

The Adventure Zone Hootenanny: 5tenanny LIVE at NYCC

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[instrumental country music intro music plays]

Travis: Howdy!

[audience cheers]

Travis: Hi, everybody.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Hello New York Comic Con.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: [cheers]

Travis: So, it— I— It didn't hit me until prepping for this one that only the first episode of *Hootenanny* was ever like fully published.

Griffin: [wheezes] [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: That the second one was a bonus for MaxFun members, the third one was a virtual live show.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And the fourth one we did a system that basically used Jenga and it was so very visual that it made no sense to publish it.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: So we're back!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: With *Hootenanny five. 5enanny*. So! Basically, in case you don't know about *Hootenanny, Hootenanny*—

Griffin: Are we gonna get to introduce ourselves?

Travis: Yeah, in just a second.

Griffin: Okay, I'm frothing at the mouth over here, can't wait.

Travis: We're—

[audience laughs]

Travis: We're a travelling space band in the year— What was it? 20...

Griffin: Just say a high number, no one here knows.

Travis: Yeah, like the year 3000.

Griffin: None of these episodes have ever been published.

[audience laughs]

Travis: In the year 3000. We're a— a country band from Earth. And that's really all you need to know, we're called Hooty and the Nannies.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Thank you so much. In advance, for the audience.

Travis: I play a quick-draw arcade game robot, what gained sentience because of his love for the stand-up bass, named Shoots McCracken.

Griffin: Thank you, Shoots.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: I am... tonight playing the role of Forty-Eight. A—

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Thank you so much. I'm a... sentient semi-gelatinous data cube.

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience cheers]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That possesses the complete works of Tim McGraw on my...

[audience cheers]

Griffin: On my bio drive. Technically my name is the full lyrics to the song "I Like It, I Love It."

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: But it starts with him saying "48," so that's the name of me.

Travis: It starts with him saying just "48?"

Griffin: Well, he then—

Justin: He names— The first—

Griffin: The first—

Justin: The first minute is him naming all of his favorite numbers.

Travis: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Justin: So it's like, "48"—

Griffin: "15! 11! 19 and seven!" It's sorta like that.

Travis: I love that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Aabria: I've never heard any Tim McGraw.

Griffin: Yeah. [laughs]

Aabria: So believe everything you're saying.

Travis: Aabria. You're not missing out.

Aabria: Cool.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Heeeey.

Aabria: I'm thematically wrong for this episode.

Griffin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [cackles]

Travis: Hey, wait. But before Aabria introduces her character, let's hear it for Aabria. She flew out to do this show.

[audience cheers loudly]

Justin: Aabria Iyengar, ladies and gentlemen.

[audience cheers and applauds]

Justin: A truer hero. Last minute.

Aabria: Hold your applause! I will not be referred to as Aabria tonight. I am Clint.

Travis: No, fair.

Aabria: Tonight I am your dad.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: [cheers quietly]

Justin: This is our dad.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Then— Then we'll give you the same note we always give Dad, make sure you really hit that "n" in there.

Griffin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: It's so important.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Clinnnn-t.

Griffin: Clinnnn-t McElroy.

Aabria: Clinnnnn-t.

Griffin: God, the number of times we've had to give him that note.

Travis: Gotta hit that "n."

Aabria: Clit McElroy.

Justin: [laughs] Dad was, sadly, too gassy for jokes. That's what he told us.

Travis: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Two days ago, we knew.

Justin: He said, “Boys, I’m too gassy to do jokes, guys. I can’t do it.”

Travis: “They won’t let me on the ding dang plane!”

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: “Worried I’m gonna fart it all up.” Okay, introduce your character, Aabria.

Aabria: Hi! I’m gonna be playing Lil’ Miss McKracken, your daughter.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: That’s right.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: From an unreleased episode.

Travis: It was relea— It was just a virtual live show.

Aabria: Okay.

Griffin: Right.

Aabria: So the three of you that will get this reference, I’m sorry.

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: I didn’t really finish listening to the lead in. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: This is gonna kick ass!

Justin: Yes!

Aabria: I'm gonna make a lot of new, fun choices in the space.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: I love that. Alright, and Justin.

Justin: [in a deep country voice] Well, my name is Pepsi Liberty.

Aabria: [squeals]

[audience cheers]

Pepsi Liberty: I'm a country music icon that spends most of eternity frozen deep in ice. But when America needs him the most, I'm summoned back to life. And brother, she needs me more than ever right now.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Aabria: [cheers]

Pepsi Liberty: I am also deeply, deeply conservative.

[audience laughs]

[awkward pause]

Griffin: [laughs] That's the end of the—

[audience laughs]

Aabria: That can't be where you leave it!

Justin: Yeah. But just— For— It's in space politics, you'll see. [chuckles]

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Alright, so. It's a ra—

Justin: Oh, I love Jesus!

Griffin: [laughs]

[some of the audience cheers]

Griffin: [simultaneously] That's not about the character. That's—

Justin: [simultaneously] I almost forgot to mention I love Space Jesus.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: Oh yeah.

Griffin: That's just Justin's informing you all about the— hi— the progress of his walk.

Justin: The big twist!

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: So. It is a rare off day for Hooty and the Nannies. You guys have been touring non-stop for months. You're now on— It's a travel day, between planets. And so mostly it's just been pretty relaxing. How do you relax on the ship?

Griffin: Vape.

[some of the audience cheers]

Griffin: Forty-Eight maybe a semi-gelatinous date cube, but he likes to vape, a lot.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: He's really enthusiastic about it. He would—

Travis: That's tricks and everything?

Griffin: His two big things, I would say, if Tim McGraw and vaping.

Travis: [chuckles] Okay.

Aabria: Interesting.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: So does the vapes just sort of like— Like do you just become more opaque? How does this work?

Griffin: He does it in private. And he can't see himself.

Aabria: Okay.

Griffin: He's a—

Aabria: Well, that kinda ruins what I was gonna do, which was just watch you.

Griffin: No, it's— [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Alright, who's holding? I know at least half of you have secret vapes in your pockets right now.

Aabria: [laughs]

[some audience members cheer]

Travis: Alright.

Griffin: Well now it's not secret.

Travis: How does—

Griffin: Forget 'em!

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: How does Lil' Miss McCracken, AKA Missy, relax on the ship?

Aabria: I think Missy is just sort of noodling with some— some new tune ideas that she's got on her keytar.

Travis: Hell yeah.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles] Like that a lot.

Travis: That's so cool.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: Traditional country music instrument.

Aabria: Yes.

Griffin: The keytar. I love that.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I told you, I did not prepare for this.

Griffin: Excellent.

[audience laughs]

Travis: And what about you, Pepsi?

Pepsi Liberty: Well brother, I'd tell yah, I find that I can't even fall asleep anymore unless I'm colder than the heart of Beelzebub. [chuckles]

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: So I ha— I decided I'd try to take a nap and just crank that old AC up to maximum. Then I lay just as still as that sweet silent night where our Lord Jesus was born.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I try to whisk myself back to the cryochamber, just to get 40 winks.

Travis: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Brother, most nights I'm lucky to get 25, I gotta be honest.

[audience chuckles]

Travis: And of course, your percussionist Benny Gene Esserit is de— deeply asleep.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Just so asleep.

Griffin: So, so, so asleep.

Travis: So asleep! Aw, he's a deep sleeper, that one is. And Shoots McKracken is on the bridge, practicing his cr— quick draw, of course.

Griffin: Wait, are you going to be Shoots McKra— Someone needs to DM this—

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Oh wait, what?

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: Oh no!

Aabria: I'll do it.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Thank god.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: No! Don't! Don't cheer! [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: And he's practicing his quick draw when they get the signal that they're being hailed. The ship is being hailed. So he lets you all know—

Shoots McCracken: Hey, come up to the bridge. Looks like we're getting' hailed. I'll patch `em in.

Travis: And he goes over to the console to patch `em in, and a bolt of energy shoots through his body. And he falls to the ground.

Justin: Who? Shoots?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Did he die?

Travis: No.

Griffin: I check his pulse.

Travis: He's a robot.

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: Should be pretty fuckin' easy then, Travis.

[audience laughs]

Travis: You can feel his oil still moving around.

Aabria: Ugh!

[audience laughs]

Missy: Don't touch my daddy like that.

Forty-Eight: It's okay, his oil is still moving.

[audience laughs]

Travis: And even—

Forty-Eight: What's wrong? You've heard me speak so many times, in confidence.

Aabria: I'm crying.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [through stifled laughter] Oh ho ho ho.

Forty-Eight: How could you forget this is what I sound like?

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Shoots McCracken: No, I— I'm okay, I'm just kinda locked down, I think.

Pepsi Liberty: I'll get him an oil can.

Travis: And you hear, outside the ship, right? But mostly you can hear it's like your ship begins to vibrate with this low bass thrum. And at first it sounds just like one long, sustained noise, but then you realize it's more of a pulse. And it sounds like... [imitates a low rumbling bass line]

[audience chuckles]

Travis: [bass line slowly transitions into "Bawitdaba" by Kid Rock]

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: We need to—

Aabria: Yeah.

Forty-Eight: — activate the self-destruct sequence.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: [louder] Bawitdaba—

Forty-Eight: No.

Travis: — da bang, da dang diggy diggy

Pepsi Liberty: Fire all weapons. Fire all weapons.

Aabria: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Activate thrusters.

Aabria: I'm going to immediately slam every button on the panel.

Travis: Your consoles has been shut down.

Justin: Aw, no.

Griffin: I'm gonna hack it. I must destroy Kid Rock—

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: — before he can spread his virulence.

[audience chuckles]

Travis: It's too late. On screen appears an old... old, grizzled—

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: — old man.

Justin: [snorts]

[audience laughs]

Travis: And he looks to be mostly cyborg at this point, very little human remains. And you know that this is— Well, he introduces himself.

Griffin: Please.

Old Man Kid Rock: [shouts] My name's Old Maaaa—! [coughs] Old Maaaan Rock!

[mixture of cheers and disgust from the audience]

Old Man Kid Rock: And this of course is my partner in crime, my first mate, Roby Keith.

