

## Wonderful! 38: SUMMER 2018 PREVIEW

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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:**

[sighs] I guess it is. I guess it's pretty okay.

**Rachel:**

Oh, man.

**Griffin:**

It's just, they did E3, and Nintendo did its thing. They got out there, and they said, "Mario, he's back and he's jumping around. All your friends are here." They said, "Mario, Yoshi, his dinosaur friend, the big monkey Donkey Kong, uh, even the evil one Wario," they had. But, no Animal Crossing, again, and so I guess I'm just feeling a little aimless?

**Rachel:**

They said, "Rachel, you get your husband for one more year."

**Griffin:**

Yeah, they sort of commuted my sentence, and so I'm just sitting here trying to think of... I'm trying to remember I guess how other people get excited about things.

**Rachel:**

Hey, you know what you could do?

**Griffin:**

Oh, yeah?

**Rachel:**

You know how you like to, in the game, you like to fish and get apples and stuff?

**Griffin:**

[laughing] Oh, yeah!

**Rachel:**

You could do that in the real life.

**Griffin:**

Yeah! I could go get apples and uh, fish.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

And maybe other stuff too, though, like sometimes there— your house gets dirty, and you have to like, press buttons to clean it up, and it's like—

**Rachel:**

Oh, you could do that too!

**Griffin:**

No that sounds miserable, is the problem. I like doing it in the game because that house is more important than my real house!

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

No, I guess I'm just like, uh... One year without happiness, I guess?

**Rachel:**

Woof.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, I know. Without anything to be happy about. But I've had five in a row so far, since they did the last one, so I guess I'll just keep powering through and putting on a brave face.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

A fake face. A fake smile. And you know, behind it—

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

I'm just thinking of all my friends.

**Rachel:**

This podcast must be difficult for you to do.

**Griffin:**

Oh, it's so hard.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

Speaking of!

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

[laughs] This is gonna be a weird episode. We uh, we had kind of a busy weekend, and then I am leaving to go on tour tomorrow, and I've been slam-jammed getting all the stuff ready, uh, for the tour and the usual podcast stuff. So, this episode's gonna be a little bit weird.

Uh, Rachel and I were texting each other this afternoon like, "Hey, I don't think I'm going to be able to do a whole episode." And so what we've settled on here is a little special. Maybe we pivot and call it a special. People will think it's very special.

**Rachel:**

Yeah!

**Griffin:**

Um, what're we doing this week?

**Rachel:**

We are currently calling it, I believe a 'Summer Spectacular'?

**Griffin:**

A 'Summer Preview' I think I like a bit better.

**Rachel:**

'Summer Preview.'

**Griffin:**

Cause it's not quite summer yet, but we're really looking forward to it.

**Rachel:**

It still leaves room if we want to do a 'Summer Spectacular' later.

**Griffin:**

Yes, exactly!

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

So this is like, the buildup to it, and then we're going to livetweet the whole summer, and just talk about some of our favorite summer stuff. Kind of like we did on the Thanksgiving episode, but no need to make these things compete! It doesn't always have to be, you know, a bit battle royale.

Sometimes you can just appreciate a lot of different things.

Before we do that though, you got just any small wonders?

**Rachel:**

I do actually!

**Griffin:**

Oh good!

**Rachel:**

And this is kind of summer-themed.

**Griffin:**

Okay?

**Rachel:**

In that it happened very recently.

**Griffin:**

Okay.

**Rachel:**

Uh, the Stanley Cup was awarded.

**Griffin:**

Hey, the Stanley Cup was given to the best... I love the idea of it being awarded. "And, we've looked at all the hockey team's performances, and there was one that really stood out."

**Rachel:**

I mean, isn't that kind of what the playoffs is?

**Griffin:**

Yeah, that's probably fair.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] The cool thing about the Stanley Cup... so, it's been around since 1907, uh, and more or less every year since it was awarded, with the exception of a few off years, they engraved the name of the winning team. Each individual player, on the cup.

**Griffin:**

How do you future proof that? Cause it seems like you're gonna hit a point where it's like, shoot, well.

**Rachel:**

They add a ring every year.

**Griffin:**

Oh!

**Rachel:**

So you know how it kind of looks like a layer cake?

**Griffin:**

Yeah?

**Rachel:**

Well, they don't add a ring every year, but every time they run out of space, they add another ring to the bottom. So currently—

**Griffin:**

I'm just saying, a hundred years from now, it's going to look like some kind of cyber giraffe.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] uh, currently it is 35 inches tall, and it weighs 34 pounds.

**Griffin:**

Well that's... I could lift that up.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, I mean, that's the thing. When they win, they all skate around the ice. By the way, the Washington Capitals won this year.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, apparently it was a pretty wild series, right? They haven't won in like, what, like, 40 years or something? And they were up against the other team.

**Rachel:**

The other team.

**Griffin:**

And that's cool. Well yeah, the other one.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

And they wanted to win it really badly, too, but—

**Rachel:**

I think it was Vegas.

**Griffin:**

I really wish they both could've won it. I really wish they could have cut it in half — the big trophy — with a lightsaber or something, and both got to take home a little piece of it, but nobody answers my e-mails over there at the NHL.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Um...

**Rachel:**

What's yours?

**Griffin:**

Yeah, I had a couple, but my computer died, and I can't remember the things I'm grateful for without the help of... Oh, chicken pot pie.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Chicken pot pie is good, its creamy, it's got all the stuff you need in it.

