

Wonderful! 39: The Lovers Pose

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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:

[sings] Reunited and it feels so good.

Rachel:

That was beautiful.

Griffin:

Yeah, you know, it's... I felt moved to sing it, because I was gone for a little bit last week.

Rachel:

You were.

Griffin:

And then I came home, and we did our usual thing. I come in the front door, I drop my keys. And then we hold hands—

Rachel:

Uh-huh.

Griffin:

... and we sit down on the ground. More of a kneel, sort of a respectful kneel for each other.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh-huh.

Griffin:

And then we mirror each other's actions for a little bit.

Rachel:

Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

And then we just, you know, "Reunited." We put that—

Rachel:

Do we sing, or do we listen to it?

Griffin:

Well, turn that song on the radio.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

We flip around the radio for a while until we find that song.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And then we sing that to each other in the lovers pose. And then when that is concluded—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... we just sort of stand up and I'm like, "Did," um, "I didn't eat lunch." And you're like, "Oh, we already did." And I'm like, "Okay," and so I leave the room, and I go eat some ham.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

And we just sort of get back to life.

Rachel:

Mm.

Griffin:

Because you can't spend your whole day in a lovers pose singing a beautiful song to each other.

Rachel:

Um, I think I could—

Griffin:

Oh.

Rachel:

... spend a whole day in a lovers pose.

Griffin:

I mean it would, it would be ideal, right? But we've got responsibilities to get to.

Rachel:

Yeah, I guess that's, that's what we used to do when we first met.

Griffin:

Yeah, but now we got, you know, um, uh, children, we've got jobs—

Rachel:

What would you say our ratio of non-lovers pose to lovers pose is?

Griffin:

I would say maybe 80/20?

Rachel:

No, that's—

Griffin:

Does that feel right to you?

Rachel:

... no, that seems about right.

Griffin:

Yeah, so a lot of the time in the lovers pose. And it's not a sexual, uh, activity. Um, it's more... it is sexual.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, do you have any small wonders for this week?

Rachel:

You know it's funny you say that.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Uh— [laughing]

Griffin:

I'm curious what you're about to say right now though.

Rachel:

[laughs] This is going to make you really uncomfortable.

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Rachel:

I was going to say "sex."

Griffin:

Rachel.

Rachel:

[laughs] Just found it odd that we've been doing this show for a while now, we've never mentioned sex, it's a small wonder.

Griffin:

Yeah, it's pretty, uh, well... [laughs] It's uh—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... it feels a bit diminutive, doesn't it? Yeah, I guess it's okay. It's uh, you know, pretty good.

Rachel:

Well, I don't wanna do a whole segment on it.

Griffin:

Well I know, but it makes me uncomfortable, because I was gonna say queso—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... for my small wonder, but it feels like we've made them equivalent, which, can I tell you something?

Rachel:

Yeah, I don't know—

Griffin:

I've had some queso, it's pretty fricking'—

Rachel:

I know.

Griffin:

... good. Um, what's the place that we, that's here in Austin, it's kind of just, Torchy's has that queso with, like, you can get the spicy beef in it too.

Rachel:

Mm—

Griffin:

And that—

Rachel:

... the avocado?

Griffin:

... yeah, that might be—

Rachel:

It's a good one.

Griffin:

... it might be right up there.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, Queer Eye season two also, we're only two episodes in so far, but I mean—

Rachel:

Mm, seems good.

Griffin:

... it still seems pretty good, y'all.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, who's turn is it even to start this week, because I don't know. Yeah, the summer preview last week—

Rachel:

Oh yeah—

Griffin:

... I don't think that one counts.

Rachel:

... I think you went first, though, on the summer preview, I don't know.

Griffin:

Did I? I think I did, yes, you're right.

Rachel:

I think you did go first.

Griffin:

I went first on the summer preview, I think it is your turn to go first.

Rachel:

Okay. Uh, so it's, um, been kind of a rough week in the world.

Griffin:

Yes?

Rachel:

Uh, so when I sat down to think of my wonderful things...

Griffin:

I, I would say it hasn't been our week, our month, our day, or even our year.

Rachel:

Yeah, no, that's fair. Uh—

Griffin:

I just wanted to do the Friends clap.

Rachel:

[laughs] I thought that you were gonna edit that out. I was like, "Whoops."

Griffin:

No [laughs], no [laughs], I know I do—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... do that when it's editing time. And it gets, but it probably got very confusing for the editors of the TV show Friends. Not that there was much that hit the cutting room floor, 'cause—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... you know, fuckin' Ross and Phoebe were just turning out gold every time.

Rachel:

Can I ask you, have you watched most of Friends?

Griffin:

Probably. Haven't, haven't every b—person?

Rachel:

Because I feel like even if you don't watch TV, you've somehow seen Friends.

Griffin:

I mean I feel like there's a lot of younger folks today who are like, oh, Friends pops up on Netflix and they're like—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"Yeah, so I'm watching Friends right now." And it's like, "What the fuck are you talking about?"

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

You're watching... I'm just now getting... Binging Friends, and it's like—

Rachel:

It's a, it's a decent show.

Griffin:

Sure, but it's like—

Rachel:

You're acting as if it's a terrible way to spend your time.

Griffin:

... the concept of binging it instead of watching it, you know, every other day over the course of nine years, which is what the rest of America did, just still seems so... Oh my God, we have to mention, we've talked about Friends and we've talked about Queer Eye, I'm sorry to derail your thing, but the thing in episode two of Queer Eye is so essential to talk about—

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... where they're talking to a guy who, who's a, who seems like a lovely chap—

Rachel:

If you haven't watched episode two.

Griffin:

I guess some spoilers, but it's, eh, can you spoil just like a moment of pure—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... human brilliance where, um, one of them asks him who his style icon is, who if he could dress like anybody, "Who, who's a, a famous you think dresses well?" And he responds, "Well, I guess I'd have to say, like, Frasier Crane?"

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And then all five of them dissolve. [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, they turn into bones right there, because it's the, you know, it's, it's, it's hopeless at that point. It was the funniest fucking thing I've ever seen on television show before, sorry.

Rachel:

Yeah, that should be a small wonder too.

Griffin:

Yes, that is definitely a small wonder.