[audience chuckles]

Travis: And Roby Keith, who is of course, robotic Toby Keith.

Aabria: Mmm.

Griffin: [chuckling] Okay.

Aabria: Yes.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I thought it was like a— Like a Scooby-Doo situation.

Travis: No no no.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: So—

Aabria: Ruh-oh.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: You all know this, right. Because—

Griffin: [imitating Scooby-Doo] “Relcome to my Rar & Rill!”

Travis: Once—

[audience laughs]

Travis: Once Toby Keith conquered music, and being a restaurateur.

Griffin: [chuckles] Right.

Travis: He then devoted his life to learning about cybernetics.

Griffin: Right.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: And he became a world-renowned, Nobel prize-winning roboticist.

Aabria: That's what we know.

Travis: And he replaced his own brain into a robot battery so that he could live forever.

Griffin: Okay. Are we gonna get the same backstory for Old Man Rock, or does he just—

Travis: He's Old Man Kid Rock.

Aabria: Just—

Griffin: But he's Old Man Kid Rock, just la—

Travis: Well— Okay.

Aabria: But he's— You said he's cybernetic. Like—

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: How much?

Travis: His partner in crime, Roby Keith.

Griffin: Right.

Aabria: Yes.

Travis: Has provided a lot of parts to keep Old Man Rock alive for thousands of years.

Griffin: Okay, I like this story.

Travis: Thank you.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] It's good. Continue.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: Just, are they in lo— Are they—

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Are they deeply in love, these two?

Aabria: Oooh!

Travis: It's a will they, won't they scenario.

Griffin: Oh, boy.

Travis: Listen, everyone else definitely knows that there's something there.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Okay.

Aabria: But like they don't know?

Travis: No, they just fuck for fun. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: It's not romantic!

Griffin: [chuckles] No.

Justin: [wheezes]

Aabria: It never is.

Griffin: Not the way they do it.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: [chuckles] No.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Travis, you sold me already, bud. Stop sellin', I'm on board.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: How much do you need? Let's get this pilot goin'.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: It's the greenest light I got, pal.

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: We've been lookin' for you, Hooty and the Nannies! But especially you, Pepsi Liberty.

Pepsi Liberty: Um, why is that?

Old Man Kid Rock: We've—

Pepsi Liberty: Whatever y'all got goin' looks pretty messy, I'm not sure there'd be room for old Pepsi.

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: I don't know what you mean! Ours is a partnership of convenience.

Pepsi Liberty: Well, that's— that's adorable, honestly. You— You keep your eyes open and your heart even opener and I think you're gonna get something real special, a real special relationship, I can feel it brewin' there with you two.

Old Man Kid Rock: Listen, you've got— given me a lot to think about, but that's not why I'm here.

Pepsi Liberty: What do you want with me then?

Old Man Kid Rock: We found the location. We know where they are.

Pepsi Liberty: Impossible.

Aabria: [wheezes]

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I'm st— I'm stunned speechless. [chuckles]

Forty-Eight: Maybe we should have him tell us what you're talking about.

Aabria: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: [chuckles] Ho ho.

Old Man Kid Rock: Do you wanna tell 'em, Pepsi?

Pepsi Liberty: [chuckles] Oh, I'd love to.

Forty-Eight: Go right ahead, Pepsi.

Aabria: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: I know [chuckles] you know what he's talking about, for sure.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Fwah... Boy, I'm not su— Wait.

Aabria: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: What level classified are you? [wheezes]

Aabria: Ooo.

[audience chuckles]

Old Man Kid Rock: The highest level.

Aabria: Ooo!

Old Man Kid Rock: 12!

Forty-Eight: So there's no problem there, just go on ahead and tell us what he's got up his sleeve.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Yeah, what Forty-Eight said.

Old Man Kid Rock: You know what, I'm not gonna let you have this reveal! I'm takin' it, we found the most powerful artifact in American country music history.

Pepsi Liberty: [gasps]

Old Man Kid Rock & Pepsi Liberty: [simultaneously] The Garth Books!

[audience cheers]

Forty-Eight: Impossible.

Old Man Kid Rock: Possible!

Missy: I heard they were only a legend.

Old Man Kid Rock: Well, legendarily awesome! Right, Roby Keith?

Roby Keith: [in a robotic voice] Yes.

[audience laughs]

Roby Keith: How do you like me now?

Travis: [laughs]

Aabria: [cackles]

Griffin: [cackles]

Roby Keith: Now that I am robot.

Aabria: [giggles]

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: I can't understand a thing that you're just saying.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Missy: It feels like he's making fun of you.

Forty-Eight: It does a little bit.

Missy: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Roby Keith: [in a non-robotic voice] Yeah, I was.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Seems kinda like Travis looked at Griff and says "That sounds fun, I wanna do one."

Griffin: [wheezes]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "I wanna do a robot voice!"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "Let me try that too."

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: There's just one catch! Pepsi Liberty... We're too much dirt bags to get the books.

Pepsi Liberty: How do you mean?

Old Man Kid Rock: Well, we're dirt bags, is the problem. And only someone with a pure country heart, who's studied the teaching of Garth Brooks, can find it and we know it's your passion, Pepsi Liberty.

Pepsi Liberty: That was a long time ago. That was a different— That was a different me. Younger me.

Old Man Kid Rock: Well. We can't get to him though.

Griffin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [cackles]

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: So.

Missy: Hold on. You can be a full robot with a human brain, and we haven't really dipped into time travel in a meaningful way?

Roby Keith: [in a robotic voice] I am working on it. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Missy: Okay. Okay. We'll let 'em cook.

Pepsi Liberty: Alright. We'll do it. Just tell me where... and when they are.

Old Man Kid Rock: No it's—

Aabria: [laughs]

Roby Keith: No. The time—

[audience laughs]

Roby Keith: They're still— They exist now.

Griffin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: And do you think I was born yesterday?

Pepsi Liberty: And how. [chuckles] How are they doin'?

Old Man Kid Rock: They're fine.

Pepsi Liberty: Now why.

Old Man Kid Rock: From what we can tell—

Griffin: [wheezes]

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay.

Pepsi Liberty: Now why are they?

Old Man Kid Rock: Why are they? 'Cause Garth Brooks wrote them down, his greatest teachings, to turn everybody— anybody who reads them into the next greatest American country singer.

Forty-Eight: Do you have any relics that are perhaps based more around the works of Timothy McGraw?

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: Who?

Forty-Eight: Oh, brother. I have a lot to show you. [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: May I envelop your head [chuckles] for 30 to 45 seconds?

[audience laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: No?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Missy: Hey, you need to be more open-minded.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: I very— It's—

Old Man Kid Rock: Wait, you know I'm Kid Rock, right? [chuckles] Like.

[audience laughs]

Missy: He's— He's space conservative and is trying to tell you to let love in, so I don't really know what the temperature...

Old Man Kid Rock: Fair enough!

Forty-Eight: Pepsi lets me envelop his head twice a week.

Pepsi Liberty: It's so— only why I can hear about new Jesus stuff.

Forty-Eight: That's right.

Old Man Kid Rock: That's cool. Now listen.

Forty-Eight: Have you heard Exodus... four? [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: It's—

Old Man Kid Rock: I've heard Sexodus 420!

Aabria: Oooh.

Griffin: That's—

[audience member cheers]

Old Man Kid Rock: It's the book I wrote.

Forty-Eight: [chuckles] Is it biblical in nature?

Old Man Kid Rock: Yeah!

Forty-Eight: Okay, cool.

Aabria: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: You're a cool dude, Forty-Eight!

Forty-Eight: Yes.

Justin: [wheezes]

Old Man Kid Rock: Later you can envelop my head.

Forty-Eight: Yes!

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: But right now—

Missy: Good job?

Old Man Kid Rock: — you need to get the book, so I'll release your friend Shoots from the virus that we put in his body. And your ship, too.

Forty-Eight: Well— Hold o— Wait.

Missy: Yeah, what? What? Hold on. Why did you do that? In the—

Old Man Kid Rock: So that Pepsi would help us.

Forty-Eight: But we would've done it.

Missy: Oh.

Forty-Eight: It's treasure.

Old Man Kid Rock: I didn't know that!

Missy: Yeah. He's— I didn't know that at the time!

Forty-Eight: Well get rid of the virus!

Pepsi Liberty: I agreed before you told me about the virus. I—

[audience laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: Yeah, but we'd done the virus!

Missy: Yeah.

Old Man Kid Rock: Before you agreed to it, and I don't trust you!

Pepsi Liberty: I was already— I was there, brother, you didn't need the extra mustard on it.

Old Man Kid Rock: But—

Missy: Yeah.

Old Man Kid Rock: Oh, but you gotta give the book to me. You can't use the book.

Forty-Eight: Wait, what?

Missy: Wait, you can share knowledge.

Old Man Kid Rock: No!

Forty-Eight: It is a—

Old Man Kid Rock: I'm the bad guy in the story!

Forty-Eight: You don't see the—

Old Man Kid Rock: We're not friends!

Forty-Eight: You don't seem that bad to me.

Missy: Yeah.

[audience chuckles]

Missy: You just seem like you got a lotta—

Travis: Kid Rock turns around and shoots someone on his ship.

Justin: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: What about now?!

Forty-Eight: I didn't—

Roby Keith: How do you like him now?

Forty-Eight: Okay, I— I did not know that person. It has not changed my impression of Kid Rock at all.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Yeah.

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay. See that guy over there?

Forty-Eight: Yes.

Old Man Kid Rock: He fosters animals and he's a real good dude, his name's Ted.

Missy: Hi, Ted.

Travis: Shoots him. [chuckles]

Missy: Oh, shit.

Travis: Shoots him.

Old Man Kid Rock: So.

Missy: Okay.

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay?

Forty-Eight: I— I am no— I am the wrong person to make this argument to.

Missy: Yeah. Hey, I'll be the emotional core here. That was terrible, you're the bad guy.

Old Man Kid Rock: Thank you!

Missy: You're doin' a great job.

Old Man Kid Rock: Alright.

Missy: Please free my daddy.

