes of it. There'll be three extra by the time this comes out. New show called Making It, y'all. Holy shit. I think maybe we talked about it in some of these submission or something, uh, the last, last week, maybe.

Rachel:

Well, a lot of people have been tweeting it at us too.

Griffin:

Okay. Yeah. Y'all, exactly. Yes. You crushed it. This is, of course—

Rachel:

This is us. [laughs]

Griffin:

This is the fucking perfect storm of, like, things that we're into. And I remember hearing about this show, like last year, when it was green lit—

Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin:

... and thinking like, "Oh my God, this is gonna be my favorite show ever."

Rachel:

Or like during the Super Bowl or something, it's like a teaser-

Griffin:

Maybe. Yeah. And, and now here it is.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it's like, "Oh yes, this is very good." So Making It is, uh... And again, there's only two episodes of it, so, like, get on board, catch the wave now. Please don't let this thing get canceled. I'd be heartbroken. Uh, it's a reality competition show where, uh, competitors who are, like, different sort of crafty people who work in different mediums, so like a woodworker and a papercraft person and, uh, somebody who works with felt and—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, all, all of these different sort of disciplines come together and they compete in these different crafting challenges, sort of a la Great British Bake Off. Uh—

Rachel:

So similar to Great British Bake Off.

Griffin:

Very similar with, like, they are participating in this competition in this, like, verdant farm that is so picturesque and very, very quaint. Um, and the show is hosted by Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman, who are both incredible, and you have seen them together on Parks and Recreation, which is probably the greatest TV sitcom ever made. Uh, and it is so very nice to see the two of them together—

Yeah.

Griffin:

... in any regard, and they are so good in this one.

Rachel:

Most people, most people that know both of them, a little bit know that Nick Offerman is like a self-described maker, and very talented with woodworking.

Griffin:

Yes, I think anybody would describe him that way. He made a... He wrote a... I haven't read it, but he wrote a book called Build Your Own Boat, um, and they show his boat, his canoe that he has made.

Rachel:

I thought it was Paddle Your Own Canoe.

Griffin:

It is. [laughs] It's Paddle Your Own Canoe.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Build Your Own Boat is, um...

Rachel:

You're gonna leave in my K moment.

Griffin:

Yeah, I'll leave that one in.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, yeah, Build Your Own Boat is actually my sort of knock-off book that I wrote. And I got them confused, so I've, I—

[laughs]

Griffin:

... I've spent all year working on this, um, sort of, uh, DIY unofficial fan book of his book that I haven't read. Um, but yes, he's very crafty person. Amy Poehler is a self-described, just not—

Rachel:

Not crafter.

Griffin:

... crafter at all.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, and so it's fun watching her learn. And she's actually very enthusiastic. And in, in the two episodes I said, like, "Wow, actually, I'm, I'm learning a lot of things about woodworking or papercraft," or whatever.

Rachel:

I will also say it did not go unnoticed by me that she wore overalls in the first two episodes.

Griffin:

It's, uh, yeah, it's, Rachel definitely commented—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... on that. Um, I was kind of curious how they were going to balance this show, right, because everybody works in different fields. Um, and if there's a challenge that was like, you know, make a wooden sculpture, then the person who works with paper is like, "Okay. Well, shit."

Um, the way that they get around that is by having pretty broad categories for the, the, uh, different competitions, uh, in a way that I think is really, really clever. Um, so there's, there's, every episode, there are two sort of

challenges. The first one is called the Faster Craft, where they only have like a couple hours to make something. And then there is the Master Craft, which is much more, uh, in depth and detailed and sort of the expectations are much higher.

And the types of things they will ask you to build aren't like, you know, "Make a, uh, this wooden sculpture." It's like, "Make a fort." And then with the fort like with, with something as broad as that, like, you could make it out of anything. Um, and seeing like the way that these different artisans, uh, use their different mediums, so like fulfill the requirements of the challenger, really, it's really exciting to watch.