**Rachel:**

And flaky.

**Griffin:**

And flaky. It's got pie crust. It's wild how, like, on point they were. Um, also, during the Nintendo press conference, they did announce the new Smash Brothers game and it's going to have every Smash Brothers competitor who's ever been in Smash Brothers, which is deeply exciting for me. It's like 65—

**Rachel:**

Ooh.

**Griffin:**

— Fucking playable characters. All my friends are back: Snake, Pokemon Trainer, Olimar, the whole gang is here.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

Mario and Wario, his best friend, and uh, yeah. I'm just excited about that. It helps sort of soothe the horrible burn. Oh, I'm thinking about it again. Aw, shit.

**Rachel:**

I'm sorry.

**Griffin:**

Let's gets started talking about summer season.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

Summers a season that comes with... We didn't do much research. Summer's a season that comes between spring and fall, and it is actually Italian, the word summer, and it means "the hot ones."

**Rachel:**

[laughs] June 21 is when it starts, right? We looked that up.

**Griffin:**

Yes, with the— either the equinox or the solstice. I think it's the equinox.

**Rachel:**

I heard that you can balance an egg.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, we all saw that episode of West Wing.

**Rachel:**

For summer.

**Griffin:**

Mm-hmm.

**Rachel:**



Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

And, squirt guns are illegal the other nine months of the year, but in the summer, you get basically the purge but with gu—with, uh, water guns. So, if you want to start, what's your first thing?

**Rachel:**

It's actually—it's your turn to start, Griffin McElroy.

**Griffin:**

I know, but it— we're not— we're good just doing this one loosey-goosey.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

What if we both start at the same time? That's nothing. I want to talk about a playlist I have developed on Spotify for uh, legally mandated Spotify discussion, uh that I titled—

**Rachel:**

The grilling one?

**Griffin:**

It's called 'Grilling Time,' thank you Rachel.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

'Grilling Time' is a playlist I concocted back in I want to say about 2014, or something like that.

**Rachel:**

I feel like yeah, you've had it for a very long time.

**Griffin:**

Oh my God. Oh my God. I just looked and I can see the dates. This thing was birthed May 20th, 2012.

**Rachel:**

I was gonna say, I think this was before we were married.

**Griffin:**

This is a six year old playlist.

**Rachel:**

This is when we were living in our very first house together.

**Griffin:**

And I made this when uh, when we lived in that house, and we had some friends over to grill.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

And I wanted just, some of that good time music that we could all listen to and make meat hot, and what I ended up with was my masterpiece. My magnum opus.

**Rachel:**

Oh, it's so good.

**Griffin:**

This this has followed me, it's— right now it's 38 tracks long. I think I probably slapped a couple more on there as time's gone on, and uh, and it is just sort of uh... I— there was no science behind the creation of this thing. There was—

**Rachel:**

It's kind of a tribute, I might say, to your father.

**Griffin:**

Yes. And so, it should no— come as no surprise that whenever, uh, whenever we do live shows, uh, and we do an Adventure Zone, we pre—sign a number of posters beforehand.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

Because we all travel with our families and stuff now, so we don't really do the after-show meet and greets anymore, but we want to make sure that folks get, you know, some signed stuff. So, we pre-sign before the show, and uh, when we're doing—when we do that, I have sort of become the unofficial DJ, but that's just because most of the time, I throw on 'Grilling Time.'

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

And my dad just like, gets down to these jams that I picked more or less like, on a whim, but they are like, perfect old-timey, good time jams.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

I'm— I'm talking 'bout Jim Croce. Talkin' bout Chicago, Earth, Wind & Fire, little bit of uh, Pure Prairie League in there. I mean, it's Amy. I don't think Pure Prairie League had another song. Um. Doobie Brothers of course are in the mix. Uh, Paul Simon's in there. Got some Hall and Oates in there. Uh, got some Steely Dan in there, uh it—its—

**Rachel:**

As your dad calls, The Dan.

**Griffin:**

The Dan's in there. Got some Fleetwood in there. Got some Crosby in there, and his friend Stills, and their other friend Nash.

**Rachel:**

Is Young in there?

**Griffin:**

Uh. Uh. No. [laughs]

**Rachel:**

[laughs] So, minus a friend.

**Griffin:**

But uh, yeah. This playlist, man. You throw it on when you're having fun outside, and it just really... It gets into you. It gets into you, whether you're outside, or whether you're signing posters before the podcast live show that you're about to do.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Do you want to play a sample of any of this?

**Griffin:**

I mean, do you want me to play a sample of Pure Prairie League's Amy?

**Rachel:**

Yes, for sure, at supper.

**Griffin:**

I mean I could just sing it.

**Rachel:**

It's summer after all.

**Griffin:**

[singing] I can't see why you think that you belong to me. I never thought I'd let you think one thing for yourself. [talking] That's not right, but then it's like, [singing] Amy. [talking] Can you harmonize with me?

**Rachel:**

Oh, God, I knew you were going to ask me to do this.

**Griffin:**

[singing] Amy.

**Rachel:**

[singing, off-key] Amy.

**Griffin:**

Its up here, it's up here. [singing] Amy.

**Rachel:**

[singing, no change] Amy.

**Griffin:**

[laughs]

**Rachel:**

I got my eyes closed, cause—

**Griffin:**

That's Amy's landlord coming to collect the rent.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Amy? It's that time again.