Old Man Kid Rock: We're gonna beam you onboard— We're gonna beam you onboard our ship. And we're gonna take you to go get the Garth Books.

Missy: Why don't you come to our ship?

Old Man Kid Rock: 'Cause I put a virus in your ship and it won't work.

Justin: [laughs]

Missy: Well, you said you were gonna fix it, so why don't fix it?

Old Man Kid Rock: I'm not gonna fix it til you bring me the book!

Missy: But you got two dead bodies on your ship.

Forty-Eight: That's—

Old Man Kid Rock: I'll flush 'em out the big toilet we use for bodies!

Pepsi Liberty: Do you promise I won't have to seem 'em, brother?
[chuckles]

Old Man Kid Rock: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Creeps me out, honest— You promise.

Old Man Kid Rock: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Alright.

Forty-Eight: Can we actually have a minute?

Old Man Kid Rock: Sure!

Missy: Oh, yeah.

Forty-Eight: What's up with your whole vibe, dude?

Pepsi Liberty: What— How do you mean?

Aabria: I'm— I'm gonna mute this zoom.

Forty-Eight: It's changed dramatically.

Pepsi Liberty: How do you mean, brother?

Forty-Eight: Everything you're doing. The voice, the attitude.

Aabria: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: The relationship with human violence.

Justin: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Well... I gotta be honest with yah.

Justin: Hi, Justin here. I just reread the rules and I remembered the number that I picked for Pepsi, and I felt like I wasn't honoring the number between *Lasers & Feelings* that I picked for Pepsi.

Travis: Oh, that's what we're playing by the way. This is—

Justin: Oh hey. This is *Lasers & Feelings* by John Harper.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: It's a great game.

Justin: It's a good game.

Griffin: We're gonna play it— We're gonna start rollin' dice at some point.

Aabria: Wait what's your number?

Justin: My number's three.

Aabria: Oh shit. Okay. I'm four.

Griffin: I'm five.

Aabria: Wooow. Okay.

Griffin: That's gonna mean somethin' in just a second, y'all.

Justin: [wheezes]

Aabria: Probably.

Griffin: It's gonna blow your fuckin' minds.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: So, you have arrived at the Temple of Garth. Which shoulda been a clue that that's where they were.

Griffin: I would've— If one Google Maps search probably would've—

Justin: Yeah, for sure.

Travis: Well nobody knew where it was for a long time.

Griffin: Sounds like nobody was really lookin' for 'em.

Travis: They were caught at the Temple of Gorth, because like it was kinda smudged.

Justin: Gorth.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, sure.

Justin: Ohhhhh, yeah.

Travis: On the sign out front. And then they like rubbed it away and they were like, "Oh."

Aabria: The app was smudged?

Travis: "Okay—" Yeah. With mud. It was a mud smudge.

Aabria: Go ahead.

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: Tell you little story.

Travis: And they walk you into the opening chamber, to the first chamber. And there you see—

Griffin: Wait, are— We're here with Old Man Rock and Roby Keith?

Old Man Kid Rock: Yeah!

Griffin: I'm gonna envelop Old Man Rock's head.

Old Man Kid Rock: No, not yet!

[audience laughs]

Missy: No, now.

Forty-Eight: Come on, trust me. A lot of—

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay. How many second— Whoa!

Forty-Eight: 30 to 45.

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: How's Roby responding to this? I wanna looks for—

Travis: Jealous.

Aabria: Yes!

Travis: Jealous as shit, but he doesn't quite know why.

Aabria: Ugh.

Travis: He's still tryin' to figure it out, he's like, "Why is this bothering me so much?"

[audience chuckles]

Aabria: I'm just gonna sidle up to him and just whisper poison into his ear while this happens.

Griffin: Oh that's good.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: What do you say?

Missy: Just— [sighs] God, they look so peaceful and connected, don't they.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Missy: That's so nice.

Roby Keith: Could you tell me if your friend has an ass I can put a boot in?

Missy: I don't wanna answer that. Um...

Roby Keith: I'll find a way.

[audience chuckles]

Missy: Let me be super clear, if you touch my friend Forty-Eight, I will break my foot off in your ass. But... Maybe— Maybe you should just kinda get in there. Love triangle.

Roby Keith: But that's a cube.

Pepsi Liberty: Share the cube.

Missy: Love tesseract, I don't fuckin' know. I don't do math, I play the keytar!

[audience cheers]

Travis: Okay, give me a roll.

Griffin: Which one of us?

Travis: I'm—

[audience laughs]

Travis: We'll have you both do it.

Aabria: Yay!

Travis: First, Forty-Eight, give me a Lasers roll to impart the music of Tim McGraw or whatever it is you're doing.

Griffin: This is what I do. I'm going to roll the maximum number of dice.

Travis: Yeah, you're definitely prepared.

Griffin: This is my— If I can't do this, what kind of semi-gelatinous data cube am I?

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: In fact, Griffin, I'm gonna say, since this is the purpose of your existence.

Griffin: Thank you.

Travis: You can roll four.

Aabria: [clasps] Woo!

Griffin: Excellent.

Justin: Wait. Wait, wait. Do you wanna understand— explain the rules real quick?

Travis: Yeah, so Griffin is making a Lasers roll, which is science-based, anything like technical, mechanical. And he needs to roll under his number, which is...

Griffin: A five. Should be pretty easy.

Travis: Yeah, so if he rolls four or lower, right. A one two or three, it succeeds at different levels. And if he matches the number, he's going to get to ask me a question.

Griffin: Yes, it's called Laser Feelings, here we go. I al— Guys, it was pretty close actually, for four dice. That's a six, a six, a five, and a two.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: So I did succeed at rolling under my number.

Travis: Well one of those is your number.

Griffin: Okay, good. I do have Laser Feelings.

Travis: Yeah, so is there something you wanna ask me?

[one audience member cheers]

Griffin: Um...

Forty-Eight: Won't you please release our friend? Please?

Travis: You're asking Old Man Rock?

Griffin: Yeah. I'm askin' Old Man Rock. But nicely.

Old Man Kid Rock: I'll— I mean, I will! But I put a lot of work in that virus.

Griffin: I ge—

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay. Alright. But I'm gonna keep him here with me.

Griffin: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: As like leverage.

Forty-Eight: Inside of my gelatinous form? I'm confused.

Old Man Kid Rock: No, here in the lobby or whatever. The vestibule?

Forty-Eight: Okay, that makes sense.

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay.

Forty-Eight: I was about to sort of [chuckles] shatter your mind by playing you too much Tim McGraw too loudly, but you again seem like a super cool dude.

Old Man Kid Rock: I can't believe I didn't see that coming!

Forty-Eight: Okay. Anyway, here's everything about Tim McGraw.
[imitates an intense explosion of knowledge]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Now, with— with three successes, it's a critical success. So not only do you impart the music of Tim McGraw to him, he fuckin' loves it.

Justin: No no no.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: No no no.

Aabria: Ooo!

Justin: No, it wasn't three successes. Right.

Griffin: It was one success.

Justin: One success.

Travis: Oh, one success.

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Old Man Kid Rock: I get it.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "Yeah, sure."

Justin: Dang.

Aabria: [laughs]

Old Man Kid Rock: Okay.

Justin: He's cool it off.

Old Man Kid Rock: A lot of really problematic stuff in there.

Griffin: Lotta sh—

Old Man Kid Rock: And this is comin' from me! Kid Rock! [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah. Wow.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Okay. And now you're gonna give me a Feelings roll.

Aabria: Yes.

Travis: To try to— Are you— Now, are you trying to sow discontent in Roby and Ke— and Kid Rock's relationship? Or are you trying to get him to engage?

Aabria: I'm trying to in— I'm trying to inspire a grand gesture from Roby Keith.

Travis: Okay, great.

Aabria: I'm gonna roll one die.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: 'Cause I don't wanna— I don't wanna—

Griffin: [chuckles] 'Cause you're a musician robot.

Aabria: I rolled a three, I did not do it.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Old Man Kid Rock: Hey! Give a— No! Hey!

Missy: What?

Old Man Kid Rock: Get away from Roby Keith.

Griffin: [chuckles] Wait, did he—

Aabria: Wait, who said that?

Griffin: Did [chuckles] he say that about himself?

Travis: Kid— No, Kid Rock said that.

Missy: Oh.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Old Man Rock, excuse me.

Griffin: Well then it would sound like [imitates talking through a semi-gelatinous substance]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: [imitates talking through a semi-gelatinous substance]

Roby Keith: Yes. What he said.

Forty-Eight: You must not speak. Wait, why are you talking like me again?

Roby Keith: Because this is my voice.

Griffin: [laughs] Okay.

Travis: Alright.

Old Man Kid Rock: Thank you for sharing that music with me. It's okay. Now get in there! Get in that first chamber and bring me back the Garth Book! Or you're never getting' Shoots back and I won't fix your ship. And I'll say mean things about you on X.

Griffin: [wheezes] Oh, no.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [simultaneously] That's right, it's lasted for centuries.

Old Man Kid Rock: [simultaneously] To the other six users.

Justin: Yeah. [laughs]

Forty-Eight: That is a fate worse than death, we must continue.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Okay.

Travis: You enter into the first chamber.

Justin: Oh.

[pause]

Justin: No, it's just I'm overwhelmed— There's just— We're moving so quickly.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: Okay, we're in the first chamber.

Travis: Okay. Okay. You walk into the first chamber and you can tell it's a large room, but most of the room is pitch black. And you can see a spotlight in the center of the room.

Justin: 'Kay.

Travis: And illuminated in that spotlight... is a table, with three wooden goblets, each engraved with your names. And a sign in front of it re—

Griffin: Our character's names or our real—?

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Your character names.

Aabria: Clinnnt.

Justin: Oh.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Phew!

Griffin: It would've been pretty cool if they had our real-life names on— Like that would've freaked me out.

Travis: I— Yeah, I think it would've freaked your bean too hard.

Justin: [laughs] Legit, man.

Aabria: Oh.

Travis: And I want you to be dialed in for the rest of the game.

Griffin: [chuckles] Thank you, yeah. No, I'm here now.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: No, it's you— And Forty-Eight, it's your entire name.