Like, this is what I'm talking about it being the perfect storm. And I think we've talked about this, like, our fascination with craft videos and—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... people making things. We talked about Kiwami Japan, uh, who just made a new video where he makes the knife out of potatoes and then uses it to cut a potato. It's so choice.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Like, that's something we're really into right now. We love Parks and Rec. We love reality competitions. And we love, like, we love like nice shows. We love like—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... nice reality competition shows.

Rachel:

Well, and also they kind of poke fun at the way that those shows are dramatized often. Like, there's a lot of riffing between Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman about, like, the, the heightened mood in the room—

Yes.

Rachel:

... trying to kind of poke fun at the way reality shows try to build that tension.

Griffin:

But it's a really sweet-tempered show, like they, uh, after every challenge, the, the winner gets a little merit badge—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... and everybody's so excited to get the little merit badges. And everybody just really, really friendly, even when somebody makes some real shit. Uh—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Amy and Nick and the two judges who are on the show are usually very sort of forgiving of it and sort of don't wanna dunk on the person—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... which is like so much... Like, God, I like that so much better than the alternative.

Rachel:

They also do this thing where the eliminated contestant, like, kind of joins them at the very end of the episode—

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Rachel:

... to kind of I guess show there's no hard feelings.

Yeah. They're like-

Rachel:

It's very sweet.

Griffin:

... sitting on a porch, like, drinking tea. There's also, like, cutaway segments where Amy and Nick are, uh, doing just random goofy stuff, like trying to have—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... a, a competition to see who can think of the most, uh, craft-based puns.

Rachel:

Oh my gosh. That's so good.

Griffin:

It's so choice. Um, there's just something about this like positive v—I mean, it's also a great idea for a show, right? Like, we've had so many cooking shows and I really like watching some of those because it's cool to watch food go from base components to like, uh, you know, fancy meals. And I don't know that I've ever seen a show like this where it's, it's not food that you're making, but it's like cool forts or cool, uh—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... terrarium or something along those lines.

Rachel:

Well, so far, the challenges have been really personal, like they've asked the contestants to make something that's like representative of them and their experience and their interests, so you're like learning a little bit about everybody too, which is neat.

Yeah. So it's a good idea for like a competitive show, but also just like that positive vibe. Like, and there's, I think there's, uh, a few shows like this now, like British Bake Off and Queer Eye, which is not really a competition show. Nailed It, I think, was a big—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... big contributor to this, where it's just like, they're nice to each other and they have fun and it's a competition, but it's like a kind of a, you know... They're, they're very sweet about it and—

Rachel:

Yeah, it's more about enjoying the experience.

Griffin:

I was trying to think 'cause it, it does feel like there's more of those shows, and maybe it's just because we, uh, have been watching just so much Terrace House and—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... while not a competition show, again, it's still kind of that good vibes feeling show if, if like... Are we getting back to... With, with shows like this, are we getting back to like, uh, earlier days of reality television where things weren't so mean or, what I think is actually the case, is there never was a good old days of reality television where everybody was nice?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Like, when it started out, it was like Survivor, which has definitely gotten more cutthroat.

Rachel:

Although was less manipulation. I think that's what we're noticing. The shows we like—

Griffin: Maybe. Rachel: ... there's less intervention.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

It's, it's more like people being celebrated for who they are instead of trying to push them to the brink. You know?

Griffin:

Yeah. But even, like... The season one survivor had, like, the big betrayal at the end, which I still—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... remember in the, the speech about the woman saying, "I'd... If you were dying in the desert, I wouldn't give you—"

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And then there was, like, a real world, like, I think the thing that a lot of people remember about that show, the fights and like American Idol people just liked it when Simon Cowell, like, went with him on—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Like, I don't think it was ever like nice. I don't think it was ever, like—

Rachel:

No, that's true.

... sweet and kind. And so, so I don't know. It's nice to see, like, things moving in and, and at least for these, these small handful of shows moving in that direction and—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... uh, that's why I really want you to watch this show. One, because I really enjoy it and I don't know if there's a market for a crafting competition.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

They have it at, uh, it comes on, uh, on NBC, Tuesdays at 10/9 Central, which is not... I don't think that's the, the sweet spot, but I don't know.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so please watch it and, um, I will, uh, give you three dollars.

Rachel:

Whoa, Griffin.

