MBMBaM 687: Trunchbull on the Phone, Temple Guards Behind Me

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

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

Justin: Hello, everybody! And welcome My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother—

Griffin: Dr. Corn! Sorry, go ahead and introduce yourself, Dr. Corn.

Justin: [chuckles] I'm your oldest brother, Justin-

Griffin: Dr. Corn. Try Dr. Corn out for size.

Justin: I'm your oldest brother, Dr. Corn.

Travis: Do you prefer Professor Corn? Have you ever taught corn? Is that-

Griffin: That's a good question. Is this a teaching hospital?

Travis: At the collegiate level.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: What's up, Trav Nation? I'm your middle-agest brother, Travis McElroy. Wuddup, woof-woof.

Griffin: Hi, Trav Nation. I'm Griffin McElroy. Sorry, it's just me.

Justin: [chuckles] We should really start.

Travis: All right, Travlers, we have a big update here. Justin was late to recording.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Due to a corn-related scheduling conflict.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It was... yeah, I was double booked. And that's not my fault. I had on my calendar... okay, okay... it's the kids' Thanksgiving time, okay?

Griffin: [laughs] Wait, they get their own Thanksgiving time? That sucks.

Travis: Do you make them do it earlier?

Justin: It's the kids' Thanksgiving time and— it's the kids' Thanksgiving time.

Travis: You said that and it makes less sense each time.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: They have a Thanksgiving feast.

Travis: Where?

Griffin: The kids?

Justin: So, in my reminders, you can see there, right there, it just says 'corn.' Today at 9:30AM.

Travis: It also says Scavengers Reign?

Griffin: Yes, it does.

Justin: Yes, it's a show I heard about that I thought sounded good. So I put it on my to-do list. Because I'm gonna watch that.

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I think it might be a fun segment on this show to just occasionally go through our notes and to-do lists on our phone, and just to look at the tragic, orphaned tasks that have gone long by the wayside. I'm pretty sure I have shit from 2017 on there.

Justin: Yeah. But anyway, I had to make five—I didn't do good at the sign up. I would have loved to flex ass on those kids. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: And give them a baked good to delight them. But the J-Man was a little slow on the trigger. And Vicky signed up for two different things... Vicky!

Griffin: Hey, Vicky. It's not a contest, Vicky.

Justin: It's not a contest, Vicky. You need to bring paper towels and cookies.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: All right. Okay, a little suspect. But the only thing left for the J-Man was corn. And I had to make enough corn for 20 kids. Which could be three cups, it could be infinity. I don't know how much to make. [chuckles]

Griffin: And I see you went with infinity, because you-

Justin: I settled on five pounds of corn. Frozen.

Griffin: That's so much corn, J-Man, for these little mouths.

Justin: It's so much corn. I hope those kids like corn. There's five pounds of it.

Travis: Justin it was also, I would say unreasonable of the school to ask you to do that at 9:45 this morning.

Griffin: Yeah, it's weird that they specified that.

Travis: When they knew you had to record at 10.

Justin: It says on there 9:30. I just didn't think it would take so long to make corn. Corn has never taken me a half hour. This is so much corn.

Griffin: My sweet... I think cooking five pounds of anything is going to take longer than cooking a normal amount of corn.

Travis: Which takes longer to cook; five pounds of corn or five pounds of feathers? Mm-hm, think about it.

Griffin: I think feathers cook wicked fuckin' fast, probably.

Justin: Oh, my secret? I add a little sugar in there. It helps bring out the sweetness.

Travis: Why do you hate kids so much?

Griffin: Why? Sugared corn?

Travis: The sweetness of corn?

Justin: Yeah, man. Yeah, you get the frozen corn and then you melt it with some butter in there. And then you put on some sugar. About like half a stick per pound and a tablespoon per pound. And the frozen corn really elevates. Those kids are gonna go bananas.

Travis: Jamie Oliver is gonna have a conniption when hears about this, Justin.

Griffin: He didn't die for this. He didn't die for this.

Justin: I didn't salt it. Because if you salt it too early, it'll dehydrate. So, I asked Syd, I said, "Your mom is picking this up from our house and taking it to the feast. Can I just—do you think it'd be alright to leave her like a baggie of kosher salt?" And she very wisely said, "That's not something you can send into the school with my mom around. You can't send a bag of what appear to be drugs—absolutely no question, drugs, into the school with my mom."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, I didn't do that.

Griffin: That'd be a pretty brazen play.

Justin: I just sent a big salt shaker. Yeah, it would be. But like who's gonna question it? Sometimes the greatest crimes happen in broad daylight. Oceans 14. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] Whoa?

Travis: Coming soon!

Justin: [chuckles] Sorry, now that the strike is over, I can announce it. I'm all 14 of Danny's boys in Ocean's 14.

Travis: Huge.

Justin: Huge. You guys can be in the movie, too.

Griffin: I think it's heartbreaking. I mean, we're going to talk a lot about movies as we sort of course correct a bit here. But Garfield's coming. Garfield is coming fast and strong and hard for you. It is Chris Pratt, the voice of men.

Justin: [laughs] We voted, and this, he speaks for men! This is for all! This man speaks for all of us!

Travis: Listen, no notes to everything he does. Both in movies and in life. No notes.

Griffin: Hey, we chose him to be the voice of men. On and off the court.

Travis: Do you think Bill Murray had right of first refusal?

Griffin: Probably not, pal. I don't think so. Chris Pratt got in there, though. The voice of men. We have to have one man voice for movies and TV shows. Y'all know that. If it's a man-voice character, it's gotta be Chris. We had this in video games for a long time with frickin' Nolan North and Troy Baker. Now it's in movies, is Chris Pratt. The guy.

Travis: I will tell you; if I'm Ben Schwartz, I'm quaking in my boots. I'm looking over my shoulder left and right. "Oh, they're gonna make another Sonic movie. I'm so excited. Wait, why am I hearing about it now? Chris Pratt? But I'm—

Griffin: Chris Pratt as Sonic and Mario. Oh, there's a comment here, the top comment on the Garfield trailer. Can I read it? Because I took a screenshot of it on my phone because it's very good.

Justin: Yeah, please. Please.

Griffin: Spider Waffles 105 commented; "Oh, god. All I hear is Chris Pratt. I don't hear Garfield."

Travis: [chuckles] Do you think that they mean the trailer or like all the time, every day?

Griffin: I don't hear Garfield anymore.

Travis: [chuckles] I can't hear him.

Griffin: I can't hear Garfield anymore!

Justin: Honey? Honey, I can't hear Garfield!

Griffin: Justin, I have to-

Travis: Turn up Garfield in my cans. I can't hear Garfield.

Griffin: I can't hear. Can I get some more Garfield? Pot up the Garfield. Justin, I have to ask because you keep looking off camera, are you continuing to cook five pounds of corn just off-screen?

Travis: Do you have a baby monitor set up on the corn?

Justin: No. I said—no, this is a new innovation in podcasting technology. This is great.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: I have two monitors now. So, you know how I spend a lot of time while you guys are talking moving my tabs around, trying to get everything set the way I like it.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: Now I have two monitors. So now I'm over here, I got information. I've got data. I've got stocks, charts. The charts and graphs.

Travis: Real-time feedback.

Justin: Timers, tickers.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Feedback!

Travis: Haptics!

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: Buttons. All the buttons here—[cricket sounds] No, that's—[cheering sound] Yay, hooray for me. So yeah, it's two monitors. I'm not distracted. This is working, this is working.

Griffin: So, the work is all around you now.

Justin: The work is all around me.

Griffin: So, is there a hot thing of corn—with sugared corn on it also near you, that you're just sort of—

Justin: That's done.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: That's done.

Travis: You didn't keep a little for—you didn't shave a little off the top? For papa?

Justin: The corn part of my day—now, listen. Listen. I'm not above a little cheeky taste. [chuckles]

Travis: I knew it.

Justin: Did you know what I did?

Travis: Tell me.

Justin: I got a scoop out with the spatula and I did a little sprinkle-roo on top, just for me. Like Salt Bae. And I ate it and it was delicious.

Griffin: So, you'll put salt on your corn?