Aabria: Whoaaa.

Griffin: [chuckles] That's a pretty big plaque then.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: 'Cause that's the full lyrics to Tim McGraw's "I Like It, I Love It."

Travis: It's very tiny, like when they like paint on rice.

Griffin: Yeah, okay cool.

Aabria: Ohhh.

Travis: It's like that.

[audience laughs]

Travis: And there's a sign in front of it that simply reads, "Drink."

Forty-Eight: Can't.

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Missy: I'm a robot, I can't.

Forty-Eight: Yeah, two of us can't.

Pepsi Liberty: Well, ohhhh. I see where this is goin'. Okay.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I'm parched anyway. I'll drink all three of y'all's. No problem.

Travis: Excellent.

Forty-Eight: Wait, hold on. Wait. I can load mine up into my... my vape. No-one look at me though.

Pepsi Liberty: Holy—

Forty-Eight: It's embarrassing.

Pepsi Liberty: [wheezes] You're gonna vape it.

[audience laughs]

Missy: I'm lookin'.

Forty-Eight: You mustn't look, please.

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: You said you were my friend.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Ah. Shoot.

Justin: Um... I would like to think back on my... my knowledge of Garth Brooks to see if there's any teaching— any connections that I could draw.

Travis: To drinking?

Justin: Well, yeah. Well, not to drinking.

Griffin: Garth Brooks never wrote a single fuckin' song about drinking dude. Good luck.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I have to look up Garth Brooks songs now?

Griffin: [cackles]

Travis: No, that's what I'm here for.

Justin: Yeah, Travis will do that for yah.

Travis: Okay, give me a... Since you're trying to recall knowledge, I'm gonna say a Fe— a Lasers roll.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: And I'm going to say you have researched this, so you are prepared for it, so I'm gonna say 2d6s. Uh... And this is go— Did you say Lasers or Feelings?

Griffin: This is Lasers.

Travis: This is Lasers.

Justin: Lasers.

Griffin: You wanna go under your number, which is a three.

Justin: Three, so I need—

Griffin: Good luck.

Justin: Yeah.

[sounds of dice rolling]

Justin: I got a one.

Aabria: Woo!

Travis: Okay, great.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Nice.

Travis: That is a success. So, as you bring the cup, you give it a big old sniff, right? And the scent of sweet red wine tickles your nose.

Griffin: That doesn't mean anything to me.

Justin: That doesn't help.

Aabria: What is that?

Travis: Well, it was a one. You only got one success.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: Ooo.

Griffin: That's very many successes.

Justin: I'm trying to think of any—

Griffin: In the grand scheme of things.

Justin: No, yeah. I wish I had— No.

Pepsi Liberty: Hey. I think I'm gonna drink it. [wheezes] I don't know, I just gotta go with my gut here. And I think—

Forty-Eight: We'll each do our own, and we can split.

Missy: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Let's— You want me— Let me start? And then I can start drinkin' and then—

Forty-Eight: That's probably safer to drink something before vaping a mystery substance, yes.

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: Gooood lookin' out, Pepsi.

Missy: Yeah.

Justin: Alright, I grab the— the chalice. The goblet.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: If you like. And drink it.

Travis: Okay, and you guys are watching this happen, right?

Aabria: Yeee.

Travis: You're not doing it all at once?

Aabria: Right.

Forty-Eight: Yes.

Travis: Okay, great. The taste of sweet red wine washes over your tongue. Your cares and worries fade away. In fact, you're so relaxed that you have forgotten why you are here.

Justin: No.

Travis: And you seem to have forgotten pretty much everything. And you're having a really hard time holding on to new thoughts.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: And then the walls begin to close in on you.

Forty-Eight: Welp, guess it's my turn. [inhales deeply]

Missy: Wait, what?

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: [makes intense processing sounds] Don't look! [more intense processing sounds] Don't look!

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: [more intense processing sounds]

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: So the— For those of you that don't know, this is there's a lyric in a Garth Brooks cover.

Griffin: [laughs] For those—

Justin: "For those of you that don't know!"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [cackles] It goes— It— In the song, it goes [imitates intense processing sounds]

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: [singing] "Except for a scene or two, erased by sweet red wine."

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Is the line.

Griffin: So, hold on. You're saying if we had known in real life the works of Garth Brooks better, we could've side-stepped this clever trap.

Travis: If he had— If he had rolled two successes, maybe.

Griffin: Okay, that's fair.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I'm sayin' these people—

Aabria: So this is on you.

Justin: — paid to be here. They didn't pay to not see me drink the stuff in the glass, right?

Griffin: Yeah, that's a good point.

Aabria: You're right. You're right.

[audience cheers]

Travis: The walls to your left and right are closing in.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: But as the light has illuminated the room fully, you see that these walls are lined with cabinet doors or all shapes, sizes, and colors. And across the room on the opposite side you see a door, which is, you presume, the exit.

Griffin: Okay. How many cabinet— cabinets? Of different colors?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: How many?

Travis: Like a hundred on each wall.

Griffin: Shit.

Travis: Quite a few. You can't— You could stop and count them. But it's quite a few.

Griffin: I think probably again, two of us could handle that task pretty quick.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: Oh yeah? But how's that going when you can't remember what you're doing?

Griffin: No no no, the robot ones.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: Can count—

Travis: You waved it.

Aabria: The robots—

Griffin: Yeah, okay, that's a fair point.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [wheezes] Wait, what? I'm just sorta by myself at this moment?

Forty-Eight: Count the cabinets.

Aabria: [wheezes]

Forty-Eight: We're havin' a great time over here though.

Aabria: Okay. While I'm counting, is any of that like cottony cloud like flowing differently into a cabinet or through the door?

Travis: Um...

Griffin: Please make my vape mean something.

Justin: Yeah, that's why she's the best in the biz.

Travis: Okay.

[audience cheers]

Travis: All— All three of you roll a Lasers. Missy, you can roll with two.

Aabria: Thanks!

Travis: Right. Because you're—

Aabria: I'm your daughter.

Travis: — being very perceptive right now, in this moment. The other two, just one.

[sounds of dice rolling]

Griffin: I got my number.

Justin: Two. Under.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: It's good.

Aabria: I got no successes. [wheezes]

Travis: Okay, great.

[audience cheers]

Travis: So the two of you that are having a hard time holding onto memories and holding onto your thoughts.

Griffin: We're very present in the now.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: This makes sense.

Justin: I'm so dialed in.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Yeah, we don't need that one anymore.

Travis: You can hear a— the muffled sound of a telephone ring. Coming from one of these cabinets.

Griffin: [exasperated] Well, Trav!

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: That doesn't help us a even a little bit.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Can I echo-located with my gelatinous form—

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: — and let the vibrations send me in the direction of the correct cabinet? I don't know any of this man's songs.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: You are in contact with Shoots, by the way.

Griffin: Ring, ring!

Forty-Eight: Shoots.

Aabria: I thought he was down with the [chuckles] virus.

Griffin: I—

Travis: No, he's fixed him, but he just kept him out there.

Aabria & Griffin: [simultaneously] Okay.

Griffin: Oh that's a fair point. Okay, I don't remember who Shoots is, 'cause I've had my mind erased—

Aabria: Oh, sweet.

Griffin: — by that sweet red wine.

Aabria: Sweet, I'm gonna call my dad.

Missy: Hey Pop, what's up?

Shoots McCracken: Missy, how's the first challenge goin'?

Missy: Fuckin' terribly. [chuckles]

Shoots McCracken: Aw man!

[audience laughs]

Missy: Yeah. So, two of them kinda don't have memory, and I am... just got my thumb up my ass, I don't really know what I'm doing. What is any Garth Brooks song that might help in this moment.

Shoots McCracken: Give me any clue whatsoever.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Hey bud? I'm givin' you as much information as I've been able to process.

Shoots McCracken: What's happening? Why— Okay.

Missy: Okay, so—

Shoots McCracken: They lost their memories. How'd they lose the memories?

Forty-Eight: Shoooots! There's so many cabinets, duuuude!

Missy: There's a bunch of cabinets.

Shoots McCracken: Uh-huh.

Missy: A phone is ringing.

Shoots McCracken: Phone.

Missy: Sweet red wine.

Shoots McCracken: Oh. Oh. Um, look around. See if you can find a cabinet's rouge. "Callin' Baton Rouge." That's the song. Sweet red wine. Erase my sweet— [singing] "Callin' Baton Rouge," [normal] it's a phone call.

Missy: Okay.

Shoots McCracken: Find a rouge cabinet.

Aabria: I'm gonna look for a red cabinet, but kinda French about it.

Travis: Is that what rouge is?

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Yeah. Yeah.

Travis: Rou— It's just red?

Aabria: Yeah, dog.

Justin: It's just—

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: Thanks, Duolingo!

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [quietly] Actually, we're with Babel now, so you just gotta—

Aabria: [laughs] Oh no!

Justin: We're with Babel now, you gotta switch to Babel.

Griffin: [cackles]

Aabria: Thank you, Babel.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: There you go.

Griffin: Got that clean.

Travis: We'll fix it in post.

Griffin: We're good.

Justin: Yeah.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience chuckles]

Aabria: I look for the— Please don't make me roll. Just let me identify a color.

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: There's a lot of vape clouds in here, I don't know.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: Stop it!

Griffin: Maybe you forget what colors are.

Aabria: Stop!

Travis: Oh.

Aabria: You shotgunned some Boon's Farm, you're not in this right now!

Justin: [laughs]

[Aabria giggles]

Travis: Yes, you find a rogue cabinet door. Inside there is an old-timey telephone.

Aabria: Ooo.

Travis: You know, like the kind you would hold and hold the side to your ear.

Aabria: Like the— Like the little thing—

Travis: Yeeees.

Aabria: — and you talk into the front.

Travis: Yes, and it's ringing.

Aabria: Yeah. I pick it up.

Missy: Hel— Um. Bonjour.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience claps]

Operator: Yeah, this is the operator. How can I help you?

Missy: Como se va?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Operator: You drunk? You drink the wine?