Rachel:

Okay. So, so, uh, all this is saying my topics this week tend to be kind of comfort items—

Griffin:

Sure, Mm-hmm.

Rachel:

... for me, when I was thinking of them. First one, pajamas.

Griffin:

`Jamas, `jamas, `jamas.

Rachel:

How have we not talked about pajamas yet?

Griffin:

I mean we've talked about everything around pajamas. We've talk about sleep—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... we've talked about napping.

Rachel:

Griffin and I have a pajama rule that involves basically, um, after 6:00—

Griffin:

After 6:00, before for—I mean for me, before, uh, 4:30 PM. So really, there's an hour and a half there.

Rachel:

Oh no, I was trying to come up with a rhyme. Like—

Griffin:

Oh [laughs]

Rachel:

"After 6:00, pajamas on these sticks."

Griffin:

Your legs?

Rachel:

My legs.

Griffin:

Sure. [laughs]

Rachel:

Yeah [laughs] Um, love 'em.

Griffin:

Yeah, they're really—

Rachel:

Just love 'em.

Griffin:

... they're pretty good.

Rachel:

And I, and I am not talking about the, like, t—shirt that you got at a concert seven years ago. I'm talking about real pajamas, like sold as pajamas for pajamas purpose.

Griffin:

I mean, I still do have a t-shirt that I got at church camp in, jeez, man, I don't know, 2002—

Rachel:

I know.

Griffin:

... or something like that?

Rachel:

I'm not talking about that shirt.

Griffin:

That was an XL that I still do have in my Jami drawer. Because, uh, it's been worn down to the most comfortable, threadbare sort of—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... tunic.

Rachel:

I'm not talking about that this week though—

Griffin:

You're not talking about that—

Rachel:

... you can bring that—

Griffin:

... you're talking about proper Jami jams.

Rachel:

... next week if you want.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, so pajamas, interesting thing, haven't actually been around that long.

Griffin:

Well, I mean, we had nightgown—

Rachel:

Do you have a century? You wanna, you wanna—

Griffin:

Ah, shit—

Rachel:

... pick a century?

Griffin:

... um, I would say, I mean, 19th century?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah. I mean, you gave me a 100, there haven't been that many—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... centuries.

Rachel:

I would've thought, you know, like as soon as folks started wearing garments.

Griffin:

Sure, I mean, but there were nightgowns for a fuckin' long time, right? Like Ebenezer Scrooge was dressed up in them shits. But that's not jammers though, is it?

Rachel:

Oh, well see I didn't even think about that.

Griffin:

I'm sorry, I just unspooled your whole shit.

Rachel:

I know. Uh, so, pajamas, so, obviously this is not, you know, 100% sure.

Griffin:

Where did you, where did you pull this data from?

Rachel:

Uh, I mean, a couple places—

Griffin:

Was it peer, peer—reviewed?

Rachel:

[laughs] Um, what I found says that pajamas were adopted by British colonists, colonies in, uh, India, in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Uh, pajamas have been introduced to England as lounging attire as early as the 17th century. Um, but you didn't see them become fashion in Britain and the Western world until about 1870.

Griffin:

Well, hold on. They have never been and will never be fashion. I don't, I do not—

Rachel:

Oh—

Griffin:

... oh, shit.

Rachel:

... that is so not true.

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Rachel:

Have you, this is a new trend, is like, women wearing these, like, silky robes as garments.

Griffin:

Interesting.

Rachel:

Like out on the runways—

Griffin:

Oh okay.

Rachel:

... and such. And the red carpets.

Griffin:

All right—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... what about my sweat pants? What my, my big church shirt?

Rachel:

That's, yeah, see, I don't think that's... That's why I'm talking about "pajamas" proper.

Griffin:

Okay, okay.

Rachel:

The term "pajama" has roots in Persia, and stems from the Persian word "paejamah," which refers to a loose leg garment—

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

... usually held up with a drawstring.

Griffin:

Okay. Thank you, Persia.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's a very good word.

Rachel:

So, here's, here's my next part, this is kind of a two—part thing.

Griffin:

Oh, okay. Here comes the turn—

Rachel:

Specifically as—

Griffin:

... the turn before the prestige.

Rachel:

... the reason I thought of this—

Griffin:

Yes?

Rachel:

... is the little footed pajamas—

Griffin:

Uh-huh.

Rachel:

... that Henry wears, they're the cutest thing ever.

Griffin:

Yeah, you put pajamas on a baby, and you're, you're just made in the shade.

Rachel:

Oh God, so cute.

Griffin:

They're really, really, very, very cute. I come— may have come, did you, were you inspired because I mentioned a couple days ago how jealous I was—

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

... that my son got to wear full body pajamas with footies?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Because it looks so dope. It looks like a bed that sorta you walk around in.

Rachel:

And they sell that for adults, but the proportions of an adult are not nearly as cute in a footed pajama as they are on a baby.

Griffin:

And there's a lot of stuff that's true for vis-à-vis—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... babies, babies versus adults.

Rachel:

Uh, so these were actually originally called blanket sleepers.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Uh—

Griffin:

A really, sorry, bad name, really shitty name.

Rachel:

Well, the idea was that a kid was likely to kick the blankets off in their sleep, and this was a way to ensure they were covered all night long.

Griffin:

Sure, but when you frame it like that, now it feels like a sort of comfort prison, in a way. Which I guess, I mean—

Rachel:

Well how?

Griffin:

... babies don't know how zippers work. Just sort of like a really cozy Iron Maiden—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... I'm really not into it anymore.

Rachel:

Uh, the first company to mass produce blanket sleepers was Dr. Denton's Sleeping Mills which started using the term "sleeping garment" for their garments, starting in 1865.

Griffin:

Oh okay.

Rachel:

The blanket sleeper first took something closely resembling its present form in the early 1950s, uh, which included, uh, slip-resistant soles, toe caps, rib knit collars and cuffs, zipper closures, snap tab, et cetera.

Griffin:

A lot of technological advances very quickly.

Rachel:

Here's another interesting thing. And I know that this is probably not a topic that many people thought they would learn about, but here we are.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Uh, so the popularity of blanket sleepers soared in the '70s and '80s due to the energy crisis.

Griffin:

Hm.

Rachel:

So, advertisements from this period emphasize that thermostats could be set low at night when children slept in blanket sleepers.