**Rachel:**

[singing] What you gonna do...

**Griffin:**

Um, what's your—

**Rachel:**

[singing] When the rent is due?

**Griffin:**

[singing] And the rent is due... [talking] Probably would have worked better on the second part.

So, what's your first summer... Oh, you love this g—I can always tell when Rachel's winding up.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] I'm still working. [singing] You've got 'til the second, and you know it's the third.

**Griffin:**

What's your first summer time.

**Rachel:**

I wanna— I wanna keep going I think.

**Griffin:**

I know, but we... [laughs]

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

I thought this was going to be a shorter episode, but maybe— it may be our longest yet, because we've just apparently created the greatest character in Saturday Night Live history.

**Rachel:**

Amy's landlord.

**Griffin:**

Amy's landlord, Kramy.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Not Kramer, don't... It's a different— It's a different...

**Rachel:**

My wonderful thing this week is tubing.

**Griffin:**

Tubing. Yes.

**Rachel:**

I— I got excited for this. I have gone tubing at least once every summer, sometimes twice, since I moved to Texas. So, tubing is very popular in central Texas, because there are a lot more rivers, uh, than you would expect.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, there's a lot more water and greenery in central Texas.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm. Uh, and so, I did a little research on the history of tubing.

**Griffin:**

Ooh.

**Rachel:**

Which I'll go through very briefly.

**Griffin:**

I did not know we were gonna do that for the summertime episode.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] it's very quick. There isn't a lot, as you can imagine, on the history of tubing, uh, cause it's very difficult to write the history when you're on a tube.

**Griffin:**

That's a good point, babe, there is that.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Especially old-timey scholars and stuff with their ink in there, uh, in the little bottle with their quill, and the quill gets, you know.

**Rachel:**

So much damn parchment.

**Griffin:**

Falls in the... Lot of dampness.

**Rachel:**

Ah, so in the July 21st, 1941 issue of Life magazine, there was a photo essay, uh, highlighting a very specific example of tumbing. T—tumbing.

**Griffin:**

Huh.

**Rachel:**

Which is what they used to called tubing.

**Griffin:**

It's uh, what Lara Croft calls tomb raiding, uh, just to keep it short.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Uh, there was a photo essay from Somerset, Wisconsin, where a man named David Breault, who was the owner of the Terrance Nightclub, uh, got 200 people in inner tubes, and they floated down the river, uh, and after about 45 minutes, they came to the stopping point where the nightclub truck would pick them up and bring them back to the starting point.

**Griffin:**

Is this at night, or is this just a nightclub function?

**Rachel:**

Nightclub function.

**Griffin:**

Oh, okay. Cause they— they made it sound like they would just get like, turned up to the next level—

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

— and then head down to the river, which seems like a horrible idea.

**Rachel:**

Uh, the club provided the tubes for free, and uh, his business multiplied by three since they began doing the tube adventure.

**Griffin:**

Damn.

**Rachel:**

Uh, and there's also, uh, in Time magazine, uh, in the 60s, they referenced a princess in Thailand, who they said was the inventor of the sport of tubing.

**Griffin:**

A sport, huh? We're calling that one a sport.

**Rachel:**

Oh yeah. Sports Illustrated actually did a story on this. Uh, the princess bought 100 tubes for her country estate and invited her friends to join her in



riding them down a river, uh, and then I guess, somehow the— the Siamese like, TV network like, picked up the story and people began flocking to uh, her land to uh, join in. And so, she ended up charging... This is what I think is interesting.

**Griffin:**

[laughs]

**Rachel:**

Uh, she ended up charging what amounts to 25 cents to enter the estate, and then another five to rent a tube, which I just think is fascinating. This is like— this is in the like, 1960s, but they're already like, the business plan is set.

**Griffin:**

Yeah. It came together very quickly.

**Rachel:**

Cause my experience with tubing now is very similar in that you pay for the shuttle, you pay for the tube...

**Griffin:**

I do wish we had one here in Austin. It's— it's kind of a bummer to drive like, 45 minutes to get down to like, what, New Bronfolds, or whatever.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, so the San Maracas River's a good one.

**Griffin:**

Mm-hmm.

**Rachel:**

Uh, and the Kamal River is a good one. They're both fed by springs, uh, which means that it's always about 72 degrees in there, and I wanted to quickly give you some tubing lingo I wasn't aware of.

**Griffin:**

Oh boy. Tubing lingo.

**Rachel:**

Uh, so what would you call a tube that doesn't have a hole in the bottom?

**Griffin:**

Pretty good tube.

**Rachel:**

A biscuit.

**Griffin:**

Oh, oh you meant like, a hole for a body to go in, not like a puncture wound.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

Oh, yeah. Yeah. Sorry.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] And then a tube with a hole in it?

**Griffin:**

A donut.

**Rachel:**

Exactly.

**Griffin:**

That's an easy one.

**Rachel:**

Uh, here's something I didn't know. What do you think Coobing is?

**Griffin:**

Coobing?

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

It's where you float on down the river in a giant cube. It's the most dangerous form of, uh, water activity you could think of.

**Rachel:**

It's the act of tubing down a river alongside a beer keg located inside another inner tuber.

**Griffin:**

Okay. These aren't in the dictionary, right?

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

This is something you've found on some, like, fraternity Facebook page.

**Rachel:**

No, this— this is what I've found in my research. Um. What about when you have a group of two or more tubes floating together, often joined with rope?