Missy: Oui.

[audience laughs]

Operator: Okay. Alright. Baton Rouge is in Louisiana.

Missy: Oh. Okay. Oui.

[audience laughs]

Operator: Can I help you?

Missy: Um... How do I stop the walls from crushing my friends and give them their memory back? Also, who is this?

Operator: This is the operator.

Missy: Oh. Hi.

Operator: Okay, you just need to unlock the door.

Missy: Okay. Before I hang up, is there gonna be a funky little trick to unlocking the door?

Operator: Yeah, you need the rouge baton.

[audience laughs]

Justin: The rouge baton?

Aabria: Okay.

Justin: Really?

Missy: So I'm lookin' for a red stick?

Operator: Yeah.

Missy: Copy that.

Operator: Do you need it?

Missy: Yes please.

Operator: Oh, okay.

Travis: And the back of the cabinet slides open and there you see the rouge baton.

Missy: Oh my gosh, you're so sweet, thank you!

Operator: Oh, you're welcome.

Missy: How's your day goin'?

Operator: It's goin' pretty good, how 'bout you?

Missy: Aw nice! Hey.

Forty-Eight: Ask—

Missy: Honestly. Great.

Forty-Eight: [quietly] Ask him if I can envelop his head.

Missy: Hey, my friend wants to know, if you're not doin' anything later, if he can envelop your head.

Operator: Is he cute?

Missy: Yeah.

Operator: Okay.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Oh my god, amazing.

[audience cheers]

Missy: Okay, I gotta go. This is nice.

Forty-Eight: Sorry.

Aabria: Click.

Forty-Eight: Oh shit, did he say "Is he cube?"

[audience laughs]

Missy: I didn't clarify and that's on me, I'm so sorry.

Forty-Eight: Shit. Shit. Shit.

Missy: I'm sorry, I'm sorry! We can call back after. I have a stick.

Forty-Eight: It's okay, I already made one friend today.

Missy: Awww!

Travis: The walls are getting really close, by the way.

Forty-Eight: This does not affect me, I am gelatinous.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Here quick.

Forty-Eight: I'm gonna—

Pepsi Liberty: Put— Put the ro—

Forty-Eight: I'm trying not to be an asshole about it, but I can get as flat as I want.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [chuckles] Aw, okay.

Justin: Okay.

Missy: This seems like a us problem.

Pepsi Liberty: Yeah, use the rouge baton, hold it up to keep the walls in place. It can't smash the rogue baton, I beat. It's story critical. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Just hold it up. How wide's the baton?

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: Like this?

Pepsi Liberty: Fuck.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: If we stand [chuckles] sideways, we'll be okay.

Travis: For those of you at home, I held my hands apart a baton's length.

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: I could make that.

Griffin: Wait, I just goosh into one— the open cabinet. Close the door.

Forty-Eight: [muffled] Good luck, haters.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Okay.

Justin: To be fair, he doesn't know who we are, so why is he invested?

Griffin: [through laughter] Yeah!

Missy: Do you?

Pepsi Liberty: What? No. No, but people were gettin' out red sticks and I just kinda went with it.

Missy: Okay, that's fair. I'm gonna grab my cup and then walk over and... sort of...

Travis: Yes, when you approach the door, there's no kind of mechanism clear to see, but what you do see is in the center of the door, there is a circular hole.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Hey, you know what? I set the baton gently on the ground.

Missy: No.

[audience laughs]

Forty-Eight: There's actually—

Missy: Crush me.

Forty-Eight: There's a huge cabinet over here if you all wanna hop inside.

Justin: [wheezes]

Aabria: [claps]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: I hop into a morgue draw, and—

Forty-Eight: The door can't make us do— That's wild, man.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: I put the stick in the hole.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: The walls—

Aabria: Do you like what you've become?

Pepsi Liberty: You all— [chuckles] Y'all are missin' the best stuff—
[wheezes] out here.

Griffin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: The walls stop moving and the door swings open. And you're able to escape. You've solved the Baton Rouge room.

Aabria: Yaaaaay!

[audience cheers]

Forty-Eight: Even though we are all dressed the same, I still feel wary of following strangers through a haunted crypt.

Missy: My name's Missy.

Forty-Eight: Hi.

Missy: We're friends now.

Forty-Eight: Awesome.

Missy: Bro, I set you up on a date with the person on the phone.

Forty-Eight: You're right. You're cool. Let's party.

Missy: Yeah!

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: My— My handle's Pepsi Liberty. I believe in— I'm not quite sure what the best country is.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: What have I done?!

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: As you cross the doorframe, your memories clear. The red wine fog fades away.

Aabria: What happens if I drink it now?

Travis: It's just wine, I mean you have it.

Aabria: Oh sweet, I'm sippin'.

Griffin: Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Pepsi's kissing his flag belt buckle.

Pepsi Liberty: I'm so sorry, baby. I'm so sorry.

Griffin: [cackles]

Aabria: [cackles]

Pepsi Liberty: I didn't mean it.

Travis: Wait, while still wearing it?

Justin: Yes.

[audience laughs]

Justin: It's the— It's the muscle atrophy. It makes it really easy to kiss your own belt buckle. Thanks, cryogenic sleep, you're the best!

[audience laughs]

Travis: In the air, you detect the hint of a strange perfume unlike any you've experienced. As this hits your nose, a sense memory that is not at all your own grips your mind. You are suddenly overcome with guilt. Before you is a long hallway-like room. At the other end is a porch. And on that porch is a door. What do you do?

Justin: Well, Trav, I'll walk up to the door and open it.

Travis: As you take a step—

Justin: Awwwww, shit.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: The room fills with noise. From every direction, the thunder rolls. Inches in front of you, a wall of lightning strikes three times. [intoning musically] Bum, bum, bum. [normal] And above the door, two massive stained-glass windows illuminate. The windows are in the shape of eyes, and they are judging the shit out of you.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Oh...

Aabria: What?

Justin: Can I... Okay, so there— there's the— Is the eyes behind the lightning?

Travis: Yeah, so the— If you can picture the end of the hallway, like the ground is the porch.

Aabria: Eyes lightning windows. [chuckles]

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Over the porch, you see the two glowing stained glass judgmental eyes.

Justin: Okay. And the lightning is...

Travis: In— Between you—

Justin: Right in front us.

Justin: Part of it.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay.

Aabria: Oh, we're in it.

Justin: Got it.

Travis: That's the room.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: I split into... several smaller cubes.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: And just go between the lightning.

Travis: It was a wall of lightning, is what I said, a wall.

Justin: You said three. Bom, bom, bom.

Travis: It hit the floor three times.

Griffin: Okay, I get you, I get you, I get you.

Travis: A wall—

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: A wall of lightning.

Justin: Goooot it, okay.

Aabria: I'm—

Travis: Picture a wall.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: You know how in a wall.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: No.

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: I'm a robot, so... Can I just sort of conduct the lightning away from my friends?

Griffin: That's cool.

Aabria: Or— Or will that kill me?

Travis: So Aabria.

Aabria: Hey, yeah?

Travis: I don't expect you to know everything about science.

[audience laughs]

Travis: But imagine... lightning strikes a television.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: How do you think that goes?

Justin: It'll be fine. But metal conducts— Wow, you're gonna get all Mr Wizard here and you're gonna end up with egg on your face.

Aabria: Yeah.

Justin: 'Cause you got me here, and I'm about to teach you a thing or two about this whoooooole thing. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Go off, king.

Justin: I don't actually— I'm sorry, Aabria. That's all I got.

Aabria: Oh no!

[audience laughs]

Justin: I— I don't actually know whatever's right or wrong.

Aabria: But what—

Griffin: I—

Justin: It's the tone drives me crazy.

Aabria: Airplanes get hit by lighting all the time.

Justin: She's right.

Aabria: And they continue to fly, and I would like to think that Lil' Missy... part jet?

Travis: Okay. What? Now hold on.

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Aabria: Okay. I'm sorry.

Travis: What part?

Aabria: Did you release episodes two and three of *Hootenanny*?

Travis: No no no, listen. I'm not negating—

Aabria: I don't know who my mom is.

Travis: I'm not negating. What I'm asking you is—

Griffin: Your mom is a plane?!

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: What I'm asking you is—

[audience laughs]

Travis: — what part of Lil' Miss McCracken is a jet?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: The fuselage.

[Aabria wheezes]

Griffin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: What he said. No, I'm a bat— I have the little jetpack backpack.

Griffin: That's great.

Aabria: So I could be like a little turtle.

Travis: Okay. Okay, roll a—

Aabria: [chuckles] No.

Justin: I got a jet— I got a jetpack too, as long as we're—

Travis: No.

Justin: Callin' it.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Don't bite my thing.

Justin: [laughs] Okay.

Griffin: I turn backwards.

Travis: Well, hold on.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Travis: I will let you roll.

Aabria: Okay.

Travis: To see if you can conduct the lighting away from them.

Aabria: Okay.

Travis: You will only get one 'cause this is definitely not something you're prepared for. This is definitely not something you're an expert in.

Aabria: Yeah, I'll be fine.

Travis: And if you fail...

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: It might fuck you up [chuckles] real bad.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

[audience chuckles]

Aabria: Okay!

Justin: Fine.

Aabria: I'm here for a good time, not a long time.

Justin: Yeah, they— they didn't—

[audience cheers]

Justin: There it is.

Aabria: What was it supposed to be, 'cause I got a two.

Travis: It was supposed to be under your number, and your number is three, right?

Aabria: Ye— Four!

Travis: Or your number is four.

Griffin: Four, yeah.

Justin: Ayyyy!

Travis: You did it.

Aabria: Yaaaay!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Wooo!

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: I'm a plane!

Travis: You are able to pull... the lightning... Okay, one success. Yeah. So, as they take steps forward, right? You conduct the lightning, you draw it down and you're able to hover off of the ground for a little bit, right? So they're able to move forward.

Griffin: Awesome.

Travis: Right. And the lightning passes through you. But then when it's time to take the next step, the thunder rolls once more.

Griffin: Oh, shit.

Travis: You're now about a quarter of the way through the room.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Right? But it's progressing down, right. It's going to present a barrier for you as you move each time.