Griffin:

A bummer of a fact, but an interesting one nonetheless.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm. I— I just, man, I just love 'em.

Griffin:

Yes, we do not wear onesie with footie pajamas, mostly. We wear just sort of, um, I, I like a sleep short, and you know this about me. I like to have my calves exposed—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... um, just sort of thinking—

Rachel:

Griffin conveniently when we travel forgets his sleep shorts so he can buy more sleep shorts.

Griffin:

Yes, there is a, um—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... what is the place close to your parents' house?

Rachel:

Kohl's.

Griffin:

There's a Kohl's—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... right next to Rachel's parents' house, that I've, uh, frequented now I believe three times—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... to go buy sleep shorts, because I cannot be, you know, somewhere with my, my calves covered up. They get so lonely and scared—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... of the dark.

Rachel:

Uh, yeah. Pajamas are always a great gift. I feel like it's maybe a little insulting to always get somebody pajamas for a, like a birthday or a holiday [laughs]—

Griffin:

Sure, and we definitely have people in our lives—

Rachel:

... but—

Griffin:

... who we've done that to.

Rachel:

... it is a gift that I always appreciate.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

I, I love a good pajama.

Griffin:

I love a good pajama more than I love like a good suit. But that might just be because I've never had a good suit.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And I've had lots of great pajamas.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Do you want to know my first thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

Tic Tacs.

Rachel:

All right.

Griffin:

Yeah, so, yeah—

Rachel:

Are you gonna get specific on a flavor here? Because I know you have a preference.

Griffin:

Uh, I mean fruit, uh, the fruit is sort of any other fruit, I like the orange, but I also like—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... the Fruit Adventure, which is sort of a mix of 'em. And then you know, I'll go silly with like the Apple Blend or a Grape from time to time. Um, part of... I eat Tic Tacs every day, straight up. You might not know this about me, I have them in my car literally all times, and I eat them constantly.

Um, part of me wishes that more food was as profoundly utilitarian as a Tic Tac is—

Rachel:

Does it really improve your breath?

Griffin:

Oh no. No, no, no.

Rachel:

So what—

Griffin:

The mint ones probably, the fruit ones, it's, it's wild to call them a mint. Because nobody walks out to me afterwards and is like, "Mm—

Rachel:

... so what is especially—

Griffin:

... your mouth has a great citrus sort of—

Rachel:

... [laughs]—

Griffin:

... aroma."

Rachel:

... what is especially utilitarian about the Tic Tac?

Griffin:

Because if I want my mouth to taste like orange candy for like 11 seconds—

Rachel:
[laughs]—

Griffin:
... there is a [laughs] lit— and I want to keep that experience in a special, small, resealable container, I just take one out, put one of these little guys in my mouth, and that orange flavor payload is delivered.

Rachel:
... [laughs]

Griffin:
No other food I can think of is like this. I see a steak and I'm like, "I'm gonna eat this for dinner, turn it into, uh, energy for the big run I have tomorrow. And I'm gonna get the steak flavor, and I'll have to chew it up for a while—

Rachel:
[laughs]

Griffin:
... and then I'll have some other food too." If I'm ever just like in my car, I'm like, "My mouth doesn't taste very much like orange candy right now," pop, 11 seconds, ride the wave, done.

Rachel:
Do you remember when you first started on your Tic Tac adventure?

Griffin:
It's recent. It w— it's been while I've lived here. Um, there, uh, I, I don't know, I just get so bored in the car, I guess.

Rachel:
So you have bathroom candy, you have car candy.

Griffin:
There are very few places in this house—

Rachel:
[laughs]

Griffin:

... I've got sort of dead drops all over Austin. Um, there are no frills to a Tic Tac. There are no bonus features that you have to work through. They are little flavor delivery machines, and I just, I just like having the option available to me, I guess. Um, a little bit of history, they were first made by an Italian candy company called Ferrero in 1969. I don't know if this is the same as Ferrero—

Rachel:

Oh—

Griffin:

... Rocher or not—

Rachel:

... I don't know.

Griffin:

... I didn't Google that. Uh, they first came out in 1969, big year for us, you know?

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Went to the moon, I think, Woodstock, probably. Um, they came out in 1969 from Ferrero, they were originally called, Refreshing mints. Hey, great freakin' job, Ferrero. That's wild. It's like Nabisco is like, "Here's our new cookie, two cookies and cream in the middle," like what?

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

In one year later in 1970 they changed the name to Tic Tacs, do you know why they're called that?

Rachel:

No.

Griffin:

It's onomatopoeic. It is the, God that word is so fuckin'... It's a sumptuous every time.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's, it's the sound that the mints make in the box whenever you shake the box. "Tic Tac. Tica-tica tat, tica-tica tat."

Rachel:

Why, what, why couldn't they be Tac Tac, or Tic Tic?

Griffin:

Or Shake Shake. I mean—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... you could call 'em really anything. Shake Shake is actually pretty good. Um, so there have been a lot of flavors throughout, uh, history. Uh, there's the original Orange and Fresh Mint flavors, those were the first two out the gate. Uh, then they had, uh, Cinnamon or Winter Warmer is what they called them—

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... which is my favorite Marvel movie.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, there was an Orange and Lime mix. Uh, Aniseed? Which is like a, like a herbal spice which is, okay, don't remember that one. Uh, they, they've also appeared in over, like, 100 countries, so a lot of these probably did not come to the States in any form. Uh, Spearmint, Peppermint, Power Mint, oh, they made up a new, just a new sort of plant, I guess, for this one.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, Sour Apple, Mandarin, Tangerine, Berry Fresh, Orange, Fresh Orange, huh. Uh, Strawberry, Wintergreen, Pink Grapefruit, Orange and Lime together again, I guess. Cherry, Passion fruit, Pomegranate, Mango Lime, and in 2014, Popcorn. Go to jail, Ferrero.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Um—

Rachel:

Can I ask you a question?

Griffin:

Please.

Rachel:

In your head, what is the difference between keeping a small container of Tic Tacs in the car—

Griffin:

Sure.

Rachel:

... and keeping a box of Nerds?

Griffin:

Uh, uh, Nerds, the box isn't the same, it doesn't reseal up. And so I'd be hesitant to sort of eat those again.

Rachel:

Wow, okay, okay.