Travis: You can't do it right away, is what Justin's saying.

Justin: Thank you.

Travis: You gotta deploy the salt right before consumption.

Justin: Yeah, otherwise it dehydrates. It sucks the water out of the corn.

Griffin: It can't dehydrate if it's in a Tupperware container. There's nowhere for the hydration to go.

Travis: Hey, Griffin, one person on this call out of three has just dealt with five pounds of corn. I don't think you can come to Justin and be like, "In my experience."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: When I cook five pounds of corn—I'll tell you how I do it. I don't remember the last time I cooked corn. I certainly don't do it off of the cob. That's unique to me. But I—

Justin: I'm just saying, if you're taking corn to the to the Thanksgiving barbecue, don't salt it if you're bringing like a lot. However much that might be.

Travis: Be one pound, two, five, whatever.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: I have a new segment I want to try out here real quick.

Griffin: I want that.

Justin: Oh, thrilling! Wow.

Griffin: You're on a hot streak, Trav, with the segments. I gotta say.

Travis: Thank you very much.

Griffin: It's been a while since there's been a real stinker in the mix.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: This is a little game show I like to call Separated by a Common Slanguage.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Wow, okay?

Travis: I'm gonna read you guys some slang.

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: And you're gonna tell me—it's three different categories. First category; is this Australian slang or Appalachian slang?

Griffin: Okay, what's the third category?

Travis: Well, so there's Australian slang or Appalachian slang, German or Appalachian, Victorian or Appalachian.

Griffin: Okay, this game is pretty confusing so far, if I'm being honest.

Travis: Are you ready?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Okay. And I'm gonna read them all in an Appalachian accent to make it even more difficult.

Griffin: That's not fair.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Okay, these are the first three: Better than a ham sandwich. Shamp. Fair suck of the sauce bottle. Which of those three—one of them is Appalachian, two are Australian.

Justin: Oh, man... Okay, can you give 'em to me one more time?

Travis: Better than a ham sandwich. Shamp. Fair suck of the sauce bottle.

Justin: So, I'm going to say that...

Griffin: This is Australian. Justin's taking too long. It's not Appalachian, I would know these if they were Appalachian.

Travis: One of them is Appalachian.

Justin: One of them is. What is your comprehension today, Griffin? You gotta get with it. This is a fast-paced show, okay?

Travis: Hey, his brain doesn't have corn power going on right now. Please, cut him some slack, Justin.

Justin: I had to activate every neuron I have up here to get all that corn done, okay? I'm firing on all cylinders, all the time.

Griffin: We may just be too tired for this game today, Trav.

Justin: I'm not—who's tired?! I'm alive! I'm alive. I've got so much corn upstairs, nobody can bring me down. I'm gonna say Travis... Appalachian, Australian, Australian.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I think ham sandwich is the Appalachian.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Griffin?

Griffin: I agree with that answer.

Travis: Incorrect!

Griffin: Fuck.

Travis: Better than a ham sandwich is Australian. Shamp—and it means better than nothing. Shamp is Appalachian for a haircut. If someone's hair is too long, a shamp is needed. And fair suck of the sauce bottle is Australian and means that they want to be treated fairly.

Griffin: Okay. I wish we had that. I wish we could claim that one. That's my favorite—

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: German or Appalachian.

Griffin: Okay. If these are going to be in the German language...

Justin: Easy.

Travis: I'm gonna say 'em once again in an Appalachian accent. Get the cow off the ice. You can steal horses with him. I don't chew my cabbage twice.

Griffin: So the last one is German.

Justin: German. Has to be. Must be. Unless...

Griffin: I think the first two are Appalachian.

Justin: Unless!

Travis: There's only one Appalachian.

Griffin: Cow on the ice. No, steal horse—no, cow on the ice, is Appalachian.

Travis: Justin?

Justin: I'm gonna go steal horse.

Travis: Incorrect! You can steal horses with him is German slang for someone who is trustworthy. Getting the cow off the ice is German for avert

an imminent danger. And I don't chew my cabbage twice as Appalachian for I don't repeat myself.

Justin: I knew it! You knew. You knew that we would hear cabbage and think Germany, Travis. You knew.

Griffin: The cabbage capital of the world.

Travis: I'm in your heads. Last one, Victorian or Appalachian.

Griffin: Victorian.

Travis: No, Griffin... Bags of mystery. Whooperups. Splatterment.

Griffin: Wait, how many are Appalachian? Just one?

Travis: One is Appalachian.

Griffin: One more time, please?

Travis: Yes. Bags of mystery Whooperups. Splatterment.

Griffin: Whooperups is Appalachian.

Justin: That's where I'm going, too.

Travis: Incorrect.

Griffin: God damn it.

Justin: Unbelievable!

Travis: Bags of mystery is Victorian slang for sausages. Whooperups is Victorian for inferior and noisy singers. And splatterment is Appalachian for a mess or a fight.

Justin: Wow...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: That was so much harder than I thought it would be.

Griffin: Very hard. Very educational...

Justin: But was it funny?

Griffin: A little light on the laughs, I will say.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Now, here's the thing, though. Here's why it's funny. Everybody listening, use all of those in your daily life. You're welcome.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Oh, it's a-it's... so, this is more of a value ad?

Griffin: Sort of a viral marketing-

Travis: It was a backdoor—can I tell you, it was a backdoor play along at home. I just didn't want to brand it that way.

Griffin: Travis Patrick McElroy.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Travis, and after I complimented you to play-Travis-

Travis: It was a backdoor Play Along at Home.

Griffin: Listen, bud. Play Along at Home is the worst thing you've ever made on this show.

Travis: That's why I didn't say it at the top, Griffin! That's why I said it at the end.

Griffin: A rose by any other name—a turd by any other name is still not pleasant to have on the podcast. That is unfortunate, Travis. I feel... You don't know how much hard work of your own labor you have just undone in the span of a single segment.

Travis: No, see, Griffin, I was feeling that I put myself too high on the pillar. I needed to take myself down a peg to rebuild. There was too much pressure on me, I had to throw a game or two just to like rebuild, underdog story. We're back in it.

Griffin: Yeah, Trav Nation's been getting a little complacent. They need to remember that it's not always great to be a part of Trav Nation. [chuckles]

Travis: That's true.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: You need to remind them, they've got to stick with you through thick and thin.

Travis: It's the old Trav Nation slang, sometimes it rains in Trav Nation.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] That was Australian slang.

Travis: Well, Trav Nation legally owns Australia now. [chuckles]

Justin: Can you believe they released that flippin Garfield trailer on a Monday? Unreal. Unreal! [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, sucks.

Justin: He notoriously hates those.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Hey, Inside Out 2 is on its way out. Did you guys see that guy announced?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And there are new emotions, you know. Because of course, right. But I was thinking like, what are some emotions—

Travis: Are we doing a second intro right now, just so I'm clear?

Justin: No, this is just a question. It's a thoughts starter. What are some emotions—

Griffin: You don't get to—Travis, you do not get to talk about the content of the show for—

Justin: What are some emotions that you would like to see represented in Inside Out 2 that you don't think you've been given a fair shake? What are some feelings that you have had? And who would you like to see play them?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Because for me, here's an emotion that I've never seen in those; looking at the toilet paper roll holder and seeing that it's empty and deciding not to use the bathroom because you don't want to go get toilet paper.

Travis: Oh... And who would play it?

Justin: That is a thing that I've never seen—what?

Travis: Who would play it?

Justin: Who would play it... Hugh Laurie, right? I mean, it's gotta be.

Travis: Oh, that's pretty good.

Justin: It's like very proper because you want it to be—you don't want to be somebody gross.

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, they got Patrick Stewart to play a big poop in the Emoji Movie.

Travis: Also true.

Justin: Great point, Griffin. Great point.

Travis: I would like to see the feeling you have when you commit to like going to a social event, and you're excited about it at the time. And then it's like three days later and it's time to go to the social event, and you wish you had said no. But it's too late to back out. As played by Connor Ratliff.

Griffin: That could be good.