Griffin:

I won't.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I have no way of enforcing that. Can I steal you away?

Rachel:

[sings]

[sings] [laughs] Rachel: [laughs] **Griffin:** [laughs] Rachel: [laughs] **Griffin:** [sings] Rachel: I knew you were gonna do that. I kind of wanted to pretend that, like, we had never committed to the Home Improvement thing or— **Griffin:** [laughs] Rachel: ... and just changed stream. [laughs] [ad break] **Griffin:**

Uh, you want some gumbotroms?

Rachel:

Yeah, and jumbotrons.

Griffin:

This gumbotrom is, uh, me telling you to go check out lighterthanheir.com. It's free. It's a free website, and I have to be explicitly clear here. Air is not spelled the way that you think it is. It's a clever, clever word switcheroo. Instead of A-I-R, it's H-E-I-R, like an heir to the throne.

Rachel:

Oh, okay.

Yeah. It's Lighter Than Heir, but it's not hair.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

There's just no... It's fun. It's a fun sort of homonym, but it's tough to do over an audio medium. But anyway, Lighter Than Heir is a web comic about a young woman named Zeppelin who joins the military in an effort to upstage her war hero father. Also, she can fly because her dad could.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Don't question it. The story follows Zeppelin and her fellow recruits as they make their way through boot camp before becoming embroiled in an international conflict that leads to war. Featuring a manga-inspired art style, there's over 600 pages of adventure, conflict and comedy in the archives of lighterthanheir.com. And then, if you don't know AP style, it's T-H-A-N. A lot of people are gonna goof that one up too. So, I'm just gonna spell the whole URL.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

L-I-G-H-T-E-R-T-H-A-N-H-E-I-R.com. Go check it the fuck out. Here's another message. This one's for Kim and it's from Matt who says, "Happy birthday, Kimberly Wimberly Woo. Sorry to call you by your mom's favorite nickname for you. That sounds like it takes a long time to deliver when you're shouting it up some stairs—"

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"... because you stepped on a Lego. But I'm not gonna..." That made you sound like you're eight. They probably haven't done this. Anyway—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"Um, but I'm not gonna throw away my jumbo, my gumbotrom slot to have our wonder buddies send some good vibes your way. I can't wait to call you my wife next June." And I'll do it, I'll take that again.

Rachel:

Please do [laughs]

Griffin:

"I can't wait to call you my wife—"

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"... next June and have a wonderful road trip, listening buddy for life. I love you." That's a really sweet message and, um... Yeah, I mean, getting married is great 'cause you do get to do, like, 100% more of that stuff. So, you're gonna love it.

Rachel:

Oh, man.

Griffin:

Oh, yeah. It's the best part, right?

Rachel:

It's the best part.

Griffin:

The sweetest thing.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh-huh.

[Maximum Fun ad]

Griffin:

What's, uh, that number two for you, babe?

Rachel:

My second thing is BookPeople.

Griffin:

BookPeople is a great store.

Rachel:

It's a great book store.

Griffin:

I got a signing there. They were really sweet. They gave me lots of chai tea.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

So, two thumbs up from this guy. If you gotta do a signing, do it at BookPeople.

Rachel:

Yeah. For any future, um, venues looking to book Griffin, all he needs in payment is chai tea.

Griffin:

Uh, yeah. I mean, I wasn't paid for this signing.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I just really did just get two cups of chai tea. So, yeah. That is accurate.

Rachel:

BookPeople opened in 1970.

Griffin:

Holy shit, I didn't... we should have established this is a book store here. Is it local to Austin or—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

... is it in other places? Okay.

Rachel:

It is local to Austin.

Griffin:

It's a really great store here in Austin.

Rachel:

And I feel like it'll harken back to everybody else's personal independent bookstore that they love.

Griffin:

Uh, definitely did have one of those in Huntington. But—

Rachel:

Oh, no?

Griffin:

No.

Rachel:

You didn't... What about the used bookstore?