**Griffin:**

Uh, dangerous.

**Rachel:**

Flotilla.

**Griffin:**

A flotilla, yeah.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm. And what about when you get to a point where you have to exit your tube and walk because of low water?

**Griffin:**

[huffs] A buzzkill.

**Rachel:**

Portage.

**Griffin:**

Okay, that one sounds a little too nautical for my taste.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

The other ones were kind of fun, like uh, you know, like a cool skateboard guy came up with them, but that one sounds like a sort of maritime lawyer.

**Rachel:**

So, I never did tubing before I moved here.

**Griffin:**

No.

**Rachel:**

But uh, one of my favorite things to do now, cause there are, I mean, one that I really like is three hours long.

**Griffin:**

Yeah sure.

**Rachel:**

And so you get like, a bottle of wine, you put it in a water bottle—

**Griffin:**

Or, two bottles of wine in two water bottles.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

That was the worst fucking day of my life. It was the best day of my life, the worst night and following day of my life.

**Rachel:**

You float for a very, very long time.

**Griffin:**

Yeah.

**Rachel:**

You catch up with your buds, and maybe you run into other tubers who've got some— got some tunes going.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, and then you watch them get kicked out, cause that's not allowed.

**Rachel:**

You can have tunes!

**Griffin:**

Not in like a big... One—one time—

**Rachel:**

You can't be super loud.

**Griffin:**

—we passed by a flotilla of easily 70 college students, and in the center of it, I swear to God was a raft with a huge boom box in the shape of like an old-timey robot.

**Rachel:**

Yes.

**Griffin:**

And, immediately, like, the cops like, rolled up to the shore like, "No."

**Rachel:**

Nah.

**Griffin:**

"We're going to need to kill that robot." And there was a sort of a reverse Terminator situation where all of them were trying to defend it, and uh, they probably all went to jail, but I didn't stick around for how that one resolved. Um. I don't know why I said "yeah," earlier by the way, when you said I'd never gone tubing.

**Rachel:**

Have you? Oh, you...

**Griffin:**

Cause I—yeah, went white water rafting with my friend Tanner and his family, and uh, sunscreensed it up, cause I knew it was gonna be a five and a half hour trip down the uh, Lower New, and the, uh, single serve sort of kayak situation. Had a great time, except my legs were exposed and I forgot to sunscreen those up, which please do not lecture me about sunscreen. You're talking to the wrong person. Of course I know about that. Except for that one day I kind of forgot my legs were a part of my body—

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

And, uh, we had a nice long trip to Greenback, and Hillsborough planned, but the problem is that I couldn't move my legs for a week because they hurt so bad.

**Rachel:**

Oh.

**Griffin:**

Tanner fucked up too, so, we just sat on the couch and played NFL 2k1 and just sort of aloe'd down.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Uh, yeah so I'm excited, my— one of my friends is coming to town.

**Griffin:**

Are y'all going floating?

**Rachel:**

I think that is the plan.

**Griffin:**

Ooh, gonna be fun.

**Rachel:**

Yeah.

**Griffin:**

Uh, do you mind if I steal you away real quick though?

**Rachel:**

Please do.

**Griffin:**

[vocalizing] I was just looking... I wanted to do the Home Improvement sound—

**Rachel:**

Of course you did.

**Griffin:**

— but I still have 'Grilling Time' open on my computer, and I saw Free Ride by the Edgar Winner Group on there, so I—

**Rachel:**

I mean you could mash up. You wanna...

**Griffin:**

Oh, yeah! [vocalizing] That had kind of a Jay Giles Band feel to it that I did not hate.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] I like it though!

**Griffin:**

Yeah.

[ad break]

**Griffin:**

Do you wanna hear some jumbotrons?

**Rachel:**

Yes.

**Griffin:**

Here's one, it's for Jenny! Come on down. [vocalizing] It's from Nadia, Tab, Stephanie and Em, who say, "Happy birthday—" Aw man. "... dirty bridge goblin."

**Rachel:**

Hm. Maybe it's something the kids are saying.

**Griffin:**

"You mean the world to us, and most of us wouldn't be alive to type this right now without you. You're the smartest and prettiest lesbian/linguist/movie director/nerd out there, and you're going to get so far in life. We love you so much, Jennifer! P.S. Maybe by the time they get to this, your fist movie will be out." Fist movie.

**Rachel:**

Hm.

**Griffin:**

Few interpretations for that.

**Rachel:**

Maybe it's like a Deadpool thing?

**Griffin:**

What do you mean?

**Rachel:**

`Cause Deadpool, um, fights.

**Griffin:**

Oh, yeah.

**Rachel:**

With his fists.

**Griffin:**

Um, that, maybe that's what it meant he probably does the other one too, cause he's Deadpool and he's like, so out there.

**Rachel:**

Oh.

**Griffin:**

[laughs] Here's a message for Maddie, and it's from Maddie. A different one.  
[laughs]

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

It says: "Happy birthday to you, mirror twin. I couldn't ask for a funnier, kinder, or smarter best friend, and I love you very much. Here's to many more years of snapping each other videos of our dumb pets, sending international mail, and over-analyzing our crushes' social media posts. I



hope you're having a wonderful day on your birthday, or whenever this gets read."

And they wanted it in April, so it's not the birthday, but it is almost... Arbor Day? When's Arbor Day? Someone coming up soon. Arbor Day.