Griffin: I'm goin' to dive deep into my memory banks.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Into the works of Tim McGraw.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: I'm just going to sort of search all for thunder and see if there are any sort of metaphors about thunder that maybe Tim McGraw wrote about, that I could use...

Travis: [quietly] Okay.

Griffin: To sort of inspire a solution.

Travis: Roll— Roll a Lasers roll for me with two dice.

Griffin: Yeah. Okay. Thank you.

Aabria: You got this.

Griffin: Nope. [snorts]

[audience laughs]

Travis: All you find is a short article of someone who's like, "What do you think about thunder, Mr McGraw?" and he's like, "I don't like it one bit."

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "I am not a fan."

Forty-Eight: Me neither.

Missy: Isn't that your Laser Feelings number?

Griffin: Oh yeah, I did get Laser Feelings.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, okay!

Griffin: Sorry.

Travis: Excellent. What you actually find—

Aabria: Rules lawyer!

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: In a deeper Google. Of your banks.

Griffin: Dark Google.

Travis: In a dark Google.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: Two-gle.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Which is the sequel to Google.

Griffin: The sequel to Google, yeah, we got that.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: Okay, you find an article in which Tim McGraw credits hearing... hearing Garth Brooks's masterpiece "Thunder Rolls."

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: With inspiring him to write "Indian Outlaw." [wheezes]

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh no! Gross.

Justin: Oh no.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: That— He took the wrong message from that song, I assume.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: Does the article include lyrics to “Thunder Rolls” that might guide me through this puzzle?

Travis: It does.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Travis: Strangely, Tim McGraw takes the time—

Griffin: [wheezes]

Travis: — in a two-page article, to list the entirety of lyrics to Garth Brooks’s “Thunder Rolls.”

Griffin: Cool.

Pepsi Liberty: Wait a minute. That’s— That’s it. We just have to time it. The thunder rolls and then the lightning strikes. So we just wait for the lightning and then move during the thunder.

Griffin: We do what he said.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I do that, but with my body rather than my words.

Travis: Yeah, deffo. Deffo.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Give me— Let’s see. I’m gonna say because you’re timing, you’re feeling it, intuition, this is gonna be a Feelings.

Justin: Okay. So... Is this— I’m prepared to do this, you feel like?

Griffin: He knows the song.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: That's preparation.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeeeah, okay.

Justin: Alright, two.

Travis: I'll give you a prepared one. Gelatinous cube, you—

Justin: So I need four, five, or six, right?

Travis: Correct.

Justin: Okay.

[sounds of dice rolling]

Justin: I got a four and a five.

Travis: Oh, excellent.

Griffin: Double success.

Travis: Alright.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Let's go!

Justin: Yaaaaaay!

Travis: You're able to expert—

Justin: Well thank you, thank you.

Travis: Expertly time this out, dodge around the lightning, tuck and roll, all of these things. Now the other two.

Aabria: [winces]

Travis: You're gonna need to make some timing rolls as well, so give me Feelings rolls.

Justin: Wait, I look for the shut off switch.

Griffin: Classic.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: You get— You get through it once, there's a switch to turn it off, right?

Aabria: This is a—

Griffin: At the end of every hallway, Trav, there has to be a shut off switch. This—

Aabria: This is a real like old-timey porch.

Justin: But what about when you wanna go back— You wanna come—

Aabria: Go get that breaker round back.

Justin: You wanna come back out the way you came.

Aabria: Thank you.

Justin: You're not gonna dodge lightning twice.

Aabria: 100%.

Travis: An excellent— You know what, Justin? And excellent point.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: [cackles]

Travis: Do me a Lasers roll to find the cutoff switch.

Aabria: You got it.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: And you're gonna have one dice.

Griffin: You can do this.

Aabria: You've got this.

Justin: Just need a two or a one?

Griffin: Yep..

Aabria: Yeah.

Justin: Pfft.

[sound of a die rolling]

Justin: Maybe next time. [snorts]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: I mean I'm—

Travis: You find a light switch and you're like, "Awesome." And you flip it down and the porch light goes off. And you flip it up and the porch light comes back on. You're like, "Aw, fuck."

Forty-Eight: Keep trying.

Missy: One more round. Nope, didn't do it.

Pepsi Liberty: No.

Forty-Eight: The third time didn't do it, okay.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: No. The bulb actually broke.

Griffin: [chuckles] Aw, bummer.

Aabria: Oh no.

Pepsi Liberty: Just— Alright, just listen y'all. You just gotta time it. Thunder rolls. "Bwah, bwah, bwah!" And then the lightning strikes. So you just gotta do it during the, "Bwah, bwah, bwah!"

Forty-Eight: Easy enough.

Missy: Sure.

Forty-Eight: Now we're— Now we're prepared?

Travis: Nope.

Aabria: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: Shit.

Justin: Come ooon.

Griffin: Two.

Aabria: I don't remember what I'm supposed to be doing.

Griffin: Under your number.

Aabria: Under?

Griffin: But you got a four, you got your exact number.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: I got my exact number.

Travis: You guys are able to time the shit out of it.

Aabria: Yeah!

Griffin: Nice.

[audience cheers]

Travis: And Aabria, you know get to ask me a question.

Aabria: [chuckles] Where's the off switch?

Travis: Excellent, so the off switch...

[audience cheers]

Travis: Is built into the door.

Aabria: Oh.

Travis: Once you're able to open the door, it will shut down this— this challenge.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Amazing. Okay.

[beverage cracks open]

[audience cheers loudly]

Aabria: That was nice.

Griffin: They really like it when we do that. I don't know why.

Aabria: Why do they... Why do you like that?

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Griffin used to pick on me for openin' my drinks too loud on the mic, and he'd start yellin', "Grip it and rip, baby!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Grip it and rip it!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: And then I just—

Aabria: And that's—

Griffin: And that's the explanation, yeah.

Justin: That's it.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: We go through the door!

Travis: Door is locked.

Griffin: Fuck!

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: God, this game is so hard!

Aabria: Did you take that— Did you bring the stick with you?

Justin: Yeah, I insert the stick into the stick-shaped hole in the door.

Travis: There is no— There is no circular hole, but what you do see—

Justin: I search again. I search again.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: We'll make one.

Travis: No.

Griffin: Shit.

Travis: But what you do find when you're searching the door, emblazoned across the door in gold letters it says, "Confess."

[pause]

Forty-Eight: I... Vape.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Missy: It's so important to just sort of own your truth, bud. I'm so proud of you.

Aabria: While he's dissolved in tears, can I just try to like mush some of his elbow...

Griffin: [wheezes]

Aabria: ... gel.

Griffin: [cackles]

Aabria: Into the lock and try to pick the lock.

[audience laughs]

Travis: There's not a lock. [chuckles] It's just the door won't open.

Aabria: Alright.

Forty-Eight: I vape. Is that anything?

[audience laughs]

Travis: You hear... a sound. But the door still doesn't budge. You hear like a tumbler—

Forty-Eight: I vape a lot.

[audience laughs]

Travis: The sound doesn't repeat.

Pepsi Liberty: Let me try. [exhales shakily]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: One time, when I was 14...

Missy: Mm?

Pepsi Liberty: I ate Canadian bacon.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience makes various scandalized noises]

Travis: You hear another tumbler fall into place, but still—

Pepsi Liberty: My cousin told me it was haaaam.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [sighs]

Travis: The door still doesn't open. But it's getting close.

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: It feels like three of `em will do it.

Aabria: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I don't know why.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I just have this sense, y'all.

Travis: You remember when the three gauntlets had your names on it, right?

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Aabria: I'm still sippin' mine.

Missy: [sighs] Okay... I... don't... [sighs] I understand how heredity works... And how that shouldn't apply to me, because I'm a robot. And if I'm part plane, I don't think Shoots is my real dad.

[audience gasps]

Justin: Ooooh...

Aabria: Is that what you wanted?

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: The door swings open.

Aabria: No!

[audience cheers]

Missy: [sobs in anguish]

Justin: Please tell me Shoots was listening, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Shoots McCracken: No, I am.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Missy: How?

Shoots McCracken: Well, they just used different parts, what they had around. The program is— So when they— Okay. So when they programmed—

Aabria: Yeah—

Justin: Move on!

Shoots McCracken: They used my base programming, right?

Missy: Oh.

Shoots McCracken: Shoots is also not my real dad.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: He isn't.

Shoots McCracken: That's true.

Aabria: The door double opens.

Travis: Yeah. It swings so far open it swings back around and closes.

Forty-Eight: Oh, shit.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Missy: No, too many secrets.

[country music plays]

Travis: As the door swings shut behind you, your mind is awash with sensory input. Your shoes sink slightly into the mud.

Griffin: Don't have those.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Those of you that have shoes. They sink slightly in the mud. For those of you who have noses and mouths, the air tastes and smells of dust. All around you is the roar of a crowd, and something in the quality of the roar gives you complete confidence that this is a Sunday crowd.

But all of that fades into the background as your eyes are drawn to a flash of metal across the arena. The light reflects from an over-sized gold belt buckle, which is attached to an over-sized mechanical cowboy. Which is attached to an over-sized mechanical bull. They call this thing a rodeo. That's another Garth Brooks song.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Is "They Call This Thing A Rodeo?"

Travis: It's called "Rodeo," and the lyric is, [singing] "And they call this thing a rodeooooo!"

Griffin: Sounds kick ass, dude.

Travis: [singing] "*It's bulls and blood
It's the dust and mud
It's the roar of a Sunday crowd*"

[audience cheers]

Travis: [singing] "*It's the white of his knuckles
The gold in his buckle
He'll win the next go 'round*"

Griffin: [joining in] "Round."

Travis: [singing] [simultaneously] "*It's boots and chaps
It's cowboy hats
It's spurs and latigo*"

Griffin: [singing] [simultaneously] "*Go on down to the rodeo
It's the spurs and a lotta clown*"

Travis: [singing] [muttering] "... and the rein"

[audience claps in time]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [singing] "*And the roar and the pain
And they call this thing a rodeo*"

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Justin: Woo!