Justin: Oh, that's a good—yeah, that would be really good, actually. That tracks.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Griff, do you have any emotions-

Travis: Period. [chuckles]

Justin: In your daily life? [chuckles]

Griffin: I would love to see all the other emotions including the new ones band together against tired. Who would be sort of like the end of Akira sort of situation, just like... And I'm thinking Eric Stonestreet. I think we get Eric Stonestreet to play tired. And they have to save... Because in this one, the girl is now like 36 years old. And tired sort of negates all the other emotions. Justin: Right. And then tired wins at the end, I'm assuming?

Griffin: Yeah. I would also love if we could add the passive observer. Just the sort of audience to all of these emotions and thoughts. A sort of invisible force that never changes and is always present within you. Just sort of like watching. And everybody else starts to get really uncomfortable once they realize the passive observer is... This may be good for Inside Out 3. Inside

Out 3 is just like all of them looking over their shoulders, as just the passive observer watches like, "I witness you." And they're like, "Man, this sucks."

Justin: [chuckles] What if in Inside Out 3 they find the soul? They like open a door and it's like, "Fuck!"

Griffin: Yeah, "Oh, shit! Pure consciousness! Whoa!"

Travis: What if they open a door and it's the Holy Spirit?

Griffin: [chuckles] Whoa?

Travis: [chuckles] "What?" "Yes, Riley, welcomed me in last year and I've just been kicking around!"

Griffin: Yes. Cool.

Travis: Also, just to throw it out; regret, as voiced by Chris Pratt. Just to get him in there.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Regret is Chris Pratt. In this adult Inside Out, I think that the emotion horny does roll up. But then the door to the Holy Spirit opens and he just like pops out and blasts it with his hand.

Travis: Burns it away.

Griffin: Until it disappears. And he's like, "My work here is done." That would be sick.

Travis: That would be sick.

Justin: Yeah, that would be a sick scene.

Travis: Before I leave, let me teach you how to juggle! So that you may spread my word!

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah, Inside Out 3 is not yet announced. So...

Travis: But it will be.

Justin: But... trademark. I guess TM on that. If they do it. So, this is an advice show.

Griffin: Yeah, one question.

Justin: "When I was about 12 years old, my best friend recorded my voicemail greeting on my cell phone by introducing herself as my secretary and offering to take a message for me. I'm now in my late 20s and will be graduating from veterinary school soon. I still have the same voicemail greeting and people now off acknowledged my secretary in the voicemails they leave. As I'm becoming more of a real adult and entering my professional career, do I need to change my voicemail?"

Griffin: Yes!

Justin: "Am I misleading people into believing that I'm more important than I actually am by pretending I have a secretary? If I don't have to change my voicemail now, at what age do I need to change it?" That's from Just Call Back Later in California.

Griffin: Sorry, you think when people who don't know you hear this voicemail, their first thought is like, "Oh, I guess they have a secretary." And not, "Why do they have a child secretary?"

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "Why do they have a 12 year old secretary? How is that even allowed? That's fucking wild." If you call me, a grown man, a professional business owner, you call me and you hear, [in a silly baby voice] "Hi, there... Mr. McElroy can't come—" Actually that's pretty...

Justin: That would be frickin' funny.

Griffin: Hold on, I'm changing my whole shit. That would be pretty cool, actually.

Justin: It would be funny. Do you guys have voicemails? Do you have voicemails?

Travis: I don't know, Justin.

Justin: This is what I'm saying. I've haven't thought about my years. I have no idea if I have a voicemail or not.

Griffin: I certainly haven't listened to any of my voicemails in a long time! [chuckles]

Justin: Hey, guys, call—Hey, Trav, call me and see what happens. I'm not going to answer, obvs.

Travis: Yeah, it would be weird if you did.

Justin: There are so many devices around me that are about to go wild.

Griffin: [chuckles] I know, man.

Justin: [chuckles] I just need to brace myself.

Griffin: Whenever he calls me, it's DEFCON 1 across all the pads.

Justin: [chuckles] Everything.

[dial tone]

Voicemail: Your call has been forwarded to an automated voice message service.

Griffin: Nope.

Justin: Nope, nothing.

Griffin: If I call you and I hear any voice other than that voice—and this is not you two, this is everyone on Earth. If I call someone and I hear a voicemail message, it kind of freaks me out. Because I'm always expecting to hear that. And when I don't hear that I get really upset for no reason at all.

Justin: I need to—I want—I was a member of the [??] fan club like 10 years ago, and they did personalized voicemail greetings for everybody. I have that somewhere on my hard drive.

Travis: We can do that now for people.

Justin: But I have no idea of to get—it's such a walled garden. Like, I don't want it back on here.

Travis: We could record voicemail messages for people to you. Like if we wanted to do some sound bites right now that people could be like, "We're proud of this."

Griffin: Oh, that's huge.

Justin: Oh, okay.

Griffin: That's gonna get us a lot of traction. Maybe we can sell it on the iTunes store for 99 cents.

Travis: There you go. Here, let me try one.

Justin: Wait, can we?

Griffin: No.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: No? Okay, let me try one.

Justin: Not if we give 'em away for free here. I feel very confident in saying that. I do feel that would make it tough. But let's do it. I mean, I think we should do it anyway. Because who's gonna take the time.

Travis: Yeah. "Hey, there. It's me. Mr. Doug's secretary. You were calling Mr. Doug—"

Griffin: Now, don't say a name. Don't say name.

Travis: Okay. "Hey, it's me. You're calling a very important businessman's secretary. That's me, the secretary. He's dead now. You're not going to be able to get a hold of him ever again."

Griffin: No. You know this is bad, right? No one's gonna use this.

Justin: It's stupid. Nobody's gonna use that.

Griffin: Also, you do need to say a name. It's wild to not have your name in your voicemail.

Travis: Yeah. Hold on, let me try it like, "Hey, this is—"

Griffin: But you need first and last Travis. So, we're gonna have to do a lot of these.

Travis: Okay. "Hey, this is Mark Cuban's secretary. You're calling Mark Cuban, but he's so busy right now with business meetings and shark tanks and whatnot. So, he can't come to da phone. Leave a message after—"

Griffin: Da phone?

Travis: Griffin, if you keep interrupting me...

Griffin: [chuckles] Sorry.

Travis: We're never gonna get it clean.

Griffin: It's just, I wasn't expecting 'da phone' from this character. That came out of nowhere.

Travis: Well, that's what makes her unique.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Can I try it one more time, please?

Griffin: Sure. Sure.

Justin: [chuckles] Yes, please.

Travis: Okay. "Hey, you're calling Lorne Michaels. This is his secretary. Lorne's really busy interviewing new comedians and auditioning people and hanging out with Will Ferrell. He can't come to the phone right now because he's so busy. But if you want to audition, or whatever, just leave a message after the beep. Love you!" Thank you. Thank you for letting me finish that one.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay. Can I do one, please?

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: Please.

Justin: "Ho-ho-ho! Thanks for calling Santa! Yes, I have a real phone number. And now that you know it, you can ask me for one wish that I am legally required to grant! Leave your wish at the beep!"

Griffin: That's very good.

Travis: That was good, I like that one.

Justin: And, yeah, I mean like, Santa has a phone number? It's crazy.

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: It's cool.

Griffin: You would hear that and be like, "Oh, shit, I must have miss-dialed. But the good news is—"

Justin: But now I have Santa's phone number.

Griffin: In doing so, I've gotten Santa Claus' phone number.

Justin: And I have one wish.

Griffin: Yeah. And here it is.

Travis: Griffin, do you have one?

Justin: But you have—like, if—but you have to think fast, right.

Travis: Yeah, right.

Justin: Like you're not gonna have time to plan it. Like, the beep is coming.

Griffin: "Hi, this is Griffin McElroy, from the podcast. I don't know who you're trying to call right now. They didn't answer. It's outrageous that you didn't text them. They're probably not going to listen to this. They're definitely not going to return your call. Because if you had the ability to text them, you would have done so. And if not, you're probably trying to get money from them for something. So, I guess you can leave a message here. I'm telling you they're not going to hear it. Just shoot 'em a text. I promise you, they will get back. They always, always, always get back to me. I love you."

Justin: Wow, I did not expect the twist at the end.

Griffin: Don't put that part in the end.

Travis: Yeah, that one's just for you.