Griffin:

Probab—no, not that I can—

Rachel:

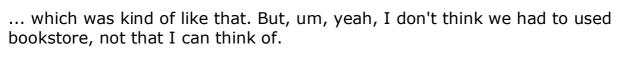
I used to love going in used book stores 'cause they all smelled like old books. And usually, there were, like, these piles that were totally in disarray. And so, you discover things that you weren't expecting to find. Sometimes there was a cat.

Griffin:

You're describing my local comic book shop that I grew up near Purple Earth—

Rachel:

Oh, okay.



Wow.

Griffin:

Yeah, I know. There probably was one. I just never—

Rachel:

Yeah, there you go.

Griffin:

Um, yeah.

Rachel:

Uh, so BookPeople used to be called Grok Books, which was taken from Robert Heinlein's Stranger in a Strange Land.

Griffin:

G-R-O-K Books?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Is that where the term grok comes from?

Rachel:

I guess so.

Griffin:

Have y-you've-

Rachel:

I've heard you say it. I've never heard anyone use it conversationally.

Griffin:

It means like, it's like to understand a, a sort of jargon—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... or, uh... that's interesting. Okay. I'm learning a lot.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. It was started by, uh, Michael Nill, who had been pursuing his PhD, uh, and then dropped out of school to open the bookstore. [laughs] There was a lot of, uh, turmoil going on at the university, and so, he, uh, he dipped and focused on the bookstore.

Griffin:

Um, just a quick sidebar, it, that word was, did come from that book—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... uh, and it's in the dictionary. It's not just like the name of, of that shop, but it's in the dictionary—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's to understand intuitively or by empathy to establish rapport with. Interesting.

Rachel:

Huh, cool. Uh, and so, he opened Grok Books in an old house on 17th St. Uh, him and his wife and another couple each put in \$2500, and none of them drew salary from the bookstore.

Griffin:

For how long?

Rachel:

Uh, well, after three years, he moved to New York and passed the bookstore on to some other graduate students.

Griffin:

Interesting.

Uh, and they kept kind of accumulating more inventory, uh, but not selling much of it. [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs]

Rachel:

And so, it was about to go out of business when, uh, Phillip Sansone bought the inventory, uh, in the early '80s. Uh, and he moved it briefly to this shopping center 'cause he lost his lease on 17th, which makes sense given the growth of Austin. Uh, and so, in keeping with the store's sci-fi tradition, he renamed it BookPeople as a reference to Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451.

Griffin:

The people, I guess, who have books in Fahrenheit 451 are called book people?

Rachel:

You know, I've actually never read that book.

Griffin:

You've never read Fahrenheit 451?

Rachel:

No, no.

Griffin:

I definitely read it in... Well, wait a minute. I've read it but it's, uh, on the banned books list, which I'm pretty sure it is. And I don't—

Rachel:

I know it is, but that usually didn't stop most high schools from—

Griffin:

Yeah, that's probably when I read it.

Rachel:

Yeah.

It's badass, man.

Rachel:

Uh, so by the mid-'90s, the store had grown to 75,000 titles and needed a bigger space. So to raise funds, Sansone reached out to his friend, the cofounder of Whole Foods.

Griffin:

Oh, okay.

Rachel:

And they were able to raise enough money to the current location at 6th N. Lamar next to Whole Foods in 1995. This location was 40,000 square feet. It's enormous.

Griffin:

It's the biggest bookstore. [laughs]

Rachel:

It's the biggest bookstore in Texas.

Griffin:

Is it, really?

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

And Texas is the biggest, uh, state. And that's science so don't argue with me about that.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, supposedly, it's the third largest bookstore in the US.

Griffin:

That's fucking wild.

Rachel:

Yeah. Uh, it used to have, uh, three stories. But then with the kind of the dawn of the Amazon, online age, uh, they reduced down to two stories. At their peak, they had—

Griffin:
That's not true. I went up to the fourth floor in that building.
Rachel: Oh. Well, the retail space I'm talking about.
Griffin: Oh, okay.
Rachel: 'Cause they used to have 300,000 titles in that store.
Griffin: Jesus Christ.
Rachel: And they reduced down to 180,000 to kind of—
Griffin: I didn't—
Rachel: mitigate the—
Griffin: I didn't know there were 300,000 books.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: The idea, the idea of writing a book, to me, is so exhausting. The idea of 300,000 people doing that is, like, wild.
Rachel: Yeah?
Griffin: Yes.
Rachel:

One, being throughout time though?