Travis: Thank you very much. I've listened to a lot of Garth Brooks in the last two weeks.

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: The bull stomps twice, snorts black smoke, and charges you.

Aabria: Oh.

Travis: What do you do?

Aabria: Doooodge?

Griffin: Dodge it.

Travis: Ah, good.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Hey, good start.

Aabria: Thanks!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Give me a Feelings roll.

Griffin: Why is dodging Feelin— Oh yeah, I guess that makes sense. You want this one to be above.

Aabria: Yah, I know. [sighs]

Travis: Now, for Missy, as a quick-draw robot...

Aabria: [gasps]

Travis: Avoiding danger—

Justin: Oh yeah!

Travis: — is something you are an expert at.

Aabria: [sighs] Oh, thank you.

Travis: So even though you're not prepared, you do get two dice for that.

Aabria: Please!

Griffin: [snorts]

Aabria: What if I roll a two twice? That adds up to a [chuckles] four.

Travis: Now I do know how math works, but I also know how dice work.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yes.

Aabria: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Travis: You are clipped by the bull, and you are thrown into one of the walls of the arena. So you are knocked, for lack of a better word, prone. Other two, give me some kind of reaction to this bull charging in your direction.

Griffin: Is this a cyber-bull? A cy-bull.

Travis: It is a mechanical bull. It is robotic in nature, but not necessarily— Think a little more like steampunky, gears and wind up and less computerized.

Griffin: Okay. Um... Okay. Um... So enveloping its head you think would do like not mu— Okay, cool.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: A ro-bovine?

[audience slowly cheers]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's good, yeah. I like that.

Aabria: Thanks. Thanks guys.

Justin: I pull out my gun. And I say...

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Who wants steak?

Justin: And then I blast it.

Travis: I almost said "I don't think you have a gun," and then I remembered you're Pepsi Liberty, proud American.

Griffin: Yes.

Aabria: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Yes. Of course I have a gun.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Most gun.

Travis: Give me a... Lasers roll.

Justin: 'Kay.

Travis: I will say you are prepared for this 'cause you have a— you have a gun.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles] Sure!

[pause]

Griffin: [quietly] We've been really not rolling very good tonight.

Justin: Feelings roll.

Griffin: Is above.

Travis: No. This is Lasers.

Justin: Maybe next time, I didn't quite get that old bull. Aw, man.

Travis: Oh it bounces right off of the gold belt buckle.

Justin: He's gonna be madder than ever. [wheezes] Aw, buddy.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: The bullet ricochets off the gold belt buckle, and boy is that cowboy upset.

Justin: Aw, man.

Travis: He won that gold belt buckle in Tulsa.

Forty-Eight: The belt buck— The belt buckle is the weak point.

Griffin: I attack the belt buckle.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Get him.

Griffin: I'm gonna float right up to him—

Travis: How?

Griffin: I'll float up to it, envelop his waist, and try and undo his belt buckle.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: This I'm gonna watch.

Travis: Yeah, just so I'm clear.

Griffin: Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: [sighs] You're gonna goop around his waist.

Aabria: Yeah.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: And using...

Aabria: Say it slower.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Using... your goop.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Unbuckle his belt?

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Not his belt, just get the buckle off. I guess the belt's comin' off, yeah. But it's not about that. For me.

Justin: Hi, and welcome to the Specific Fetish Hour. I'm your host—

[audience laughs]

Justin: — Justin McElroy. I hope you've enjoyed our play of...

Griffin: [wheezes] Yeah, that's the most— That's an erotic phrase right there. "Let me goop [chuckles] around your waist."

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Alright, so what am I roll—

Travis: "Hey listen, I know we just met, but I feel like there's [chuckles] a lot of chemistry here."

Griffin: Yeah.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: So what am I rolliing?

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: I'm trying to figure out, Griffin. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: It's gotta be Lasers.

Griffin: It feels like Fee—

Aabria: Coward, you gotta pick Feelings.

Griffin: Yeah. No, it's Lasers. It's definitely Lasers.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I'm not prepared for this in any way.

Travis: No.

[audience laughs]

Travis: No-one is.

Griffin: Should be pretty easy? I got my number.

[Aabria gasps]

Justin: Wooow.

Aabria: Good job!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Laser Feelings.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: May I take your belt off?

[audience laughs]

Travis: Thank you for [chuckles] asking.

[audience laughs]

Travis: So it separates the cowboy and the bull.

Griffin: Cool.

Travis: When you remove the belt buckle. The bull is still charging, the cowboy, you realize, was just waist up.

Aabria: Oh.

Justin: Oh, okay.

Travis: So he's kind of on hands, charging around, but far less.

Forty-Eight: We can make it work.

Travis: Yeah, far— Lovely.

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: Okay. I'm going to get on top of the bull.

Justin: Nice.

Griffin: No wait, I'll be an adhesive sort of glue for one of the two of you to be on the bu—

Aabria: No, go for it.

Griffin: Okay, I'll get up on the bull.

Travis: God. Okay. Is it Lasers or Feelings to stick yourself—

Griffin: This time it's Feelings.

Travis: Okay. Yeah, you know what?

Aabria: Sticky's a feeling.

Travis: I would consider this an Animal Handling kinda check.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: And that's Feelings. Communing—

Justin: So you need five or six.

Aabria: You got this.

[sound of a die rolling]

Griffin: Five.

Aabria: Yeah!

Justin: Whoa!

[audience cheers]

Travis: Aw, hell yeah. Alright. You are able to bond with the bull, right?

[audience laughs]

Travis: And you definitely feel—

Griffin: Not that hard— It's not that hard.

[audience laughs]

Travis: You feel what is basically now becoming like a struggle between you and the mechanical will of this beast.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And so you're definitely gaining control, but not right away. Right.

Forty-Eight: Someone help me. I do not know how.

Travis: Missy, you're up. What do you do?

Aabria: Um... [sighs]

Travis: The— The top half of the cowboy is making its way towards you.

Aabria: What's the energy on top half of the cowboy?

Travis: He's angry.

Missy: Why are you mad?

Travis: 'Cause—

Missy: I got hit.

Travis: Yeah, but he's just a angry fel— I mean, he's an angry robot, programmed to hurt.

Aabria: Okay. I'm gonna try to kick the cowboy into the bull.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Whoa, nice.

Aabria: I'm gonna punt this—

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Wait, is this a boss fight?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Shit! Okay, I didn't know that. I would've done a different thing.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: You wouldn't have gooped around his waist and taken his pants off?

Griffin: Nah, man.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I thought this was a puzzle, not—

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm sorry, I fucked up my whole turn.

Aabria: Nah, you're good, boo.

Griffin: Nah, my action economy's all fucked up now, Travis!

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: My DPS is too low, Travis! Damnit!

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: [cackles]

Travis: [cackles]

Travis: Okay! Aabria, roll for me a Lasers roll.

Aabria: `Kay.

Travis: Kicking I would say is not necessarily your strong suit. So we're gonna do a one here. But combat you are good at, so we'll do two, for an expert but not prepared.

Aabria: Thank you. I was gonna accept it, but I'm glad you argued with yourself on my behalf.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: One success.

Justin: Ayyyy!

Travis: One success, alright.

[audience cheers]

Travis: You definitely like you're not quite able to get him back to the bull.

Aabria: Mm.

Travis: Right? But you definitely knock him off balance, and he's walking on his hands, he definitely flails backwards.

Aabria: Can I— Can I kinda skid him under the bull— Like I just— In the bull's path.

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Aabria: I just wanna see if they're like connected emotionally, like is this bull going to trample that cowboy, or maybe like—

Justin: Well it doesn't actually get us any closer to the end, but you just really wanna find out [wheezes] if it will or not.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: You really just wanna psychologically get in there.

Aabria: I would—! Okay. I— Yeah. [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs] She's testing their connection.

Travis: Yes. Okay. You kick the cowboy in such a way that he is now placed between you and the bull. Pepsi, you're up.

Justin: Um... So wait. Okay. [chuckles] So the— Can I wait a second?

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: First, here's what I really need—

Aabria: See, you wanna see where this goes too!

Justin: Yeah, the bull is chargin' at the cowboy.

Travis: I just need a quick—

Justin: Can I just wait a second?

Travis: I need a quick— Griffin, I need you to voice for me.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: What Forty-Eight is experiencing while glued [chuckles] to the back of this bull.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: It could only be described... as... an awakening.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: For so long... Forty-Eight's life has been dedicated to... the... proselytizing of this great man's works. Tim McGraw.

He's written songs about the feeling that I'm feeling right now, but this is my first time ever feeling that, and that's an important moment for me and my character, that has never been published before in our public podcasting feed. I'm growing a lot today, and no-one gives a shit [chuckles] because they've never heard of my character before.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: That's what I'm experiencing, Travis.

Travis: That's beautiful, Griffin.

Griffin: Thanks.

[audience cheers]

Travis: Griffin, roll for me... a Feelings roll... to see if you can dir— Get this bull to run over the cowboy.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: And I get a bonus—

Justin: Wait, wait, wait. You can at least make it two point seven seconds. Because Tim McGraw in "Live Like You Were Dyin'" went two point seven seconds on a bull named Fu Man Chu.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Look at youuuu!

Travis: Hey. How do you guys know so much about Tim McGraw but so little about Garth Brooks?

Griffin: 'Cause Garth Brooks sucks!

Justin: Ooohhh!

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Oooh. Brah! Brah!

Griffin: I'm gonna roll—

Travis: He didn't mean it, Garth.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] He's alive. I'm gonna roll.

Aabria: I like Reba.

Griffin: I'm gonna roll three dice.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Because of what I said. [wheezes]

Griffin: Because of the great shit Justin said. And I want a five or a six? I got one of `em.

Travis: Okay, yeah. That bull is charging towards that cowboy.

Griffin: And I kill him. With it. The bull kills—

Travis: The bull—

[audience laughs]

Griffin: The bull kills him.

Travis: The bull... The bull full speed, charging at you, Missy. And the cowboy skids into his path, and at the last second, the bull skids to try to stop, and topples over.

Aabria: Ooo.