**Rachel:**

That feels like it's in the fall.

**Griffin:**

Anybody got an eye on Arbor Day? It's probably in the fall, not in the middle of summer. So we'll just say here... President's Day? Nope.

**Rachel:**

July fourth?

**Griffin:**

July fourth is about as good as we're gonna get I think.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

[Maximum Fun ad]

**Griffin:**

Uh, summertime, summertime, summertime. Do you want to just like, burn through some summertime topics?

**Rachel:**

Yes. Maybe—maybe we go back and forth—

**Griffin:**

Okay.

**Rachel:**

— and then if we hit on something exciting —

**Griffin:**

Yeah.

**Rachel:**

— then we just spend the whole time there.

**Griffin:**

I mean, I've got here Bud Lite— and it says this: Bud Lite Orange? So you know from our pilot episode about Bud Lite Lime, ah, it's the beach version.

**Rachel:**

Is there an orange?

**Griffin:**

There's a new one, Bud Lite Orange.

**Rachel:**

No, that sounds bad. Have you had that?

**Griffin:**

I haven't, but I don't know why you're not joining me in the warm embrace—

**Rachel:**

And you've already decided it's wonderful?

**Griffin:**

It's probably pretty good. How could you fuck that up? It's Bud Lite Orange.

**Rachel:**

Are you—

**Griffin:**

They got Bud Lite Lime perfect, I don't know why you're doubting that they would do Orange.

**Rachel:**

Are you thinking like a Blue Moon kind of Orange Slice flavor?

**Griffin:**

I'm thinking sort of a mix between, if you can imagine this, Bud Lite and Tang?

**Rachel:**

Ooh. Hoo.

**Griffin:**

But, you drink this on the beach and it would probably still be pretty good. I don't— wh— Bud Lite Lime: yes or no?

**Rachel:**

Yes!

**Griffin:**

Okay, it's just a different color citrus fruit, I don't know what the hell is the problem.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Okay.

**Griffin:**

No, it's not okay. Let's just— I'll throw my computer out the toilet.

**Rachel:**

You'll throw your computer out the toilet.

**Griffin:**

And now you're coming after my words!

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

You're coming after my— my flavor thoughts, and now you're coming after my—

**Rachel:**

Can I go now? [laughs]

**Griffin:**

Yeah sure, lets— yeah. Yeah, go ahead.

**Rachel:**

Birkenstocks.

**Griffin:**

[silly voice] Ooh, Birkenstocks, ooh. [blows raspberry] Oh, you mean the big shoes? More like Birken-flocks of sheeple.

**Rachel:**

It's a very comfortable, sensible sandal.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, you're right. I do—

**Rachel:**

Provides a lot of support.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, no. Unlike you, right now, in this moment.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

On this podcast. Yeah, Birkenstocks are pretty good. I used to— you know me, I used to roll with some big clunker, uh, sandals, and you would hear me clomping down.

**Rachel:**

Oh, yeah.

**Griffin:**

I wore sandals almost every day, well, when it was warm, in college. I would not dress college sort of formal. I would roll— roll up in my flip—flops any day where I possibly could. Shorts and flip—flops. And my—

**Rachel:**

How—

**Griffin:**

My— my advisor would always hear me coming down the hallway, and like, yell at me from down the hallway cause he could hear, you know, like, the flipping and the flopping.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, nobody flips or flops louder than Griffin.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, I like to let the people know.

**Rachel:**

I was going to ask you if you'd ever known anybody who'd ever called them something different.

**Griffin:**

Flip-flops?

**Rachel:**

Yeah, for example like—

**Griffin:**

Thongs?

**Rachel:**

A thong—like a thong sandal.

**Griffin:**

I have heard that, yeah, but then um, I guess in like, uh, early thousands? Um, Sisqó, the um, rapper, invented a new kind of underwear, and this one is...

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

You know how your butt gets covered up most of the time by your underwear?

**Rachel:**

Yes.

**Griffin:**

He said no to that.

**Rachel:**

Oh!

**Griffin:**

Yeah.

**Rachel:**

Sounds scandalous.

**Griffin:**

I got— I got sandcastles down on here. Um. You like these?

**Rachel:**

I do like—

**Griffin:**

I feel like I have to run them by you now, before...

**Rachel:**

[laughs] I don't have a lot of sandcastle experience.

**Griffin:**

I mean, we used to go to Myrtle Beach and um... you know, with the— with the family, we would make little sandcastles, we would make the moats... I— I always got— my brothers got very excited about making sandcastles. I always got way more into irrigation.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Which I think says a lot about me.

**Rachel:**

It does.

**Griffin:**

If there was a faucet on the beach, you know, I would make a little canal that would run down, see if I could get the water to run all the way down to the ocean, or at the very least the fill up the moat with, you know, fresh water not sea water, so it could be sort of a more comfortable swimming experience for the sand king and sand queen.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm. [laughs] That's beautiful. I didn't go to a beach until I was in middle school and at that point, I feel like I kind of passed my— my sandcastle days.

**Griffin:**

Oh, that's not true. You could make a sandcastle anytime. I'd make one... It's probably gonna be too hot out.

**Rachel:**

Did—did you guys use the like, sanctioned —

**Griffin:**

Oh, yeah.

**Rachel:**

— sand castle molds?

**Griffin:**

From the government? Yeah.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

We would go to, you know, Wings, or one of those places, like the beach supply stores. Got the—got the molds, and would use them. I could free hand it, but... Also, incorporating like, some sort of mixed media. Getting some shells or like uh...