Justin: Don't put that part, yeah. I'd clip it before that. How about another question?

Travis: Oh, wait, I got one more. I got one more I wanna try.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: Oh, yeah, sure.

Travis: "Oh? Oh, this is awkward. Yeah, this is the CIA. We've been monitoring this user's phone. I don't know how the wires got crossed. We're gonna have to monitor your phone now, too. If you could leave a message with like all your personal data, any times—"

Griffin: "Agent Moses, what are you doing?"

Travis: "Oh, nothing, sir. Nothing, sir. I'm so sorry about this. You're gonna want to change your—"

Griffin: "Are you prank calling again, Agent Moses?"

Travis: "No, of course not, sir! Okay, I'm sorry about all this. I love you. Bye."

Griffin: "Give me your gun and your badge."

Travis: "What? No, you can't do this, sir! This is all I have!"

Justin: Keeping 'I love you' in there, isn't that interesting? I don't know why that keeps worming its way in.

Travis: There's just not enough love in the world, Justin.

Griffin: Yeah, we're just trying to spread it around. Try this one, hey; "Hello? [pause] I'm sorry, you have the wrong number. [pause]" That's it's. That's all. **Justin**: Oh, I thought—okay, that was it. How about another question? "Me and my girlfriend have been going to the gym for five months now and sometimes when I'm at the beach—" Sorry, "Bench with her spotting me, I occasionally asked her for a quick pep talk to push through the set. The problem is she's really bad at giving me improv pep talks. She always gives me the same uninspiring talk every time she responds to the question. Do you guys have any advice on how she could give better pep talks at the gym?" That's from Totally Swollen, San Francisco. And you've obviously come to the exact right place.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yup.

Travis: I mean, you could just recreate the scene from Matilda when that kid eats the whole cake. Like, that's pretty inspiring for me. If you just want to like chant like, "Eat the cake, eat the cake." That's pretty good.

Justin: That's good.

Griffin: Well, that's not—I mean, that is part of why that boy succeeded. The other part was having the Trunchbull there as sort of the force chasing him. You need a fear in addition to an encouragement.

Travis: What kind of fear drives you to get your splats at Orangetheory, Griffin?

Griffin: When I'm at Orangetheory getting my splat points, I have a—you know what it is? The lock screen on my phone is the Trunchbull.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: Yeah. So, if I looked down at the Trunchbull and see her and think about how she wants to put me in the chokey throw me out the window by my pigtails, I'm like... I see the Trunchbull on my phone and I'm like, "I'm gonna splat!"

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: They make you yell that at Orangetheory.

Travis: That loud?

Griffin: Yeah, I'm gonna splat! I got 30 splat points earlier this week. My voice was hoarse by the end of this session.

Justin: Whoa, Griffin. Griffin, what about an imagined point system that your partner can like bring out when you're having trouble getting through a set? Like, "Come on, you're almost in the green energy zone. If you just keep pumping—

Travis: Ooh, I like that.

Justin: "You're gonna get 1000 points! Look, I'm looking at the meter over here." It's like with your kids—

Travis: You're about to level up!

Justin: You're about to fill your whole broccoli zone, and then your ice cream zone will open up if you fill the broccoli zone! It's just like that. Like, oh my god, that the Blade of Embers! You're about to earn the Blade of Embers.

Travis: Holy shit.

Griffin: That's awesome! Yes.

Travis: Yes!

Justin: Yeah! Then you have to have something there. It could be a... like a postcard with a picture of a sword, or a real sword, or whatever.

Travis: Yeah, something.

Justin: Something. You do have to produce something. But like, I feel like if there was... I mean, it's just inventing Orangetheory again, but you could just make up points for no—

Griffin: Griffin: Make it cooler, yeah.

Travis: Make it Greentheory, or whatever.

Griffin: There are a few issues with Orangetheory. I would say that the main one for me is that they call their measurement system for how good you're exercising splat points.

Travis: That's a problem for you?

Griffin: That's my main issue with them is that they went ahead and they called those splat points. I think if they—

Travis: Between that and the orange, it makes me think so hard of 1990s Nickelodeon television, by the way. Splat. And it's orange.

Griffin: Yeah, no, they knew what they were doing. '90s kids remember this get fucking *jacked*!

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: And I will also—

Travis: Let's see those temple guards get me now! [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, if... Well, hold on. That's a better idea than the idea I was having. Is a gym that is just the fuckin' and Legends of the Hidden Temple that you have to get through.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Do you have any idea how hard I would splat if I had Trunchbull on the phone and the temple guards behind me?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I would be... I would smash through the wall like the Kool Aid man. So heavy would be my splats. [chuckles]

Travis: [laughs] If it was me, I know that all the personal encouragement he needs to do so is say like, "Whoa, no one's ever been dressed like this before doing. You're doing it the best anyone's ever done it. Like everybody was talking about it earlier of what a good job you're doing." And I'm in it.

Justin: "We're so proud of you!"

Travis: And even if I know they're lying, I'm still gonna feel boosted by about 20%.

Justin: Yeah, absolutely.

Griffin: Now, experience points would be dope. If you could level up by doing exercise. But then when I level up, I would expect a certain incremental increase in my power or speed, or—

Travis: Or some kind of unlock web, you know, where it's just like now you have this skill. If I could work out so hard that I get better at cooking, that would be amazing. You know what I mean? I worked out so hard that I can do magic now? Yes, please!

Griffin: I'm trying to learn French, but I can't get the license for it until I get level five in weightlifting. You know that's a prerequisite.

Travis: What, you want to buy this armor? You're level three, get out of here!

Griffin: Get out of here.

Justin: You might want to have a conversation with your partner.

Travis: Gross.

Justin: A very respectful, private conversation about whether or not they would be comfortable if you are struggling to finish a set, if they would be comfortable calling you a little bitch baby that's never brought someone pleasure.

Griffin: Now that's interesting, Juice.

Travis: Ah?

Justin: A little bitch baby that's never pleased anyone. That might be effective. Who couldn't lift anything, can't support me, can't support the weights. A little nothing man who can't even... Who doesn't deserve to breathe the same air as me.

Griffin: Right, yeah.

Justin: Just like different things that the—like that—and then you just—

Griffin: Real Trunchbull stuff, you're saying. [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah!

Travis: Real Trunchbull stuff. Now, you will need I think a version of your partner that is like maybe in all white with a halo. Who's like, "Don't you say that about my Ultimate Warrior! They're a big, powerful bear and they can do this," right. And so you kind of—

Justin: That might kind of ruin—that might even—now that you say that, that might even ruin it. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Justin: You know, because maybe you just want the... maybe you just want the one part of it that's like you're a weak, little cuck nothing.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: I wish I could ground you in the dirt.

Travis: But what if you don't want that part and you just want like, "Well, you're Superman and you're so powerful. Look at your big muscles. You're a Greek god."

Justin: I mean, that would be...

Griffin: That would work for some folks!

Justin: Appropriate in a lot of situations. I'm just saying, right now they'd probably ruin what's happening. Just calling you a little trash nothing dirt ass. [chuckles]

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Now, listen.

Justin: Nothing, zilch, man-

Travis: But not like you're basically a Spartan at this point. You're a male Valkyrie, like an unstoppable force. Like Hercules himself would be put to shame.

Justin: [laughs] I'm just saying. Yeah.

Griffin: When made to exercise, one is either motivated by the Trunchbull or the Miss Honey. But no one is both. No one—

Travis: You can't do both.

Griffin: They cancel out.

Travis: No one's ever like, "You know what I'd love? Hey, guys, I've had this fantasy going for a while now. If I could hook up with Trunchbull and Miss Honey at the same time..." [chuckles]

Justin: Stop it!

Travis: I broke Justin. I broke Justin. The very idea-

Justin: They're related, you monster!

Griffin: They're related, that's gross. Travis, you made it gross with that.

Justin: You made it gross and ruined the joke.

Travis: Maybe one after the other, then? [chuckles]

Justin: Thank you!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: [chuckles] You're welcome.

Justin: But Travis, I feel compelled to ask, which first?!

Griffin: I will hang up on the call. Let's go the Money Zone! Let's go the Money Zone! Let's go the Money Zone. Here we go. Wee!