Griffin:

And did you know that there are people who write more than one book?

Rachel:

[laughs] I don't know how they do it.

Griffin:

It's nuts, man.

Rachel:

I don't know how they do it.

Griffin:

Um, this is a really good bookstore. I feel like there's like something for everybody there, and it is palatial.

Rachel:

The reason I'm bringing it up is, uh, I went there on Sunday with our son. And it was like 9:30 AM on a Sunday, which almost nothing is open, but BookPeople was. And the second floor is almost entirely devoted to kids' books. And so, I was just able to hang out with him and look at all these different books. And there was this like tons of different types and authors and stuff that I never would've known about if I hadn't brought him there. And it was me and a bunch of other parents with their little kids, like, toddling around, that it was just the most pleasant experience.

Griffin:

There's, there's a type of gratitude that Rachel and I feel towards places like this 'cause this is something they do not tell you when you are having a baby. It's that you're gonna hit this weird period where they're too young to, like, go out and play on like a playground by themselves and climb up on things and throw a ball and, you know, do sports or whatever. And, but they're old enough that they wanna, like, do shit. And there's not that many places that can cater to that, like, in between age.

Rachel:

Well, especially in Austin because you know, we don't have, like, a baseball team or like a, a huge, you know, zoo or a huge aquarium. We have small zoos and small aquarium. But, like, nothing, like, to spend a whole doing.

Yeah, sure.

Rachel:

You know? And so, these little gems that are, have long hours and provide a lot of entertainment are the absolute best. And I've always loved bookstores too, just because it's like... I don't know. It, it gives you an opportunity to learn about new things, um, that the internet doesn't really give you, I don't think, unless you know what you're looking for.

Griffin:

Yeah, sure. I mean, there's still a lot of value to having a book in your hand—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and reading it. And the promise of, you know, 180,000 of those experiences just waiting for you is exciting.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Obviously, you know, libraries fill them, fill, fill the same need. But I think a really nice bookstore, there's, there's a lot to be said about that too.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

We definitely would go to used bookstores, like paperback bookstores whenever we go on vacation, like dad would make these little pilgrimages=

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... to them. Uh, and he would buy like a cardboard box full of paperbacks that would, like, tide him over for the next year.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It was adorable. Do you wanna know my second thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Okay. My second thing is a musical artist. And I, I introduced Rachel to this band earlier today 'cause I was pretty sure you hadn't heard of them before. I'm so fucking excited to talk about them because, uh, I'm pretty sure if you haven't heard of them before, there's a good chance that they're gonna be like your new jam. You listener at home listening to this now.

Uh, they're a Japanese band called Wednesday Campanella, and they kick a lot of ass. They're kind of categorize, so just like equal parts, sort of like J-pop and electronic music and hip-hop. Um, they are a trio. There's a director named Director F. It's actually Dir.F, which I have to imagine as Director F and not—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... dirf. Um, and a, a producer named Kenmochi Hidefumi. Uh, that, that he is the, like, producer of most of their music. And then there's, uh, KOM_I, who is the vocalist and she's, she's also the face of the band. The other two actually kind of prefer an anonymity thing, never per—uh, appear in like their videos or on stage—

Rachel:

Oh wow.

Griffin:

... performances. It's, it's just, uh, KOM_I, um, who, who is, who is the sort of face of the band. Um, they're really eccentric. They're really fuckin' fresh. The music that they make is really, like, inventive and, uh, th—really, really catchy. They dabble in a lot of different genres. All their music videos are fucking brilliant. If you enjoy the music you're about to hear, I, like, totally recommend going down the rabbit hole. It's how I spent my entire day today and—

[laughs]

Griffin:

... it was so good 'cause all their music videos are so fucking good. Um, so, I originally found Wednesday Campanella through Spotify Discover, of course, uh, a few months ago with this one track that I'm gonna play a little bit later. But I didn't really dive too deep. I liked this one song, I added it to, like, my good songs playlist that I've been accumulating since I lived in Chicago. Um, been, didn't dive any deeper until this past week. I learned that they, uh, last week did a collaboration. They released a collaboration with one of my favorite electronic music groups, uh, Chvrches or Chv—Chvrches.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, who I was lucky enough, I got to see them live in Austin, I think last year. And man, they fucking rule. Uh, if you're, if you're not familiar, they're a, they're a Scottish synth—pop band. They've been around for like half a decade or so. Um, they did this song, The Mother We Share, which is probably their, their biggest hit.