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

Like, um, you know, a foot. Foot that I found on the beach.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Uh, hey, you know what I like?

**Griffin:**

Huh?

**Rachel:**

Beach towels.

**Griffin:**

Beach towels are so good. We need more.

**Rachel:**

Big, big old beach towels.

**Griffin:**

[laughs]

**Rachel:**

Big, soft... For some reason, they're like, they're better than regular towels.

**Griffin:**

[laughs] You started to slip into Amy's landlord again there. Big, soft. Bigger than a regular towel.

**Rachel:**

[singing] Amy, your towels are too big.

**Griffin:**

Um.

**Rachel:**

[singing] They're ruining my washer, and I'm trying to change my—

**Griffin:**

You cannot wash and dry these motherfuckers, we gotta get that...

**Rachel:**

[singing] This old bend... [laughs]

**Griffin:**

[laughs] I shouldn't have conjured him again! I wasn't ready. They are too big to wash and dry, and that's the facts. It's a real— it's a real shame.

**Rachel:**

Ooh, that's another thing: when you air dry something and it smells super good? The sunshine dry.

**Griffin:**

Oh, that's the best. Can we talk about the best beach towel that we own?

**Rachel:**

Okay?



**Griffin:**

It's the one from Bucky's.

**Rachel:**

Ah, the Bucky's one.

**Griffin:**

Which is a Texas...

**Rachel:**

That's another summertime thing.

**Griffin:**

I think Bucky's counts, yeah. Bucky's is a... Is it Texas only?

**Rachel:**

No. I think they have em in Oklahoma, too.

**Griffin:**

Oh, okay. Well, Bucky's is a gas station, but imagine a gas station if it was also Costco, but in— instead of Swedish furniture, it was gas station stuff. So, candies and chips, and snacks, and pre-made foods.

**Rachel:**

And like, they have their own branded products.

**Griffin:**

Yes, including the biggest beach towel ever. It's amazing.

**Rachel:**

Yes.

**Griffin:**

Summer movies.

**Rachel:**

Like, action movies?

**Griffin:**

Yeah I was... I— I wrote this down and it— what sprung to mind... I had a few that sprung to mind. Goofy Movie is like, absolutely. Um...

**Rachel:**

Oh, so you're talking about movies about summer.

**Griffin:**

I mean, movies about summer, movies that are summer blockbusters, movies that have... I think *The Goonies*, for me, has a kind of summertime adventure vibe.

**Rachel:**

Oh yeah, for sure.

**Griffin:**

I think it extends out beyond just like, when it came out. I mean, uh, most Will Smith movies pre and including *I Robot*, but no further, I think definitely— definitely are going to get you there. Um. [sighs] I feel like the summer blockbuster is mostly like, the domain of the Marvel movie or whatever nowadays.

**Rachel:**

Isn't that like the Jurassic Park films? Didn't they come out in the summer?

**Griffin:**

Uh, the new Jurassic World I think just came out or is coming out soon.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm.

**Griffin:**

I...

**Rachel:**

Uh-huh. I'm sorry.

**Griffin:**

This is a show about wonderful things that we're very excited about that aren't things that make us really sad. Um, and... Other summertime movies. What do you go? You got one that you watch every summer? Just gets you in the summertime mood.

**Rachel:**

Oh, a lot of those like, summer camp horror movies.

**Griffin:**

Ooh, yeah.

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm. And then of course, um...

**Griffin:**

Oh, Wet Hot American Summer.

**Rachel:**

Yeah Wet Hot American Summer.

**Griffin:**

Yes. It is a good one. Summer TV, ah, only one thing springs to mind. Except for, and again, it's not TV that comes out in the summer. Summertime TV, for me, there's one name in the biz, and that is of course: the Disney Channel show from the late 90s, Bug Juice.

**Rachel:**

Oh my gosh.

**Griffin:**

Rachel and I watched... We need to— to keep watching Bug Juice.

**Rachel:**

I— so this— this was after my time, I think, because I am not familiar with it. Griffin had to it to show me on the YouTube.

**Griffin:**

Yes, which is I think the only place you can find it. This was a docu-series, real world style, about a summer camp that I can't remember the name of, off the top of my head, and uh— and it starred real kids. Like, fairly young kids, like eight Master Chef Junior-aged tweens uh, going to this summer camp up in like, Maine or something like that, and you got interviews with them before they, you know, traveled to go to the summer camp.

You get to know them, and then you get to see them meet each other, and have all these adventures and experiences. And at the end you got to see them leave and say goodbye, and have these tearful goodbyes. That show, man. It's powerful stuff.

I mean, summer vacation, too, right? We don't really get those anymore and that's a real dang shame.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, although I feel like I'm always aware of the summer, and I still think of the start of the year as the school year.

**Griffin:**

Me too, and I don't think that's ever going to go away.

**Rachel:**

Yeah I think that's always going to be the case.

**Griffin:**

Um, I would always get some... I mean, and this is an obvious ones. When you're in school, summer owns bones. It's basically the best thing ever. If we were doing this show and we were 17 years old, every episode would have a summer segment dedicated to it, and that's wild that that kind of stops being true after a while, but, um, summer vacation though. Trips. Big trips? Um. Didn't you go to like, the— Mount Rushmore or the Grand Canyon?

**Rachel:**

No, no.