Griffin:

The little plastic mechan— uh, also a Nerd just doesn't... And, oh God, I'm thinking about eating a Nerd. And with a Nerd, like, it stays hard pretty

much the whole time, and you've got to, like, grind them down on your teeth, and it's just like a lot of work. A Tic Tac—

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

... you just sorta keep in there, you get your 11 seconds of orange flavor, and by that point the candy has become fairly soft. You've gotten to the sort of soft taffy core of it, and you just sort of chew it down and then you're done.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Don't like a Nerd. I used to get Nerds Blizzards from, uh, Dairy Queen.

Rachel:

Whoo.

Griffin:

And that is just sorta like eating a lot of cold grit, uh, after a while. You're enjoying your ice cream and you're like, "Uh oh, I got a lot of nugs." And then you spend about—

Rachel:

One—

Griffin:

... 10 minutes on those nugs.

Rachel:

... one week we should do just a whole episode on sugar. Because I feel like your history with sugar is—

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

... is rich.

Griffin:

It's weird how I have, like, 15 cavities, but anyway—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, there was a grape flavor, it's back, and better than ever. And I say—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... "better than ever" because it was destroyed in 1976, uh, because it used the red dye Amaranth, which—

Rachel:

Yeah, that's a big thing—

Griffin:

... was a carcinogen.

Rachel:

... yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so, uh, some other fun facts, they earned Kosher certification for certain flavors of Tic Tacs just last year. Uh, so you can find those with, like, the special label on them. This is not, I don't believe, a reflection in any way of Tic Tacs being healthful. They're like, "One-and-a-half calories a mint" is like their big catchphrase.

Um, but no, that one-and-a-half calories is nothin' but sugar and maltodextrin, and, uh, artificial flavors and, um, what's the gl—car—carnuba wax?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

That's what they use to make all candy shiny, not great for you. But, the—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... flavor gets in there, it gets you the, to flavor town, and then, you know, you're on your way back home.

Rachel:

Do you think this is why our son now wants to eat in the car all the time? Because he—

Griffin:

"He's, he learned it from watching you, Dad," yeah, for sure.

Rachel:

... [laughs]

Griffin:

Let me do a fun game on you.

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

Imagine a box of Tic Tacs, and not the big, big boys that I get, I'm talking about the original—

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

... rectangular box.

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

How many mints are inside?

Rachel:

Oh—

Griffin:

Each regular box—

Rachel:

... gosh, I've always—

Griffin:

... of Tic Tacs.

Rachel:

... been bad at these little contests.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Um, I'm going to say... 40?

Griffin:

38.

Rachel:

Wow.

Griffin:

Rachel.

Rachel:

I would have won the whole jar.

Griffin:

Well, you went over, but you woulda come really close—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... to winning the whole jar. That's incredible! I thought for sure you were gonna, like, go way high. Like way high.

Rachel:

I thought about it. I was toying with 60.

Griffin:

I mean, I was expecting, like, 114? Like—

Rachel:

Oh, come on.

Griffin:

... I don't know. I mean—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, the big box I get has over 100 in it, because, you know, a 38 I would destroy in one drive home. I do sometimes—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... eat them like five or six at a time. Um, I just, I like, I like the idea of mints, and I like the idea of gum. But I really don't like gum that much these days. I really, really don't.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I used to be really into gum—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and chewing it all the time. But I almost never do these days, because it just, the flavor just disappears, and then you're just working, and you're just chewing, chewing your cud—

Rachel:

Can I tell you the first mint memory I have of Griffin?

Griffin:

Please.

Rachel:

And when I say "Griffin," I mean you. [laughs]—

Griffin:

Oh, good.

Rachel:

... I was speaking to our listeners. Uh, the first time we played Scrabble, before we were dating.

Griffin:

Oh, did I have a presumptuous kiss mint in?

Rachel:

That's what it felt like.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

So here's, here's how it went down. So we were sitting, uh, Griffin was sitting in a chair, I was sitting on the couch, we were sitting in a coffee table. Uh, we were playing Scrabble. Griffin puts a mint in his mouth, and then comes and sits next to me on the couch.

Griffin:

Oh, nice, dude.

Rachel:

And I just instantly started sweating. [laughs]

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

Because I was just, like, "Oh God."

Griffin:

And you said I didn't make any moves, you said you made all the moves.

Rachel:

No, we talked—

Griffin:

But that was a—

Rachel:

... about this later, and you act like that wasn't like a, like a conscious play. That was just a, like, "I wanted to get a better look at the Scrabble board."

Griffin:

No, it was definitely a play. I don't think it was a kiss mint as much as it was, like, I'm pretty self-conscious about my breath most of the time.

Rachel:

Oh, you're moving closer to me.

Griffin:

Yeah, I didn't want you to get—

Rachel:

Okay.

Griffin:

... any of my stink on you.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

But, like, most mints are just way too powerful for me. Like an Altoid, oh my God—

Rachel:

Oh, were you never an Altoid fan?

Griffin:

... I have never liked Altoids—

Rachel:

Mm.

Griffin:

... at all. Unless I have like a sinus infection, and then I take them to kind of clear up my stuff. But then, like, I'm talking about mints in the medicinal sense, it is not a pleasurable experience.

Rachel:

What about the cinnamon Altoid?

Griffin:

No way, are you fricking kidding?

Rachel:

Oh man, okay. All right.

Griffin:

Um, but a Tic Tac, it's just like, that's my ideal, it's the, the aesthetic ideal of what a mint should be.

Rachel:

Are there generic—

Griffin:

I just want the flavor in my mouth.

Rachel:

... are there generic Tic Tacs, and what would they be called, I wonder?

Griffin:

Um, those are Shake Shakes.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, and I've been working on them for a long time, um, my own recipe. Um, I found this YouTube series, I have been wasting so much time on YouTube, like since I quit Polygon—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... I have no idea why I go down these, like, rabbit holes. Um, but I found this series where, uh, this kind of test kitchen tries to recreate different candies. I watched one—

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

... where they tried to recreate Skittles, it was very, very interesting. And well boy, I wish I could quote you on what the name of that was, so this information could be even remotely relevant to our audience. But—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, instead, can I steal you away?

Rachel:

Yes. [vocalizes]

Griffin:

It's like the Weird Al remix of the—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... Home Improvement song.