[theme music plays]

Travis: Listen. Hmmm. You hear that? You know that is, Justin?

Justin: What is it, Trav?

Travis: Your business is humming.

Justin: Yeah, but I'm worried that it's falling behind a little bit, because it's—I don't really know what Im doing.

Travis: Yeah, obviously, Justin. You're like a business baby. Everything's doing manual—your people, all 26 of 'em are doing manual work. And it takes forever to close your books. It's like pulling teeth. And if that sounds like Justin—

Justin: Yeah, it's been a problem.

Travis: Justin, if that sounds like you-

Justin: It does.

Travis: You should get to know three numbers. 36,000. 25. 1.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: 36,000. That's the number of businesses which have upgraded to NetSuite by Oracle!

Justin: Okay.

Travis: It's the number one-

Justin: But you said some other numbers?

Travis: Oh, yeah. There's more coming, hold on. NetSuite is the number one cloud financial system, streamlining accounting and financial management, inventory, HR and more. Now, I also said 25. That's the age you need to be to rent a car. But it's also the age that NetSuite turns this year. So NetSuite wants you to know that they'll be able to rent a car, no problem. They don't need their dad there or anything. Because that's 25 years of help—

Justin: No big deal.

Travis: No big deal, they're 25. That's right. They're trusted. Because that's 25 years of helping businesses do more with less. Close their books in days, not weeks. And drive down costs. And one, Justin, one... one? That's what we all are. We're one.

Justin: Wow, Trav.

Griffin: That's cool, man.

Travis: But also, your business—

Justin: That's cool, man.

Griffin: That kicks ass.

Travis: Also, the copy says your business is one of a kind. So you get customized—

Justin: Mine is!

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: How can we be one of a kind of we're all one, though?

Travis: Because we're all one of a kind.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Oh...

Travis: If you think about it. Because it's like kindness. Right?

Justin: Oh, yeah! Gotcha, gotcha. Yeah, I love that. Thank you.

Travis: One of a kind. So, you can get customized solutions for all your KPIs.

Griffin: What the fuck is a KPI?

Travis: It stands for Key and Peele Ideas.

Griffin: Oh, okay. Cool.

Travis: Yeah. And also, key performance indicators. So, unlike those two-

Griffin: It's actually just a guy named Kip, but they misspelled it. And they're too embarrassed to admit that. But I'll tell you.

Travis: See? You get solutions for all your KPIs in one efficient system with one source of truth. Manage risk in a reliable format.

Griffin: I go to Kip whenever I want the straight shit.

Travis: Okay. Manage risk, get reliable forecasts and improve margins. Everything you need, all in one place. Right now! Download NetSuite's popular KPI checklists, designed to give you consistently excellent performance, absolutely free. At netsuite.com/mybrother. That's netsuite.com/mybrother to get your own KPI checklist. Netsuite.com/mybrother.

Justin: Do you know the gift that I have given to the most people that have been the happiest with it, that have continued to ask and mention it, is the Aura frame.

Griffin: A sweet kiss.

Travis: I thought you were gonna say friendship.

Justin: No, it's none of that. They don't want that.

Griffin: A sweet kiss.

Justin: What they want is the Aura frame. You can set up an Aura frame very, very easy. You can set it up before you even give it to somebody, which is fantastic. You set it up, you get it on their Wi-Fi. And then you can send them like photos. First of all, you can pre-load them with a bunch of photos. You can also send them photos. Like wirelessly. Something happens and you want to send it along—[mouths crunch sound] you just... just shoot it on over. No big deal.

Travis: We have one set up in our living room. And as soon as we get home from like an outing with the girls, we immediately just send pictures to the Aura from the thing we just did.

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Travis: And my favorite thing about it is Dot, who is just about four years old, any picture that is like a younger BB or younger Dot and she goes, "Is that me when I was younger?"

Griffin: That's sweet.

Travis: And I love it so much every time.

Griffin: That's very good.

Justin: Yeah, they are fantastic. And they're a fantastic gift to give. A gift the whole family will enjoy this holiday season. From now through Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Aura is having the best deal of the year.

Travis: No, they're coming!

Justin: Listeners can save \$40 on the perfect gift by visiting auraframes.com/mybrother. That's auraframes.com/mybrother and use promo code My Brother to get \$40 off their bestselling frames. Terms and conditions apply. Hey, listen, no joke, get an extra one. And someone is going to be like around your house that you forgot, a grandma, grandpa, whoever. And they can just like have it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: No problem. Problem solved.

Griffin: They love pictures of things that have already happened.

Travis: They love that.

Griffin: Grandma and grandpas.

Justin: That's true, they love the past.

Travis: They don't like pictures of the future. That will confuse them and freak them out.

Griffin: They hate that.

Travis: Don't do it.

Justin: Do not send pictures of the future.

[Reading Glasses theme music plays]

Mallory: Oh darling, why don't you accept my love?

Brea: My dear, even though you are a duke, I could never love you. You... You borrowed a book for me and never returned it!

Mallory: Save yourself from this terrible fate by listening to Reading Glasses.

Brea: We'll help you get those borrowed books back and solve all your other reader problems.

Mallory: Reading Glasses, every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[Reading Glasses theme music concludes]

[Baby Geniuses theme music plays]

Emily: I'm Emily Heller.

Lisa: And I'm Lisa Hanawalt.

Emily: And we're the hosts of Baby Geniuses.

Lisa: We've been doing our podcast for over 10 years.

Emily: When we started, it was about trying to learn something new every episode.

Lisa: Now, it's about us trying to actively get stupider. And it's working...

Emily: [laughs] Hang out with us and you'll hear us chat about...

Lisa: Gardening.

Emily: Horses.

Lisa: Various problems with our butts.

Emily: And all the weird stuff that makes us horny.

Lisa: That's so weird. All that stuff.

Emily: [laughs]

Lisa: Baby Geniuses, a show for adult idiots!

Emily: Every other week on Maximum Fun!

[Baby Geniuses theme music concludes]

Justin: [mouths munch Squad riff]

Travis: Ooh?

Griffin: Yes!

Justin: [continues riffing]

Griffin: All right.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

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

Griffin and Travis: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing] Sorry, corn. [clears throat] [sings] I want-

Travis: Oh, yeah, you got that corn throat.

Justin: [clears throat] Corn. [sings] I want to munch!

Griffin and Travis: Corn!

Justin: [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad. It's a podcast within a podcast, profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. I have a... just a wide range of products and services for you guys today.

Travis: How many of them are corn related?

Justin: Broadly speaking, probably all.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Real quick, this is just a great headline, Griffin. I was hoping you could read this headline for me.

Griffin: Okay. Where's this data coming in?

Justin: Riverside.

Griffin: Riverside, okay. This is coming in hot off the presses. "Nation's Giant Hamburgers has pies for the holidays."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: What?

Griffin: Nation's Giant Hamburgers has pies. My hamburgers has pies—

Travis: Listen, we've been warning you guys about AI for years and nobody's listened!

Griffin: Yeah. Can I say something, though?

Justin: This is giant hamburgers—[chuckles]

Griffin: This is the kind of heat that AI is bringing. Now I'm on board. The stealing art and stuff, and repurposing it and trying to make every person

redundant, I don't like that. But if AI wants to come at me and be like, "Nation's Giant Hamburgers has pies for the holidays." I'll be like, "That's whimsical as fuck, Cyberman. I don't know what it means."

Travis: There's a reading of that that makes it sound like sentient giant hamburgers are enjoying pies for the holidays. Like, "Have you guys tried these things?" "Yeah, hamburgers. It's called pies."

"We love 'em!"

Griffin: I think giant hamburgers wrote this headline.

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: Taco Bell has a subscription to nacho fries.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: What?

Justin: You can subscribe to nacho fries at Taco Bell! [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, absolutely. What are we talking about, 14.99 a month?

Justin: Just get a subscription! The perfect gift.

Travis: Is it monthly or annually?

Justin: Well, it is a... a subscription pass for nacho fries is good for 30 days.

Travis: Well, hold on. That's not a very good subscription, is it?