**Griffin:**

What did you... Oh, I'm thinking of um, Silver Dollar City.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

[laughs]

**Rachel:**

We uh, yes. And... So, this is something about growing up in the Midwest. You can just like, drive a few hours to a beach. Uh, so we did Chicago, uh, Silver Dollar City as you mentioned, and then our flights tended to be towards historical locations. We went to Colonial Williamsburg one year. Uh, we went to Toronto to go to the Hockey Hall of Fame.

**Griffin:**

Hell yeah.

**Rachel:**

Uh, we did— we actually did do Disney World. We did Universal Studios. We did Vegas one year, got to see Penn and Teller.

**Griffin:**

Nice.

**Rachel:**

Um. I think that's the bulk of them. New York.

**Griffin:**

Oh. Summertime destination.

**Rachel:**

Yeah [laughs], but yeah, the only beach I went to, as I mentioned earlier, was Virginia Beach.

**Griffin:**

That is so wild to me, because we just alternated between Myrtle Beach and like, Clearwater, Florida basically every other year.

**Rachel:**

Did you always drive?

**Griffin:**

Yes.

**Rachel:**

I have to imagine when you have that many kids it gets very expensive to fly.

**Griffin:**

Yeah. But the expense of being in a car with five human beings for 13 hours exceeds sort of monetary consideration.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

And it sort of starts to bleed into, uh... I don't— you know what, that's bullshit. I can't complain. I had Pokémon. I literally had a 13 hour block to play Pokémon and like, 16 AA batteries that I had bought the day before, and I was like, good to go.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] What did your brothers do?

**Griffin:**

Uh, you know, fought.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

I mean, they would listen to a book on tape, or— Travis would have a Xanth book that he would be reading.

**Rachel:**

I don't know what that is.

**Griffin:**

It's fine, I'm not going to explain it.

**Rachel:**

Yeah sure, [laughs]

**Griffin:**

And uh, you know, Justin would just sit out the window, pensive, looking... Sit— sit out the window?

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Yeah, Justin would roll down the window and do stunts, uh, Teen Wolf style.

**Rachel:**

Did you guys have the van with the captain's chairs?

**Griffin:**

Uh, yes.

**Rachel:**

Okay, that's good.

**Griffin:**

Although I got the backseat, uh, which was nice.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, no that makes sense to me.

**Griffin:**

Uh, I— I would also sort of lay a pillow against the window and fall asleep within about 11 seconds, because uh, I don't know how I was capable of doing that.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, you're like the best road trip buddy.

**Griffin:**

I was a real good road trip buddy. My— my parents did not need to worry about me.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

And then Bratwurst, and I think that's all of it!

**Rachel:**

Oh. Now, here's the thing. If you had to stack all the sausages against each other—

**Griffin:**

Oh, don't make me— please don't make me do this. Please.

**Rachel:**

Would you—

**Griffin:**

Please don't make me.

**Rachel:**

For example... I guess I don't know enough about sausages, because I don't know what the difference is between a Bratwurst is and a Kielbasa, for example.

**Griffin:**

Well.

**Rachel:**

Is this like, a square is a rectangle, rectangle...

**Griffin:**

No, I think it's a different— a different meat.

**Rachel:**

Okay.

**Griffin:**

I'm pretty sure.

**Rachel:**

Okay.

**Griffin:**

I don't know. Bratwurst is like the light— the light sausage. It's like, gray, you know?

**Rachel:**

Mm-hmm?

**Griffin:**

And I don't know what makes it gray, but I think it's a different meat and different stuff in there.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

But it's got its own... I had a bratwurst for the first time at a Cincinnati Reds game when I was like, ten years old, and I was like, "Oh, damn. This is bratwurst? I gotta get this everywhere." And I didn't have another good one until the next time I went to a Cincinnati Reds baseball game. That's not true. Weirdly in West Virginia for like, six months, McDonalds sold them.



**Rachel:**

Oh my gosh.

**Griffin:**

And there was only like—

**Rachel:**

I thought you were gonna say there was a bratwurst festival, which I would have believed.

**Griffin:**

Um, no. For those who don't understand that reference, Huntington has more food-based festivals per capita, including chili fest, hot dog fest, rib fest, uh, I'm forgetting a lot of them.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

Um, but yeah the bratwurst was...

**Rachel:**

Yeah, and see, I don't think I really like bratwurst.

**Griffin:**

Okay, well.

**Rachel:**

There's a lot of snap.

**Griffin:**

I'm gonna buy up all the bratwurst. I'm going to buy up all the Bud Lite Orange, and I'm gonna make you watch me eat and drink myself into oblivion.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] You know what I mean about the snap though? When you bite in and it's got that—

**Griffin:**

Yeah, bratwurst's got that.

**Rachel:**

Hoo, I don't like it.

**Griffin:**

Oh, okay.

**Rachel:**

I like a hot dog, where it's just like— it's the same experience.

**Griffin:**

It acquiesces to your teeth instantly?

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

I want to work for mine.

**Rachel:**

See, this is a big difference between you and me. I don't want to work for my food.

**Griffin:**

Yeah.

**Rachel:**

I want it delivered to me immediately.

**Griffin:**

Well, here's the situation. I'll chew it up and baby bird it right down to you.

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Ew.

**Griffin:**

And then maybe you'll start to be enthusiastic about the foods I'm enthusiastic about. This has been a really weird episode.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, it has.