Rachel:

If Weird Al just phoned it in. [laughs]

[ad break]

Rachel:

Can I share a jumbotron with you?

Griffin:

I wish you would.

Rachel:

Oh. And by the way, the jumbotron raffle has closed and all winners have been and contacted.

Griffin:

Oh, congratulations.

Rachel:

So if you have an email, you are a winner.

Griffin:

And if you don't, you didn't win. [laughing] I'm so sorry. Uh, we did our best.

Rachel:

Uh, so this message is for Nick. It is from Sharon. "Happy 4th anniversary. Thanks for being the practical mathematician to my emotional English grad student. I love you for always being down to smash Taco Bell and warning me when there are frogs on the porch. I wanted to give public recognition to the man who told me he would move anywhere I wanted as long as there was Wi-Fi. Love you pickle."

Griffin:

I thought for sure that sentence was just gonna stop at the... man. Who's always down to smash. [laughing] I was like, whoa. Do you know when people started sort of using that lingo, I thought for sure they were talking about, um, playing Super Smash Brothers.

Rachel:

See, all I think of is Smash Williams on Friday Lights.

Griffin:

Yeah. I'm always down to watch Smash Williams on seasons one—

Rachel:

That is actually true, Friday.

Griffin:

... into on Friday Night Lights.

Rachel:

Yes. Uh, this message is for Matthew. It is from Brianna. "Happy birthday. You've been my best friend for eight years and I couldn't think of anything to get you that would make you happier than to hear one of the brothers wives..." That doesn't say that. It says one of the brothers, "wish you a happy birthday. It would have also been a really cool surprise if you hadn't seen the calendar reminder, reminding me to [laughing] buy this for you. Hope this finds you well and in January."

Griffin:

Hey, happy birthday. Oh man, we messed that up about as bad—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... as you possibly could. So I don't—

Rachel:

Do you wanna also say happy birthday again?

Griffin:

Yeah, I'll do a happy birthday for 2017 and happy birthday for 2018.

Rachel:

That is what—

Griffin:

This way, we've kind of split the upright instead of being nearly, uh, half a year later.

Rachel:

Well, in January. So 2019.

Griffin:

Hey, yeah, we'll give you a go ahead and happy birthday for 2019. That's three years. So really you've just tripled your Jumbotron investment. Congratulations.

[Maximum Fun ad]

Griffin:

What's that number two? Who does number two work for? The second...
Your second topic.

Rachel:

Listener, picture the look I'm giving.

Griffin:

Oh, it's wilting.

Rachel:

You're probably exactly right.

Griffin:

It's quite, quite difficult for me to process.

Rachel:

[laughs] Uh, so for my second thing, I actually learned a little jargon I was not familiar with.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Uh, off price retail stores.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

What do you think that means?

Griffin:

Marshalls?

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

[laughs] It's like Marshalls, Tj Maxx, Ross.

Griffin:

What is... Okay. But I, I kind of knew what that was, but I don't know anything about these stores or why they are special enough that you've highlighted them.

Rachel:

Well, [laughs] you've come to the right place.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Uh, so off price retailers or retailers who, uh, provide high quality goods at cheap prices, uh, they usually sell secondhand goods off season items, et cetera. Retailers often offer inconsistent assortment of brand name and fashion oriented goods at low prices. They buy manufacturer or regular seconds, closeouts, canceled orders, overruns goods returned by other retailers and end of season closeout merchandise.

Griffin:

Okay.

Rachel:

Their model is essentially as follows. When the designer labels produce more clothes than normal, shops will sell at full price. Stores like Tj Maxx and Ross will buy them at a deep discount and then resell them.

Griffin:

Interesting.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

I did not know this was the Marshall's business model. I knew that you could go there and get like an affordable shoe or something—

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... but I didn't know it's because the shoe place fucked up. Made too many shoes.

Rachel:

Yeah. So the sales of a lot of like department store are like, you know, name brands are down like, significantly. Um, in 2014, Tj Maxx sales overtook those of Macy's.

Griffin:

Whoa.

Rachel:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Then wait a minute. How could they have overtaken them if it's... Their inventory exists because Macy's... I guess that answers the question.

Rachel:

Right? Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

People aren't buying it at Macy's and it sits there and then it makes its way to Tj Maxx and people buy it for cheaper.

Griffin:

Interesting.

Rachel:

Uh, so this is from CNBC. Since 2011 department stores have lost roughly 25 billion in sales and are on pace to lose another 22 billion over the next five years. Uh, off price retailers though have gained 14 billion since 2011.

Griffin:

I, it's, we've never had a business section on this show—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... and it's... I'm very deeply excited about it.

Rachel:

Uh, so Tj Maxx and Marshalls have been a big part of my life since I was well, really ever able to go shopping.

Griffin:

Really?

Rachel:

Yes. Um, my family believes strongly in the discounted or clearance item.

Griffin:

Sure.

Rachel:

Uh, and add to that, kind of the, the thrill of, of finding something.

Griffin:

Oh, getting a deal is always a choice.

Rachel:

Well, and specifically the way those stores are set up, like you're not gonna have something in every size.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

You may not have more than one of something. Uh, you never really know what you're gonna find. And so there's, there's some thrill in that.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

for sure. Um, but yeah, getting something on sale and then kind of discovering it. 'Cause I don't care about seasons, you know.

Griffin:

I've never understood that. I mean—

Rachel:

If something is from Spring 2017, I will wear it in Spring, 2018.

Griffin:

And no, like no judgment on those for whom like fashion is a hobby—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... and so this idea of seasons is like an interest of theirs, but like aside from you don't wear a sweater in the summer because it's too hot and you'll die. Like that's about as far as my understanding of seasonal clothes goes.

Rachel:

Yeah. So a lot of, a lot of what I found on this is from the economist. Um, but it talks about how this is, uh, this is a model that appeals to the shopper who loves to rummage hoping to stumble across the perfect item at an irresistible price.

Griffin:

I'll tell you what I like about Marshalls too, is you can get like a nice pair of slacks and a new belt. And then at the front, like weird bulk candy.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah.

Griffin:

And then at the back of the store, there's some candle sticks and it's like, "Okay, I came here for the belt, but I got the pants, I got the bulk candy and I bought like nine candle sticks and some new linens." So this is a weird store.