Griffin: Now, hold on. It'll be-

Justin: What do you think this deal looks like, Griffin? What does a subscription to Nacho fries look like in your world? What do you think?

Griffin: If it's anything less than... every day for 30 days, I get to come in at any Taco Bell I want and lose myself in a pleasure—

Travis: In the music. The moment.

Justin: By this, do you mean one order of fries? [chuckles]

Griffin: No. I'm imagining a sort of queso-erotic dreamscape.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: That I can dive into headlong. Every day.

Justin: Well, you get one order of fries. And then it's \$10 a month for that. For 10 bucks a month, you can get a subscription to nacho fries.

Travis: They get one a day?

Justin: One a day. Well, not one fry, one order. [chuckles]

Travis: Well, yeah.

Justin: That would suck, if they parse 'em out like that.

Griffin: One order of fries per day, though. So, 30 orders of fries.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: "We're committed to pushing the boundaries of convenience and innovation for our biggest fans, our loyalty members. The Nacho Fries Lover's Pass is just one example of how we're leveraging digital technology to enhance their experience. The Nacho Fries Lover's Pass, Nation's Giant Hamburgers has pie."

Griffin: The Nation's Lover's Pies Hamburgers... [chuckles] Nacho Fries-

Travis: Nation's Lovers Pies! Pies Lovers Hamburgers!

Griffin: Pies Lovers Hamburgers Nacho Pass!

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: I'm actually just gonna be like, "Calories! Calories! Calories! Need calories for organism! Life! Life calories!"

Griffin: Life! Life! Pass for life! Queso life!

Travis: More human fuel!

Justin: \$10 of human fuel queso! "Our dedication to our fans and killing them—" Sorry, wait. I misread.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] "Our dedication to killing our... Our dedication to our fans and an innovative customer experience continues to be a driving force behind our efforts—"

Travis: You know, Captain Hook once said that death would be the ultimate innovative customer experience. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] It's weird that he said that.

Justin: This is not even the headline today, guys. It's not even the headline. Because the headline today is Arby's is celebrating Good Burger 2 with an exclusive meal and merch.

Travis: Hell yeah.

Griffin: Arby's, though?

Travis: Not known for their burgers! Huh?

Justin: But this is what they've been struggling— Travis: How many emails were ignored to get to Arby's?! Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, right?

Justin: It's not that, it's that Arby's is desperate to be recognized for burgers. They're desperate for this. They need it. They need this.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I'm gonna give you the-

Travis: Do you think they reached out to Good Burger?

Justin: Yes, this is what I'm saying. I guarantee you Arby's is like, "We are not appreciated in this game. We have got to make our voices heard. And we've got to have the Good Burger promotional meal." They're teaming with Paramount Plus to celebrate the release of Good Burger 2 by introducing a one-of-a-kind meal that enthusiast of the long-awaited sequel are sure to recognize. I mean damning with faint praise, for sure. Like, "Ah, I recognize this! The Good Burger 2 meal."

Griffin: Ah, yes, a hamburger! [chuckles]

Justin: It's a hamburger, I get it. It is at Arby's, starting-

Travis: Just a quick note...

Justin: Yeah?

Travis: To the marketing team here. Trying to appetize me with a hamburger meal by placing what appears to be sentient hamburger with eyes above it, judge me—

Griffin: Identical sentient hamburger. Watching.

Travis: Yes. Saying, "Hey, do you want to eat my brother?" Like I don't know if that's the right way to go, fellas.

Justin: Guys, if you can't see this image, they're the exact same burger. It's just one has two eyes and is looking right into your soul.

Griffin: Yeah, barreling.

Justin: So, this is a—the Arby's Deluxe Wagyu Steakhouse Burger features an American wagyu blended burger, with American cheese, shredded lettuce—you know, stuff. It's the blend of 50—

Travis: What if each Arby's burger cost \$25 to make and they charged like \$3 for it. And they're like, "It's a loss leader, but we gotta get people to eat these burgers!"

Justin: Tell me if this trips you guys up. The Wagyu Steakhouse Burger is a blend of 51% wagyu and 49% ground beef. That is a recipe that sounds legally mandated.

Griffin: It's definitely, there's no way they go through—

Justin: 100%, right?

Griffin: Little beef nugget by beef nugget, like, "49, 50... 51! Whew..."

Justin: "Perfect! It's the most delicious and what we need to be able to legally call it the Wagyu Steakhouse Burger." [chuckles]

Griffin: "52, 53... Oh, fuck, I got distracted. Hold on. Let me pick some of that out. Perfect."

Justin: They talk about how the movie is coming out on November 22nd. Which we can finally say to you and it feels so good to finally be able to mention that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It's available. There's also some merch. There's a gray crewneck sweatshirt and a black T-shirt, each with unique designs. That's over at Arby's—

Travis: Wait, gray? Is it gray, you say?

Justin: Will you guys check out arbysshop.com and let me know if those are sold out or not? Because I'm trying to work right now.

Travis: Yeah, I'll just go to where the tab is already open.

Justin: "Paramount Brand Studios is thrilled to collaborate with Arby's to bring home of the Good Burger to life through a multi-faceted campaign that will immerse fans in the iconic world of Good Burger 2." That's somebody from Paramount. Through co-branded—

Travis: Interestingly—Justin, I'm sorry to interrupt. Breaking news. The Arby's Good Burger 2 crewneck sweatshirt is not sold out. But does only go up to XL.

Justin: Trav, all I'm gonna say to you right now is that Christmas is just around the corner. That's all I'm saying right now.

Griffin: These shirts—Juice, I'm sorry. These shirts suck shit, my man. [chuckles]

Justin: Now listen, I have bought a good amount. Like my closet is basically Stitch Fix and Arby's at this point. [chuckles]

Travis: I'm doing some clicking, Justin. Don't you worry. There are some buttons being—

Justin: And it takes a lot to-

Travis: I gotta log in?!

Griffin: [chuckles] To Arby's?

Travis: Excuse me?!

Griffin: Hold on, Trav. Do you already have a pre-existing Arby's account?

Travis: No! They won't even let me check out as a guest!

Griffin: It's Arby's?! It's Arby's?! Why would they need-

Justin: Trav, if you just... if you can like position the screen so that my face—my face ID will unlock it at an Arby's shop. I have a premium platinum membership. [chuckles]

Griffin: They don't make Justin do CAPTCHAs at arbysshop.com.

Justin: They don't make me pay! [chuckles] It's like the one time that Troy Brown came into the Best Buy I worked at. And we were just like, "Whatever CDs you want, man! Just go for it!"

Griffin: [chuckles] Do you think when they made this partnership, Arby's tried to get in the room with Good Burger producers and we're like, "Can you just thin the beef in your film a little bit? If you could make the beef in your—

Justin: Just a little bit.

Griffin: Film is so much thinner

Justin: When you say it's 55% wagyu, that's really messing with us. If you could just bump that a bit? [chuckles]

Griffin: And really just shave the beef instead of squishing it into the circle shape that you all seem to love so much. It makes us want to barf. We love the thin beef so much around here. It's better.

Justin: Dang it. There's a pop-up event right now while we're recording this. I mean exactly right now. At a Johns Creek Arby's location that's transforming it into a Good Burger for the day.

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: There's gonna be recognizable decor throughout. [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay, it's a nine and a half hour drive for me. If I leave right now, I think I can get there before they close.

Justin: It goes until seven, I'm sorry.

Travis: Damn it!

Justin: I'm sorry, Griffin.

Griffin: If a drive really fuckin' super-fast and dangerous that I can get there—

Justin: God, I wish I could get there. God, I wish. There is a world in which I'm there. It's not this one.

Travis: Close your eyes, Justin. Justin, close your eyes. [sings] You're already there!

Griffin: That's right.

Travis: [sings] Take a look around!

Griffin: Look under your chair, Juice. There's a good burger there, waiting for you.

Justin: There's also a picture of my face on the wall. "Do not let this man in. He expects everything for free. He's shut a hot shot. He never brings money." [chuckles]

Griffin: The web guys love him. But here in the brick and mortar, we can't stand this fucking dude.

Justin: [laughs] Oh, okay, great. Whoa... do you guys want another question?