**Griffin:**

Like, I knew it was gonna be weird and structure less, and uh, you know, kind of—kind of scattershot, cause we didn't have time to really prep it, but um, I think it turned out even stranger than the sum of its parts. And that's not bragging like, "Oh, we're so weird!" It's me saying like, "Wow, that one really got out of hand."

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Uh, we of course, appreciate iTunes reviews, but hey, if you don't like this episode... [laughs]

**Griffin:**

We'll be back next week.

**Rachel:**

Do we have any listener submissions?

**Griffin:**

You know, we got a few. It's the... There's a guy here named Doug, and he says, "Bratwurst." That's weird. Uh. Susan says, "Bratwurst. Bud Lite Orange." This is the weirdest thing, babe.

Josh says, "My submission is the documentary *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* It's a great documentary on the life of Mr. Rogers and his TV show, *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*. I'm from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which is where the show was shot and where Fred Rogers is from, and it reminded me of my childhood and growing up with Mr. Rogers. I cried so hard, but I left the theater with a large smile." I think we've talked about this, definitely, and the uh, show before.

**Rachel:**

Yeah, I saw the trailer for it. It's not out here in Austin yet, though. I'm jealous of all these people that have already seen it.

**Griffin:**

All these damn Pittsburgians.

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

These Candace Pittsburgians. This is so dumb.

Hayley says, uh, "A thing that's wonderful is when you're getting gas and you manage to stop pumping on a whole number. It's just a little thing, but it's so satisfying. Once gas was 2.50 a gallon and I managed to stop the pump at exactly four gallons costing exactly ten dollars. It had no real bearing on the rest of my day, but it made me happy and I took a picture before I left."

**Rachel:**

[laughs] Love that.

**Griffin:**

Do you remember that commercial that was like, the perfect pump?

**Rachel:**

No!

**Griffin:**

The guy like, pumps like, 20 dollars' worth of gas. Like everybody in the gas stops like, the perfect pump!

**Rachel:**

[laughs] what?

**Griffin:**

Still can't remember Rachel's phone number off the top of my head. I still have to look at it from like—from my phone contacts page, but I remember the perfect pump.

**Rachel:**

What was that commercial advertising? Just like, gas?

**Griffin:**

No, it wouldn't have been gas. I don't remember, but it wouldn't have been that. The perfect pump! So stupid.

Alex says, "This is extremely specific, but my latest wonderful thing—my latest wonderful thing is cleaning bones. I'm a zoo archeologist, so a lot of the..." Sorry, let me introduce a more pregnant pause in there. "My favorite thing uh, is uh, cleaning bones."

**Rachel:**

[laughs]

**Griffin:**

"I'm a zoo archeologist, so a lot of my day is spend cleaning dirt and sand off of animal bones, and there's something just so satisfying and pleasing about removing a thick amount of soil and uncovering the recognizable bone underneath." This must be like, really agonizing work for the people doing it, but I feel like, for spectators, when you see like, the...

**Rachel:**

Oh, gosh, yes.

**Griffin:**

When you see like the trailer for like, this new History Channel special of like, "We found this Apatosaurus and it's got fucking skin! What's up?" For us, the observers, what you must understand, zoo archeologists, is: the smaller the tool is that I see you using to clean out the dinosaur, the happier it makes me.

**Rachel:**

Yes.

**Griffin:**

If I see somebody with like, a toothpick that they just got from a Shoney's, and I see them digging out an eight mile wide uh like, veloci— or— or T-Rex skeleton from the ground. They call them fossils sometimes. I'm like, "Oh that's gonna take them so long."

**Rachel:**

Okay, you're talking primarily about paleontologists.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, I mean, a dinosaur is an animal.

**Rachel:**

I will say, anytime anyone says to me that they have interest in archeology, I just immediately picture them dusting off bones.

**Griffin:**

Yeah. Uh, which I mean, cleaning out a bowl is fine too, but bones is so hard. Bones is hard work. Do you think there's beef there? Of like, you know, archeologists just like, "Cleaning out bowls is pretty tough." And somebody's like, "Oh, I cleaned out a stegosaurus' butt yesterday. Took me 400 hours, and I used my pinky nail the whole time."

**Rachel:**

[laughs] You got any more?

**Griffin:**

No that's the last one.

**Rachel:**

Oh great. [laughs]

**Griffin:**

So, that's our show. We'll be back to our regular episodes next week. Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. There's lots of great shows on there.

**Rachel:**

There's a new show coming out called Bubble.

**Griffin:**

Bubble is coming out really soon. Me and Justin and Travis did some voices on an episode you can hear.

**Rachel:**

Yeah! If you're looking for a narrative podcast on Max fun with kind of a sci-fi quality...

**Griffin:**

It is Bubble.

**Rachel:**

This'll do you.

**Griffin:**

Yeah, they've been working really hard on it for a long time, and uh, we're all really excited that it's uh, finally going to be available for you to listen to. Um, thank you also to bo en and Augustus for the use of our theme song, Money Won't Pay. You can find a link to that in the episode description.

**Rachel:**

If you want to check out other McElroy related products—

**Griffin:**

Yes.

**Rachel:**

— you can go to [mcelroyshows.com](http://mcelroyshows.com).

**Griffin:**

That is true, please do that. And I think that it.

There's one thing I want to leave you all with, and it's a real sentiment, from the bottom of my heart, and you might think it's BS, but I really mean it: have a great summer!

[theme music plays]

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