Rachel:

Yeah. [laughs] Yeah. I think it's kind of, you know, it's kind of like a Target.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Rachel:

But what you're getting is like a Calvin Klein shirt and it'll say on the tack, like suggested retail, you know, \$49.99.

Griffin:

But because the tag says Bevin Blind, they fucked that one up.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

It's yours for \$4.

Rachel:

And then they're selling. Yeah.

Griffin:

Have I ever told you about the Grandview Weekend Outlet? This was a shop—

Rachel:

Is this where you got all your furniture from?

Griffin:

Yeah. This is a shop, I believe in Cerrito Canova, which was outside of Huntington, um, that sold almost exclusively open box stuff from your Targets and your Wal-Marts, uh, discounted to, uh, such like preposterous degree, like really very much discount on a lot of things. Like a nice lamp for like 75 cents. Very, very deeply discounted.

And so we used this to buy all of our furniture for the rec room that we... I talked about like a few episodes ago. Um, but the store was essentially a big warehouse and every weekend that you went... It was only open on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Every weekend that you went, it was a completely different store because all of the inventory was sold by the end of the weekend.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it was run as such. It was like it, if you told me today on Wednesday that I had to open up a retail store by Saturday, that's how it felt every fucking time.

Rachel:

[laughs] Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin:

Um—

Rachel:

Um, and that's something when I was researching these stores is done kind of deliberately.

Griffin:

Sure.

Rachel:

Uh, and also I think the example they gave was like a Ross dress for less. It said their inventory changes like three to six times a week just because they're getting shipments regularly.

Griffin:

Must be rough to work in one of these stores, is what I'll say.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

To manage all of that must be difficult.

Rachel:

Well, and they keep their staff really low too. What I was reading said that, you know, since customers come in with the expectation that everything is out on the floor, there's nothing in the back. Uh, and also, you know, what you find is what you find. So they don't need as many staff on the floor because people don't really need assistance, you know, hunting anything down. Like they know what they're in for when they walk in. [laughs]

Griffin:

I hope they are treated well. I don't know if that was part of your research or not.

Rachel:

I think that would be—unfortunately I don't know that.

Griffin:

Um, so that was perhaps an oversight of ours,[laughing] but I do enjoy, I do enjoy a... What's it called? Low, low, low price?

Rachel:

Off price.

Griffin:

Shop town.

Rachel:

Off price retailer. Yeah. Super rewarding and fun.

Griffin:

How about my second thing?

Rachel:

Yes.

Griffin:

My second thing is campus radio or college radio.

Rachel:

Oh, what a good one.

Griffin:

I know. I was very excited when I thought of this.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, so a little bit of backstory. I grew up in Huntington, West Virginia. I went to college there. So I spent my first 22 years of my life there. And, um, there weren't a ton of radio station options for me the entire time I was there. Uh, there was country radio TCR, which is where my dad worked. There was a top 40 station, WKEE. There was 101.5, The River, which was like the classic rock station. That one was all right. I got into that one a little

bit when I was like in, in college and got a little bit older. Uh, but there was like a, you know, a butt rock station. There was a Christian contemporary music station.

Rachel:

What do you mean when you say butt rock?

Griffin:

You know, like Nickelback would probably fit in there as, as sort of passe as it is to drag Nickelback in 2018. But we had like an NPR affiliate, which, um, [laughing] you know, when I was in, when I was in fucking high school, like it... When I was in high school, it was not my jam. Uh, there were some talk show stations, and so on. None of them really had like the kind of music that I thought was cool when I was, when I was younger. And I am happy to say that despite the fact that my dad worked at one of these radio stations for like 30 years. Um, and I imagine that my story is not too like uncommon for a lot of folks growing up in certain parts of the country, uh, where you don't have that many, you know, radio stations to choose from.

And a lot of them are sort of big, big box radio station conglomerates who are playing, you know, just the same sort of top 40 hits. Um, I imagine also that the relief I found is the same as those folks throughout the country who ran into the same problem, which was my local college radio station. For me, it was 88.1, WMUL, the Marshall University, uh, Radio Station. Uh, and I was spoiled because MUL an extremely good like nationally recognized campus radio station. It had programming pretty much all day with, with, you know, sports coverage, local sports coverage, news, uh, talk shows about college affairs and won 100s of national and regional awards from the National Broadcasting Society and associated press. Uh, it was, it was, it was very, very legit. Um—

Rachel:

Did you listen to it before you were in college?

Griffin:

So, yes. And then the, the reason I did that was not all that other bullshit I just said. It was because of... It was the fact that it was the only place I could listen to the kind of music that I actually enjoyed. And I don't mean... I'm, I'm not trying to make myself sound like a hipster or anything like that, but like, um, there was no other place to listen to like Ben Folds Five and They Might Be Giants and Soul Coughing and Built to Spill. Um, and, and, you know, these bands that I, I liked when I was younger, just because, you

know, it was radio and radio has a very structured way and a very sort of set way of playing their music.

And we didn't have, you know, a, a, an Indie Rock station. And so I found that on, on WMUL. But then when I got older, it continued to be like this place of discovery, where I found like Broken Social Scene and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah and The Shins. Um, I remember growing up listening to a lot of Dr. Demento, which was this radio show that played a— just a lot of very strange stuff. It's where like weird AI had his big break. It was, it was the Spotify discover of playlists before Spotify discover playlist. [laughing]

And there's our one mention of Spotify—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... so the checks will continue to come in. Um, the, the other thing that made MUL cool is that it, it didn't just play one type of music. And this is true of pretty much all college radio stations.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And it— It's what makes it stand apart from other—

Rachel:

Exactly.

Griffin:

... you know, themed like the, we play country music here, we play contemporary Christian music here and on, on MUL, it was everything, uh, depending on what the, you know, volunteer DJ working at any given time was into and wanted to play. A guaranteed that every time you tune in, you would get to hear something different. Um, our friend Batkins hosted a very late night show that was mostly based around herbal part in the Tijuana Brass.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Um, there was a, a guy who came on, uh, also pretty late at night who just played like video games, soundtrack music. And there was another show like that here on the college station—

Rachel:

Yeah. Austin.