Uh, so, they have a considerable following in Japan. And so, they did this song with Wednesday Campanella, uh, who, uh, KOM_I described the collaboration at the press release as Kawasaki meets Glasgow. Kiyoshiro Imawano, who is like this Japanese rocker, meets David Bowie. And edamame meets fish and chips.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

The song is really, really great. It's super. It has this great catchy hook, uh, and it has this also incredible animated music video that you should watch. It's called *Out of My Head*. Uh, here's a little bit.

[Out of My Head by Wednesday Campanella plays]

So, I was, I was kind of reminded how much I like that other song I'd heard by Wednesday Campanella, of which sent me down this rabbit hole of listening to their music and then learning more about them and their style. Uh, KOM_I was sort of found by Dir.F and, and Kenmochi. They were—they wanted a female vocalist for this, uh, new band that they were putting together and they met KOM_I at a party and she j— that's, by the way, not her real name. It's like a stage name. It's KOM_I. [laughs] Which is—

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Yeah. And, uh, she joined the band when she was in high school, and she had no music experience whatsoever, which is dope. They—

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Yeah. Kenmochi talks about how her, uh, voice didn't really match the, the rap that she was like delivering. And that sort of dissonance, what, sounded really cool. And so—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... that's why she, she got, she became like the front, the front person for this group. Um, so this is the first time I heard from them, Shakushain. Uh, it's pretty simple. It's just like this rolling acoustic percussion with KOM_I rapping over it.

[music playing]

Griffin:

Uh, the rhythm of this song is just so fucking dope and the music video's really great too. Uh, here is Shakushain.

[Shakushain by Wednesday Campanella plays]

Griffin:

So I wanna talk about the lyrics to their music. The lyrics to this song—

[laughs]

Griffin:

I've listened to this song a whole bunch, and the lyrics to this on a really fantastic. I found a translation online and learned that, uh, Shakushain is all about cool things you can do—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... when you're in Hokkaido. Uh, so the lyrics are cutting, uh, this is one section. Uh, cutting through the park on the hill where you can see the whales, luminous moss in Makkausu. What's your ahead? And, uh, Wakkanai. Not disappointed, Sapporo Clock Tower. Sabina in the winter. Eat up Maruchan yakisoba bento, a yummy kaisendon. Lunch is included, like damn.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

From the ocean observatory to meeting spotted seals for the first time, Yo—man.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

That's fucking really, really good. The whole song is just about all these different places in Hokkaido you can go and do all this stuff. And like, I didn't know that because I am not a—

Rachel:

Yeah, of course.

Griffin:

... fluent Japanese speaker. And so, like, finding out that this song, I feel like jamming to, like, driving in my car, like, "This should be like a badass, like,

action scene movie." And then finding out the lyrics are like a tourism [laughs] video for a prefecture—

Rachel:

Yes, exactly.

Griffin:

... of Hokkaido is really neat. And so, like, I was inspired to look up that translation after I sent you a link to a music video. And this is for the last one I wanna talk about. It's called Aladdin. I found this song, uh, yesterday and just fuckin' fell in love with it. It's got this dope ass rhythm to it. I actually realized what it reminds me of. It reminds me a lot of Thriller, like the bass and rhythm.

Rachel:

Yeah. Oh, interesting.

Griffin:

That [singing] Uh, and the music video for this is so freaking good. Please go watch it. It's KOM_I basically just freestyle dancing in a bowling alley ala Christopher Walken in the Weapon of Choice music video for like two minutes.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

It is... Did you enjoy it?

Rachel:

It's okay.