Griffin: No, we're doing things a bit out of order. But I have forgotten that I have a Wizard, a quick one. It was sent in by Brennan. Thank you. It's—

Travis: Brennan Lee Mulligan?

Griffin: I knew you were gonna fuckin' do that.

Justin: Oh my gosh.

Griffin: No.

Travis: What a get.

Griffin: Just a different Brennan. And it's how to contact your guardian angel.

Travis: Oh, yes, please!

Griffin: The title of it is; four ways to contact your guardian angel. Which is awesome, because like the fact that there's more than one way to contact your guardian angel is like pretty sick, honestly. That guardian angels are that like... receptive and available to us. And like flexible.

Travis: Ooh, I don't know. I would take it the other way, Griffin. Because if there's only one way, all you need is one way. Four sounds more like, "Well, if you can't get me this way, try this way."

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: And it sounds like there's more of an excuse why you couldn't get them. "I love you a voicemail!" "Oh, I never check those."

Griffin: No, unfortunate. "Read more about guardian angels to strengthen your connection. If you're listening at home, you can skip this step. This qualifies as that.

Travis: Keep your grades up.

Griffin: Keep your grades up is step zero, of course. You will need to do that in order to have the kind of time you need to read more about guardian angels to strengthen your connection. There's a wealth of knowledge and websites online and in books at your local library. "Even though many religions believe in guardian angels, they hold very different opinions about their nature." But again, there are four correct... Justin: Okay?

Griffin: There are four correct ways. So there are lots of different religions out there that are like, "Here's how you can hit up your personal guardian angel and get it to do stuff for you. But only four of them are right. Only four of them are correct."

Travis: Way number one, befriend a baseball team full of losers.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Right, that's one way that you can do it.

Justin: One way.

Travis: And then they'll just show up.

Griffin: "Talk to your parents. If you're very young and not sure which religion your family belongs to, ask your parents for help. Ask them what they believe. Tell them about your attempts at contacting your guardian angel and make sure that they are fine with you doing that."

Travis: I mean... yeah.

Justin: Yeah, absolutely. Like, I want to be there. Right? Like I want to be able to—

Travis: That's great, because that's gonna—it's gonna protect from like demons posing as guardian angels.

Griffin: Huge. They love that shit.

Travis: Which is rampant, especially around Halloween. You guys know what I'm talking about.

Griffin: I do know what you're talking about.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: One time-

Travis: Check your kids' candy!

Griffin: Check your kids' candy, they're putting-

Justin: All we're saying.

Travis: There are demons in there!

Griffin: There are demons inside of the Bit-O-Honeys.

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: I will also say one time my baseball team was losing the Halloween tournament and Christopher Lloyd showed up and was like, "Hey, kid. Need some help?" And I was like, "Yeah, please, Christopher Lloyd." And he was like, "Okay!" [mouths power-up sound] And then horns came out. And he got a pitch fork and he stabbed the other team to death!

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: They did win, though. Your team did win.

Griffin: We won. We took home the cup that year. It was huge.

Justin: Is that part of his nature? I didn't know that he had that duality. That's terrifying.

Griffin: It was false Lloyd.

Travis: It was false Lloyd.

Justin: Okay...

Griffin: It was Khristopher Lloyd but with a K.

Justin: [chuckles] I've heard about this.

Travis: You must not worship false Lloyds!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: I've heard of this happening. [chuckles] So I'm glad.

Griffin: "Consult a religious leader." Good news, my dad's a pastor. So, I already did that. Thank you. Thank you so much for the help. So, preparing to contact your guardian.

Travis: Yes, please.

Griffin: Identify your guardian angel. "Before you try to contact your angel, make sure that you know who your angel is and what your angels' special powers are."

Travis: Wait, how do I do that if I haven't contacted 'em yet?

Griffin: Yeah, I know, right? There needs to be a sort of Pokédex and then we can go through one by one and be like St. Christopher, St. Jeremy, St. Bill. And then like a cup moves and you're like, Okay, St. Bill.

Justin: [chuckles] Got it.

Griffin: Cool. It says here that your powers are... you make it so that my windows get less dirty. Well, that's not very good.

Travis: Eh, you can talk to turtles? How does that...

Justin: I'm impressed.

Travis: I don't see how that applies.

Griffin: "To identify your guardian angel, watch for signs. Pay attention to names and symbols that come up a lot. For example—"

Travis: Oh, like Travis!

Griffin: Yes?

Travis: I see Travis everywhere!

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah. "For example, if you notice that the name Michael keeps coming up then your guardian angel might be Michael." Hey, that's a huge... that is a five star, triple S level pull. If you get out of the guardian gacha machine fucking the Archangel?

Justin: [laughs] Michael?!

Travis: You got Archangel—that's like the Holo Charizard of Archangels, my dude. Like...

Griffin: That's huge!

Justin: That's huge. It should be the other Mike. There are probably other ones, right? You should have to clarify.

Travis: It's like John Travolta Michael. That's what you get, you get—

Justin: No, I'm a different Michael. Sorry. [chuckles] Stupid.

Griffin: Yeah, I think if you're going through and you say, you know, St. Robert, and a cup moves, you should be able to like step back from it. And like wait and see if maybe tomorrow when you try, you could get a better angel. I don't think that's unreasonable.

Justin: That seems—can I say that seems rude.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: That seems rude, to try to get a better pull going.

Griffin: But you only get one angel. You know what I mean?

Justin: Right, and I get that. Fully get that. Love that. But-

Travis: That's my favorite scene and It's a Wonderful Life, where Clarence shows up and he's like, "Oh, this guy kind of sucks shit! Is there anyway... Hey, God? Heaven? Can you possibly send me a better angel? This guy's a real piece of turd."

Griffin: I love—that's my favorite Christmas movie, the one with the old prospector who has to...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Deal with his 18 shitty kids. "You may also choose an angel to contact based on that angel's associations. For example, Raphael is associated with healing and protection for travelers." And pizza. "So you may want to contact him if you've been dealing with illness or if you're planning a trip." Okay, so you can kind of go hunting. You can go angel hunting.

Justin: Yeah, you can pick the one that is a good... Can you swap? Is that mentioned? Can you trade 'em in?

Griffin: You have to find another person to trade angels with. There's not-

Justin: Oh! So it is exactly like Pokémon.

Travis: Yeah, you need a cord to connect your angels.

Griffin: A link cable.

Travis: And then you can like transfer.

Griffin: Yeah. "Some people think of their deceased loved ones as their guardian angels. For example, you might identify a grandparent with whom you were close as your guardian angel." Do they have powers? I don't think so.

Travis: Also, can they see me all the time?

Griffin: That's another huge issue for me. Does this... is there a special box I can buy... if I paint my office door red and put a red doorknob on it, does that mean that my grandparent guardian angel can't come in and see my dark work in here?

Travis: Is there a Faraday cage that I can masturbate inside?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: St. Michelangelo's jerkin' it Faraday cage. Here, on the-

Travis: Hi! I'm influencer Travis McElroy. Let me tell you my experience with the masturbation Faraday cage. New, from OXO. [chuckles]

Griffin: Angels are so nosy, but OXO's got a solution.

Justin: The OXO Good Grips line is getting bigger with this one. [chuckles]

Travis: The faraway Faraday cage!

Justin: Great Grips. [chuckles]

Griffin: I mean, there's—learn a special prayer is on here. "Many people use special prayers to help them make contact with their angels. Some angels have prayers you can learn and use when you contact your angel." Okay. "If your angel is not well-known, you may want to consider writing your own prayer to that angel. You can write a prayer by using the basic structure—" And bla-bla-bla.

Travis: Griffin, if you had to lay down a special prayer right now to your guardian angel, how would it go do you think?

Justin: Mm-hm.

Griffin: I mean, which angel Am I trying to hit up?

Travis: Let's go with... yeah, let's just stick to like the classes. You're trying to get Gabriel in there. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Oh, I mean, Gabriel, you gotta go classic. He loves the hits. So like, as I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I take a look at my life and realize there's nothing left.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Because I've been blasting and laughing so long that even my mama thinks that my mind is gone. And by that point, he will be like, "What do you... need? Here's a sword of light."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: That would be that would be sort of my style, I think.