Griffin:

...Austin, that I remember listening to a few times whenever I, I, I first moved here. Um, and it... There was a bluegrass show. There was a classic hip hop show. It was just all over the map. Um, and again, that variety is because WMUL like most college stations is, uh, almost entirely staffed by students, which I think is a really invaluable service that, that college radio can provide. This v— like big, actual, real world experience and responsibility.

Um, the, the folks I knew who really embedded are themselves in our radio station at our journalism school during my time, uh, at, at college. I think anecdotally, they all found work, uh, more easily than the folks who were more in the print and the TV news side of things.

Rachel:

Huh.

Griffin:

Because they actually had this radio like a real ass radio station—

Rachel:

Yeah. That's a good point.

Griffin:

... that a lot of people were listening to and had this responsibility kind of drilled into them. I had a college radio show—

Rachel:

There it is.

Griffin:

... and I was... I was also a producer for a lot... Like three years, I did, uh, news broadcast, I think like two days a week.

Rachel:

Huh.

Griffin:

I was on the, on the board—

Rachel:

I thought I knew that.

Griffin:

... and I produced packages and stuff. And, you know, I won a few awards. I think I have some up on the, up on the bookshelf there. I don't mean to brag, but... Uh, and it was really drilled into you like, "Hey, this is a real ass radio station."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"If you cuss, you are going to pay the fines."

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, and, and all of this very, very scary stuff, which is to say, like, there's nothing separating our radio station from the other sort of, uh, owned by huge corporation radio stations. And so like, let that weigh heavy on your heart every time that you are in charge of the radio station for, for any given period.

Rachel:

See, I used to... So my college radio station in Columbia, Missouri, uh, I thought was also really good. Um, although one morning, 'cause I set my alarm clock to the college radio station, which was kind of risky because one morning nobody was on the air.

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Rachel:

I slept right through my alarm. [laughs]

Griffin:

That was not fly at Marshall.

Rachel:

I know.

Griffin:

Um, so I hosted a show with my friend, Patrick and Justin, uh, our, our friend here in Austin. Justin sort of became an unofficial co—host—

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

... uh, by the, by the third year that we did it. I called it The Mix Tape Fantastic. It was—

Rachel:

I wish you could still listen. Is there any way to still listen?

Griffin:

There is not, I was looking at my car to see if I could find any of the old CDs, because what we would do is burn a mix CD and bring it in—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... which we were not supposed to do. You were just supposed to play music that was cleared by the radio station, but it was from 1:00 to 3:00 AM every Thursday.

Rachel:

Oh, my God.

Griffin:

So nobody really gave a shit.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, and they've all broken at certain... I mean, I've had them for so many years.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And, you know, jammed them in my glove compartment enough times that none have survived.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

So unfortunately. Um, the show he did was, it was fucking wild. We, like I said, we had different mix tapes and he and Patrick had pretty different flavors. Uh, there was a lot—

Rachel:

Even then?

Griffin:

Uh, even, even then. Not, not like wildly different—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... but like I would bring Corn Mo or something like that.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And he would bring like, you know, Lucero or some more sort of traditional rock, rock jams—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... or something like that.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, did a lot of sort of sitting in the car, uh, up to that... Build up to 1:00 AM listening to the CD, like, "Oh no. They say, a lot in this song. So let's go ahead. Remember to skip track six." Um, we did, um, skits. This is the stuff that I miss. Uh, I remember we did a review of the Bee Movie done by an actual bee.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

We went to see the Bee Movie. Uh, we did an interview.

Rachel:

You were... Wait, wait, wait, can I speak to the Bee?

Griffin:

Uh, Patrick was the bee, I was the interviewer.

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

That's a lie, probably. I just don't remember anything about the bee, except that we did in a review of the Bee Movie done by bees. Uh, it was so dumb.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

We did an interview with one of us pretending to be John Stamos, which I think was a crime. You can't do that.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Like the FCC wouldn't allow that.

Rachel:

That sounds like morning radio DJ—

Griffin:

Uh, sure.

Rachel:

... territory though.

Griffin:

Me and my friend, Terry, uh, did a joint interview of John Flansburgh from They Might Be Giants, which we got to play clips from on our, uh, respective shows. That was like one of the coolest things I ever did—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... while I was in college. Um, one time we just played Rock Band into the mic for two hours, 'cause Rock Band had just come out and we really wanted to play it with our friends. So we had them come to the radio station and just put the microphone up to the TV and played Rock Band for two hours. And I performed Sabotaged by the Beastie Boys. And I definitely said, "I got this fucking thought in my side". And then I realized what I'd done and like stop the song and the radio probably went silent for a minute or so.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And I just kind of waited for the, like the teacher who was in charge of—

Rachel:

Siren to go on.

Griffin:

Yeah. Uh, didn't... got away Scott free on that one. So thank you to the nine people who were—

Rachel:

I'm sorry I couldn't listen.

Griffin:

... awake and listening

Rachel:

You did not. This has been all—

Griffin:

Oh my God, Rachel's wearing a wire.

Rachel:

I'm here to arrest you.

Griffin:

Um, so like nobody listened, right? Nobody listened.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I think we got five calls over the three years that we did this show, but it felt really empowering—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... to be in charge of this thing that anybody in the city could, could be listening to, even though they almost certainly won't, uh, that was, you know, transmitted in the same way as these other radio stations that are, you know, were big, big deals. And there's an enormous amount of trust sort of placed on you when you're doing that. And so that experience was very, very important to me, as silly as the show we were doing was. Uh, and I imagine it's the same for everybody who ever got to do anything like this.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And so I think that's just like... I think college radio is cool from an artistic standpoint for people who don't do it, who just like listen to it because it's a really cool way to get a lot of diverse voices out there and has been like a, a source of discovery for so many great bands throughout, you know, the decades. But for the people who are actually involved in it, I also think it's just like a really, really valuable, very, very cool, unique experience.

Rachel:

For sure. Yeah. No, I, I have always thought it's super cool. Any, any city you live in, it's definitely worth checking out.

Griffin:

So sadly though, these days, uh, college radio stations are actually dwindling a bit. Um, when they were first sort of established, they were given permission to run these like really low... I think it was like 10 watt, uh, you know, antennas to put out this very, very low frequency signal—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... that wouldn't go very far. Um, and... But, but they got to be on FM, which was, you know, uh, kind of a big deal. Uh, and then in the 70s, FM radio became super popular and it was really competitive to try to get a channel. Um, and so, uh, a lot of campus stations were either forced to pay to upgrade to a, you know, higher power signal so that they could be more like another, any other radio station or shut down, uh, because they weren't really supposed to be doing the, the really, really low signal towers anymore.