Griffin:

I sent to you and I was like, "This is my favorite thing I've ever seen." Uh, okay. So here's a little bit of the song. It's called *Aladdin*.

[Aladdin by Wednesday Campanella plays]

Griffin:

So I sent this music video to Rachel and I was like, "Here's this, here's this band Wednesday Campanella. I wanna talk about 'em on the show before and I want you to, to, to know their music a little bit." And she said, "This,

this video..." And then she said, "Holy shit, the lyrics are amazing." And I realized I had watched the video without closed captioning on, which has the—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... English translation lyrics. So I turned it on and learned—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... that this song that is fucking like, so fresh, and I've listened to it, just pop in all day, is mostly about, uh, abrasive cleaning products—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... and a HomeGoods store. Uh, the lyrics. Uh, I don't even know where to begin. Uh, "The Aladdin compound, giving metal a quick rub with it, makes it shine. It even gets stubborn dirt and rust off. It's almost like some kind of mysterious magic power. Let's shine up that filthy lamp over there and put it on display. Shining for you. I scrub for you." And then there's a whole, like, and then it sort of goes into like description of the actual, like—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... like Aladdin plot, Agrabah, a country of mystery and glamor. In the desert, a boy who seeks freedom in a future. A princess who's escaped the royal palace. And a spirit in a lamp, a genie, ah, make your rusty like sparkle. The Aladdin Home Center opens at 10:00 AM.

Rachel:

[laughs]

It's so fucking good. It's so fucking good. And I can't profess to understand, like, what led them to write a song about this, this HomeGoods sort of supply store—

Rachel:

I'm wondering, like, at their concerts—

Griffin:

... and these different cleaning products.

Rachel:

... are people like singing along?

Griffin:

I don't know. I don't know if it's ironic. I will, I will admit, I don't know that much about like—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... J-pop. And I don't know that much about, like, this band. I've, I've only sort of been diving into 'em for like a day. I, their aesthetic is, uh, super genuinely pretty weird sometimes, but in like a really cool, like Kyary Pamyu Pamyu way, like, that I'm, I'm very much into. Uh, I don't know, like I don't know why this song about abrasive cleaning products in this HomeGoods store is like—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... my fucking favorite song of the, the year that I've heard. Um, but it's just so good. Uh, I don't really have a, a lot to add except like the act of... I talk about like discovering a new favorite thing—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and this has been that because I, I heard this, this collaboration. This is yesterday. I was walking through the grocery store with my, with my ear

buds and I was listening to this new Chvrches track with, with Wednesday Campanella. I was like, "Oh, shit, Wednesday Campanella. I remember them." Uh, went back, dug into their music, loved it. And dug into their music videos all day today and loved it. And I did to their lyrics and loved it. And it just keeps coming at me in waves—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... in waves, in waves, like, of how fucking great this thing is and how much I like it.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Seriously, go dig in. There's one called, uh, Kamehameha the Great. That's all about, like, she turns into like a golden turtle at one point and spits eggs out of her mouth. Like, all the music videos are so dope and the song's really good. Anyway, that's Wednesday Campanella. They're the best. Um, do you wanna hear some submissions from our friends at home?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Natalie says, "I live in Chicago and ride the L, aka the subway to work every day." Is the L just all the trains, or is it one specific? I felt like the... Is it the red line or the brown line? It's the—

Rachel:

They're all, they're all—

Griffin:

They're all the L?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Okay. Uh, "It doesn't happen frequently, but sometimes when two trains pass each other going in opposite directions, the train conductors will honk each other in a cute column response, often, uh, with the second conductor mimicking the pattern of the first. I find it really wonderful that the train conductors have this fun, uh, have this fun on their tough jobs, uh, and seeing this exchange always brightens my commute and reminds me to stay playful while living life in the big city."

Rachel:

Oh, that's nice. I don't think I ever noticed that when I lived there.

Griffin:

I don't think I did either. I, I mean I was always jamming to my Zune when I was traveling—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, on the public transit in Chicago. Um, here's one from Emily, who said, "Something I find wonderful is that blast of cool air you get when you walk into a hotel room for the first time. Typically, I'm only in hotels during the summertime and it's so refreshing."