Travis: Do you think that there's a way, like if you try to do a prayer like that but you mispronounce the angel's name and a different angel shows up, is there a prayer to banish the angel? [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. "Oh, no, Gabrielle. I mean, you're... great, but..."

Travis: "No, I can't leave until I finish what you asked for it." "Okay. Can you get inside this circle? I'm gonna light a candle real quick. Don't be weird about it."

Griffin: "I'm gonna make some salt shapes. This is a hobby of mine for art. Don't worry about it."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Designate a time to contact your angel. I'm gonna say 4:21 would be a great time for me. [chuckles] My third eye will be very receptive to angelic activity at 4:21.

Justin: Say no more.

Griffin: Say no more. "For example, you might start or end each day with five minutes of prayer and meditation near your altar." Oh, did I skip that? [chuckles] I did.

Justin: Eh, yeah?

Travis: Oh, we need an altar?

Justin: I have an altar?

Griffin: [chuckles] Sorry, sorry, my bad. This may shed some light on why you need to talk to your parents about this.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Create an altar.

Travis: Ah.

Griffin: Yeah, "Creating an altar might help you to contact your guardian angel by—"

Justin: Is that why you left it out? Just like, "Eh, I want to give 'em surefire techniques."

Travis: Couldn't hurt.

Griffin: Couldn't hurt. "Contact your guardian angel by designating a space for spiritual energy. To create an altar, set aside a small space such as a bookshelf or top of a dresser. Place a cloth of—" I almost don't want to outline this in case someone burns their fuckin' house down and then be like, "I heard it from wikiHow through MBMBaM through Griffin." And then I'm on the—

Travis: Hey, they don't know I know this hack. Angels love battery powered candles. They are into them. It works better. And for years, centuries,

they're like, "I can't fuckin' wait until we get to battery operated candles, you guys. You guys have gotta see this, sometimes it's got a little plastic like little fire on top that moves around. In a couple of years, you guys are gonna love this." They were counting down to the invention of those candles.

Justin: I bet.

Griffin: I bet they're stoked. "Some people like to include photos, food, herbs, crystals, incense and water as part of their altars. Think about an object that reminds you of your guardian angel." Okay.

Travis: I guess I just was kind of taught during my childhood that crystals are of the devil. So I guess I'm just confused there. This is sounding a little bit like maybe...

Justin: Witchcraft? Yeah.

Travis: This article was written by a woman named Lucy... fur. You know what I mean?

Griffin: It's entirely possible that Lucy did that one. Yeah, I'm pretty—I don't remember a lot from our pretty religious upbringing in the Southern Baptist tradition. But I'm pretty sure homemade altar work was discouraged.

Travis: Yeah, frowned upon.

Justin: Mainly for the mess.

Griffin: The mess is bad. Yeah.

Justin: The mess is bad. I'm thinking about the mess my kids have left with this altar I agreed to. And I'm not happy about it.

Travis: And they're using up all my Bed Bath & Beyond candles! You know what I mean?

Justin: Kids!

Travis: Those things aren't cheap.! I got the three wick ones. You know how expensive that is? I'm not made of three wick candles! It smells like a beach house in here and I love it. But those are summertime candles and this is autumn, guys. Get it together. If you're gonna use it, do crisp apple pie.

Griffin: Let's skip ahead a little bit. The angel's in the room now.

Travis: Oh, shit.

Griffin: "Greet your angel. In your mind, say hello to your angel. Thank your angel for watching over you. Then let your angel know about any problems that are bothering you and ask your angel for guidance. If you have learned or prepared a prayer, then take a moment to recite the prayer. You can do this in your head or say the prayer out loud." Okay. Are angels telepathic? We need to figure that out.

Travis: If they are, why the fuck did I build an altar?

Griffin: Yeah, that's a good point. I should be able to-

Travis: I could just picture an altar in my mind palace?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's true.

Griffin: I call my mind palace, my angel cage. Because I trapped one in there.

Travis: Oh, boy!

Griffin: Yeah, I got all sorts of angels in here. And I'm about to tell you all about it at all at length. About my many angels. "Step six, listen for your angel's reply. Any sign that your angel is there will most likely be subtle."

Justin: [laughs] It would be great if you're like, "Hey, get at me."

Griffin: "Gabriel, hello. Are you there?"

"Yeah, dude! What's up, bro?!"

Travis: "Whoa, keep it down, my parents are gonna find out!" And that's how I got my guardian angel. And now I'm TGIF.

Griffin: "Do you have any more of those spicy corn triangles I like so much?"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Whoa, calm down!"

Griffin: "Yeah, Gabriel. Yeah, I have Doritos. Just please, you have to fucking keep it quiet." "Okay!" [spoofs eating sounds] Om-nom-nom!

Justin: How are we spared that movie?

Travis: "I'm gonna do some skateboard tricks down the stairs!" "No, Gabriel!"

Griffin: "No, Gabriel! Please don't." "Too late! Already grinding for Christ!"

Justin: [chuckles] Stupid.

Travis: [laughs] "You've seen a Christ air before, but never like this! Whoa!"

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "I prayed to be the coolest kid in school, and I couldn't have done it without you, Gabriel." "Well, I'm glad. Now I gotta go back to heaven." "What? Oh, right. You're an angel. I forgot. I'm so sorry." "Yeah, I've been here five years, Derek." **Griffin**: "Yeah, Gabriel, sometimes I feel like you just come here for the spicy corn chips. And then to do a trick on my banister. And then you are gone. Without really giving any help to me or my softball team."

Travis: "And if you could stop flirting with my mom, I'd really appreciate it." [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles] "Thank you so much. That would be really choice."

Travis: "It's making my dad wicked uncomfortable. Because like he's not gonna say anything. You're an angel and he's trying to be cool about it. But like, come on, man. Time and place."

Justin: "He doesn't appreciate it. It is frowned on."

Travis: "Time and place, bud."

Justin: Hey! Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you really liked it. And you're like, "This is funny and I like it."

Travis: Yeah, no notes.

Justin: No notes. It's good stuff.

Travis: We wanna tell you about some exciting stuff. We recorded Til Death Do Us Blart.

Justin: Ooh, right.

Travis: It was a fun one! And that comes out this week on Thanksgiving. Enjoy. And also, TAZ: Ootra Space starts next week.

Griffin: Oh, shit!

Justin: Yeah, it's a good one. That's a rip-roaring adventure, I'll say.

Travis: Yeah, it's run by Clint. It's the Marvel TTRPG. We've got four episodes—

Griffin: Did you just call our dad Clint?

Travis: Yes, I did. And we've got special guests Gabe Hicks and Kate Welch. It's an absolute joy. You're gonna love it. March, we've got a Deathblart T by Cat Tervo. That's @turbotervo on Instagram. Deathblart poster by Simone Mariano. @smariano_art on Instagram. 10% of all merch proceeds this month go to the Fair Elections Center which uses litigation and advocacy to remove barriers to registration and voting. Particularly those disenfranchising underrepresented and marginalized communities to improve election administration.

Griffin: Hey, also, as long as we're talking about things that we have put up for sale, the Steeplechase theme song is now up on my Bandcamp page. And for the rest of the year, all sales of all the music from The Adventure Zone that is up on my Bandcamp will be donated to the Palestinian Children's Fund. And we are going to be matching that donation, also.

Travis: Amazing.

Griffin: So, go grab those tunes and support an obviously remarkable cause. Thank you to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You, also.

Travis: If you haven't already, check out theadventure.quest, it's the RPG event that I'm putting on in May. Get all the details at theadventure.quest.

Justin: And now it's time for your cleansing sound bath.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Shhh-shh-shh-shh-shh-shh-shh-

Travis: Aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-

Justin: Eeeh-eeeh-oh. Eeeh-eeeh-eeh-oooh-ooh-

Griffin: Sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-

Travis: Aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-

Justin: Eeeh-eeeh-eeh-oooh-oooh-oooh-

Griffin: Sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-sh-

Travis: Aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-aah-

Justin: Oooh-oooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-

Griffin: [deep, rhythmic grunting]

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: This has been My Brother, My Brother and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

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

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