So, uh, a lot of them did shut down. Unfortunately, Marshall was luckily one of those who, who gathered up the money to, to upgrade their antenna and, you know, play with the big dogs. Um, but also the FCC stopped distributing new licenses. I think they're called class D licenses for, for college radio stations to even—

Rachel:

Oh, interesting.

Griffin:

... get started. So the ones that exist now are, with probably a few exceptions, mostly grandfathered in.

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, which is a bummer, but there are some stations that have like started up or seen a resurgence just through streaming, uh, internet meaning which is—

Rachel:

Yeah. I was gonna say if the signal for your college radio station isn't great, they probably have a website where you can listen.

Griffin:

Yeah. Most of, most of them do, but there's a lot who just distribute exclusively through those because those antenna are very, very expensive and you know, difficult to upkeep. And then, you know, there's a lot of stuff that goes along with that. But yeah, college radio rules and I'm, I'm, uh, I'm, I'm glad that we live in a place that also has a very, very good—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... sort college radio station. Uh, so that's gonna do it for our topics. Do you wanna talk about what our friends at home have to say?

Rachel:

Yes, please.

Griffin:

McKinsey says, something I find very wonderful is the feeling of a cool breeze on your head, right after a fresh haircut. To me, that's 1,000 times better than just looking good.

Rachel:

Oh.

Griffin:

Oh, I'm getting me one of these tomorrow.

Rachel:

Oh, good.

Griffin:

One of these haircuts.

Rachel:

Good.

Griffin:

We maybe, um... 'cause this is summertime months, I get the heat on my head. My hair traps it like a little nest. Don't like it, gonna get shorn.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Samantha says, I love the smell of hot cement being cooled by rain in the summer. It reminds me of getting to play with the hose on the driveway as a kid and the promise of slightly cooler weather for a little while after the rain stops. It never fails to relax me.

Rachel:

Can I tell you this happened while you were gone over the weekend and there was steam coming up off the pavement. It was so hot out there.[laughs]

Griffin:

Texas, you are freaking outta control, dude.

Rachel:

I know it's only June.

Griffin:

Uh, Jen says, my small wonder is McDonald's Monopoly. What an adrenaline rush.

Rachel:

[laughs] I love that.

Griffin:

Am I going to win a free medium fryer? Get the final piece to score a new car? Who knows? Probably neither of those best case scenarios—

Rachel:

Did you guys ever get into this.

Griffin:

Holy shit, yes.

Rachel:

I was gonna say this seems like a McLeroy thing for sure.

Griffin:

I mean, what you have to understand is, we went to church, uh, every Wednesday night for like youth group—

Rachel:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... stuff. Uh, and the reward for going to church for the third time at any given week was to get fast food on the way.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

And so when McDonald's was doing Monopoly, we got to pick where we go. It's like, "Well, we're gonna go to the place where I could ostensibly win a Nintendo 64."

Rachel:

Oh my gosh.

Griffin:

Never—

Rachel:

Did you guys ever get anything?

Griffin:

Oh no.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Which is why I harvest such ill will towards monopoly. 'Cause if anybody should have won and did not, it was us.

Rachel:

I was really—

Griffin:

We collected so many of these things.

Rachel:

I was really confused. Our Randall's Grocery Store was doing Monopoly for a while and I didn't really know how that played into the—

Griffin:

Yeah. I don't know.

Rachel:

I dunno either.

Griffin:

I mean, once you realize that each like section has one piece, that's like impossible to get, right? Like you get a million dollars if you get Park Place and Broadway, is that the other one? I forget. But you find Broadway easy like your first box of Nuggs. You're like, "Oh shit, I'm halfway to winning a million dollars." And it's like, "Nope. Park Place is like a one in 400 trillion chance that you'll ever actually find it."

Rachel:

How do you store all these Monopoly pieces?

Griffin:

Oh, in the silverware drawer.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Duh. This has been the episode. Thank you so much for listening. Thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. They have so many good

shows that you're just gonna love. Uh, they got, um, Stop Podcasting Yourself. They got, uh—

Rachel:

Bubble.

Griffin:

Bubble. You gotta go listen to Bubble. It's a, it's a great show. Me and Justin and Travis did a, a guest spot on it. I don't know if that episode is, is out yet, but um, yeah. A ton of great shows on Maximum Fun. Thank you 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. What else?

Rachel:

Uh, thanks to those of you that do sweet reviews in iTunes.

Griffin:

Yeah. Thank you for the sweet views. It means a lot. And what else?

Rachel:

Uh, oh, if you are looking to join our Facebook group, uh, and having trouble finding it, it's actually still under Rose Buddy's cast if you're looking, I don't know how to change it.

Griffin:

Yeah. I'm gonna have to get Zuck on that one.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I'm gonna call up the Zuck right now. Hold on. [vocalizes] He's gotta a British phone. So it makes that noise.

Rachel:

Uh-huh.

Griffin:

"Hello, it's Zuck." Hey dude. Uh, this is Zuck, right? You sound a lot like me, but sort of talking into cuffed hands.

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

“Yeah. No. What do you need?”

Our Facebook group. Can you change to the, uh—

“Change the name of it? I already work it at it, dude.”

Thanks man. How are things?

“Pretty bad.” [laughs]

Rachel:

[laughs]

Griffin:

“Pretty bad. Yeah. We sort of fucked everything up.”

Yeah. You fucked a lot of stuff up.

“Yeah. Yeah. Like all of it, but we're, we're trying to fix it. You seen the commercials?”

Rachel:

Uh, can I talk to the Bee now? [laughs]

Griffin:

To... Oh yeah. Hold on.

“Hey, this is the Bee what do you—”

Rachel:

[laughs] I thought it'd be more buzzy.

Griffin:

Oh. “Hey, it's the Bee. What can I buzz for you?”

Rachel:

It's good.

Griffin:

So is that the end? Can we go ahead?

Rachel:

[laughs] Yes, please.

Griffin:

Bye zzz.

[theme music plays]

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