Rachel:

I like that too.

Griffin:

I mean, there's nothing better than walking into a hotel room the first time.

Rachel:

I know.

Griffin:

In so many different sort of sense experience is like, "Oh, it's nice. Oh, this is where we're gonna be staying." Or at the very least, like, "Oh, I'm so fucking tired." Or, "Oh, I've been waiting to check in for so long."

Rachel:

I always run to the bathroom to see what quality shampoo is in there.

Rachel: I do. Yeah.
Griffin: Oh man.
Rachel: I'm always curious, like, "Uh, is my hair gonna get a treat while I'm here?" [laughs]
Griffin: I've been in so many hotels at this point—
Rachel: I know.
Griffin: and, uh, going, going into one and having it be like a nice hotel. And I'm not like picky but like one that's like, nicer than I deserve is always something like
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: always such a like delightful surprise.
Rachel: You are picky about pillows though.
Griffin: I mean, yeah. We stayed at AirBnB when we went to this Houston track.

Do you really?

Rachel:

Griffin:

Rachel:

And one, one—

Yeah. What was the pillow situation?

One pillow? Griffin?
Griffin: One bad pillow. And so I went and I raided the—
Rachel: Couch.
Griffin: couch and I took the—
Rachel: Yeah.
Griffin: pillows from the couch—
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: even though one of our friends was sleeping on the couch.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin: I did a sort of discrete maneuver, body copy. And I'd stole two pillows. And I was like, alright, I'll bring 'em back. But I only brought back one. What's up? [singing]
Rachel: Uh oh.
Griffin: I don't give a fuck.
Rachel: [laughs]
Griffin:

Um, Here's one more from Jason, who says. "My wonderful thing is people saying the F word in PG13 movies. Most are allowed one and it's always fun to hear when you don't see 'em coming." I love this. Did you notice in PG13 movies, you can say one F.

Rachel:

I feel like I heard that long time ago but I've forgotten about it.

Griffin:

And where do you cash it in? Tha—that, that's what I'm excited about. Where do you cash in your F? I don't know. It's exciting to me. It's exciting 'cause you watched the whole movie and you're like, "I know it's PG13. Where's the F? Here it comes. Nope. Nope, not yet." They close it out.

Rachel:

Okay. I haven't really thought about it as I'm watching a movie.

Griffin:

Okay, well, now I've changed your whole life.

Rachel:

I know. Now, I'm gonna think about it.

Griffin:

Hey, thank you for listening to Wonderful! This has been a lot of fun and I hope you enjoyed it. And thank you to Bowen and Augustus for this four theme song Money Won't Pay. You can find the link to that in the episode description.

Rachel:

Thank—

Griffin:

Maximum—

Rachel:

Yeah. Thank you to maximumfun.org for hosting our show and hosting a bunch of other really great shows. Uh, Inside Pop is a good one.

Griffin:

Hey, yeah.

Rachel: Friendly Fire is a good one.
Griffin: Sure.
Rachel: And there's so many more.
Griffin: Yeah. All at maximumfun.org. Uh, if you wanna hear other shows, we have McElroyshows.com and, uh, if you want tickets to, like, live shows or signings, or we've got some stuff on the books. It's at mcelroyshows.com/tours. Um, we got some ticket that should be going on sale Friday for TAZ, I mean, MBMBaM for Portland and Seattle. So—
Rachel: Oh, great.
Griffin: If you live there, you can go get those. And I think that's about it. Huh?
Rachel: Yeah, that's about it.
Griffin: Well, that's about it, partner. Let's just keep saying, "That's about it," but do, like, different accents.
Rachel: Hey, hey Griffin, uh—
Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: LY—

Griffin:

Oh.

... ALH.

Griffin:

Love your ass, love hunk?

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Rachel, we're doing a podcast. People listen to this. Pervert.

Rachel:

[laughs] It's, "Love you a lot, husband." If you had a yearbook now, I would sign it, and that's what I would write.

Griffin:

What would I be? What would the yearbook contain? Me?

Rachel:

Just one picture of you.

Griffin:

Just one big picture? I think that's what, like, funerals do. Bye.

[theme music plays]

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