Travis: Forty-Eight, you're thrown from the bull at two point eight seconds.

Griffin: Perfect.

Travis: Yeah. You've done it.

Griffin: I've finished. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: I hate this show. [laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: You did this.

Travis: Yeah. And the bull and the rider are— are both toppled and you're left holding the gold belt buckle. Of victory.

Aabria: Wooo!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Woooo!

Forty-Eight: This is what Old Man Rock wanted, right? Let's bring it on back home.

Missy: It— No, this—

Pepsi Liberty: No, these aren't the Garth Books.

Missy: Aren't we lookin' for a book?

Forty-Eight: The Garth Books, that's right.

Missy: Yeah.

Forty-Eight: Let's go, baby.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Hold on, is there any like fun thing I can scavenge from the bull? While that's kind of—

Forty-Eight: Yeah, let's loot.

Missy: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Missy: I wanna upgrade myself.

Justin: Get five skins. Trade 'em in.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: Hell yeah, get some crushbone belts.

Griffin: Yeah. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Yeah, give me a— a Feelings— No, give me a Lasers roll to search.

Aabria: Nope.

Travis: No. You— You don't find anything.

Aabria: Pfft. Okay, we should go.

Travis: You find a note in the cowboy's pocket that's like, "Damn, I love this bull and he loves me."

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "We're best friends, he'd never hurt me,"

Aabria: I kick him in the face and keep walking.

Travis: Ow.

Justin: Ooo, ouch.

Robot Cowboy: I was your real dad.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh shit.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I go back and finish what I started.

Griffin: Whoa!

[audience laughs]

Aabria: What?

Forty-Eight: Everyone's having huge character development this episode.

Travis: You are able, as soon as this is done, you can see the chute that the bull entered from open, and you can see the hallway leading to the next chamber.

Forty-Eight: Let's go.

Pepsi Liberty: Yeah.

Missy: Are we doin' good? How's everyone feeling?

Pepsi Liberty: I could use a water.

Griffin: Can we have a water break?

Travis: Yeah. I— Sure. Wait, are you— Wait, okay. Wait. On what level are you asking me this?

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: No that's it. I was just trying to— Like sometimes in— in shows or like movies or whatever, sometimes when things have been— a lot's been happenin', sometimes people will be like, "Let's take a break and get some water." Now this is it—

Travis: Yeah, and this is a long hallway to the next chamber.

Aabria: Yeah.

Justin: Right.

[audience laughs]

Travis: There's a little table set up with some like trail mix.

Griffin: Yeah.

Aabria: Awwww.

Travis: There's some bottles of water.

Griffin: Great.

Travis: There's a bathroom.

Justin: Oh great.

Travis: If anyone needs it.

Aabria: Oh that's good.

Travis: A little couch.

Forty-Eight: Have you all tried this water? Insane.

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I'm gonna sip the water.

Justin: How is he inge— How is— Sorry.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Thank you!

Forty-Eight: This is just—

Justin: Paul.

Griffin: That was the code word we use to tell—

Justin: Paul, what the fuck gives you the idea that I want a water right now?

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Thank you.

[audience cheers]

Pepsi Liberty: Alright, I'm ready to rock.

Aabria: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: I'm all—

Travis: Are you sure?

Griffin: Yeah, I'm all charged up.

Pepsi Liberty: I'm all wet. Let's go!

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: You reach the chamber. And two things immediately catch your eye. One... aside from the entrance, there does not appear to be any other door or clear exit in this room.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: But second—

Justin: Save for the one we just entered from I'm assuming, okay got it.

Travis: Yes. Second, and much more notably, the majority of this room, the floor of which is taken up by two swirling whirlpools of liquid. One that reeks of whiskey and one that reeks of beer. And that's the only two things in this room.

[pause]

Griffin: Are you Googling lyrics of Garth Brook—

Justin: If you can—

Griffin: Hold on! We all should've been doing this.

Justin: If you Google "Garth Brooks" and "whiskey," your phone will melt. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: That is not gonna be helpful.

Aabria: I know this one.

Justin: I wanna remember the—

Griffin: No no no, Aabria's got this one.

Justin: Yeah, please Aabria, please yes.

[Aabria giggles]

Justin: Bring it home.

Aabria: Okay. Sorry, say that one more time. I'm— I got really excited 'cause it was a song I recognized.

Travis: Basically, you're looking at the ground right?

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: And swirling downward.

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: Right? You have a whirlpool of whiskey and a whirlpool of beer.

Aabria: Okay. Hold on. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

[pause]

Travis: This is great.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: You were so confident.

Aabria: The lyrics aren't really giving me like a thing to do. I look for a friend in the low place?

Travis: Well—

Griffin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: In— In the song I believe you're referencing, what does the beer do and what does the whiskey do?

Griffin: Oh.

Aabria: Oh! Okay. Drown— Oh my god.

Missy: Pepsi, do you trust me?

Pepsi Liberty: I...

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: With my life.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I'm gonna gently lead Pepsi to the whiskey pool, and like a like old-timey Southern Baptist... drown this human man in the whiskey... pool.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Now.

Griffin: Now that's normal. We know about this.

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: This was our experience to a tee.

Justin: Yeah, I'm sayin' out loud—

Pepsi Liberty: This is a thing. This is a thing.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Hey, you know what? Yes and. Alright, Aabria.

Aabria: [chuckles] Oh no!

Travis: Give me—

Aabria: You'll have to give me this!

Travis: Give me a Feelings roll.

Justin: [simultaneously] I got some feelings about this.

Griffin: [simultaneously] The feeling of being drowned! [laughs]

Aabria: Hold on, I am prepared for this. I've drowned men.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah. Thank you.

Justin: Okay, Aabria, that's the T-shirt I want. Special co-branded partnership between you and us.

Aabria: Yes.

Justin: Just a picture of you and it says, "I've drowned men."

Travis & Griffin: [simultaneously] "I've drowned men."

[audience cheers]

Aabria: Yeah.

Travis: Alright, yeah. Give me two.

Aabria: Thanks. Please. I got my number. [sighs]

Travis: Oh excellent, okay.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Wait, is this a Lasers roll or a Feelings roll?

Aabria: It was a Feelings roll.

Travis: It was a Feelings roll.

Griffin: Then you got two— No no no, okay. Yes yes yes.

Travis: As soon—

Griffin: I guess drowning is a passionate act.

Travis: You— So you're kind of lowering him in, right?

Aabria: Yeah.

Roby Keith: And as soon as any part of his skin right touches the whiskey, he— you can't breathe, Pepsi. Immediately like the— It's like air is pulled out of your lungs.

Aabria: Oh.

Justin: 'Cause the whiskey drowns?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Good, okay. Um... Oh. I use my straw.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Now. There are two whirlpools.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: And I feel like you guys have gotten really caught up on what the whiskey does.

Griffin: Pepsi's—

Travis: And forgotten to follow through with what the beer does.

Griffin: Pepsi Liberty's straw is like a really important character beat for him.

Justin: [wheezes] It's a big thing.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: It represents a lot of growth for Pepsi.

Travis: As soon as you are no longer touching the whiskey, by the way, your breath returns to you as well.

Justin: Okay, I step away.

Pepsi Liberty: Well, okay. Let's reevaluate [chuckles] everybody.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I just wanna say, I didn't necessarily stop what I was doing...

Griffin: Yeah. This—

Aabria: We can move on, but...

Justin: Please don't make me die here, Aabria.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: No, I wouldn't.

Justin: Ah, alright, fair.

Aabria: [sweetly] No.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [quietly] I scoop some with my cup.

Justin: Alright, I hop in the beer pool.

Travis: Well that's wise, because as you know, the whiskey drowns and the beer chases your blues away. And you'll be okay.

Justin: I feel a lot better about almost drowning [chuckles] a second ago.

Travis: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Travis: And you're pulled down, as— as you go, once again without the memory erasure or anything like that, it's like your cares are just melting away.

Pepsi Liberty: Alright.

Travis: Beer's chasing your blues away, and you know that you'll be okay.

Justin: Oh, great.

Travis: And you reach the bottom, and you're pulled down, out of sight of you two.

Missy: Okay, I feel like my pool was actually somehow less bad. He's gone.

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: He got Augustus Glooped down there, I am not fucking around with that.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: I am doing my best Oompa Loompa on the side, like mourning him with a body roll.

[audience chuckles]

Travis: The traditional Oompa Loompa dance of mourning.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah. Body roll.

[audience laughs]

Travis: "No."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Hold on, so—

Justin: You're imagining it too, right?

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: Where they're all wearin' black, it's amazing.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: Can I f—

Justin: Oompa Loompas at a funeral, whoever heard of such a thing.

[audience chuckles]

Griffin: Can Forty-Eight and Missy just kinda wait a couple minutes for all the beer to run out? And then it's just a cone, right?

Travis: It's not draining.

Griffin: This is an infinite—

Aabria: Hold on.

Griffin: Hold on, wait!

Aabria: Yeah! Yeah. Get in there! Get in there!

Griffin: An infinite beer whirlpool!

Justin: Watch out, Mr Wizard, they're comin' for your science.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: I know how you looooooove science.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: I— I hop in the whiskey pool and then the beer pool. Whatever.

Aabria: [laughs]

Forty-Eight: I don't know what this is going to do to me.

Justin: Wait, you're gettin' in both?

Forty-Eight: Yes.

Justin: Yes!

Aabria: You gotta double dip!

Travis: Wait, so are you splitting your body in half?

Twenty-Four: Yes. Meet Twenty-Four.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: Griffin, not now. But sometime before the next *Hootenanny*, you have to choose half of Tim McGraw's songs to be erased from your memory.

Aabria: [gasps]

[audience reacts with shock]

Griffin: [laughs] I can tell you one of 'em that'll for sure be on the fucking list!

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: It's "Indian Outlaw."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: I don't think it's to— Okay, cool.

Justin: "Indian Outlaw," yeah. Okay.

Griffin: Alright, yeah. Twenty-Four, half of me's goin' in one, half of me in the other, baybeee.

Travis: Half of you.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: The surviving half.

Griffin: Yeaup!

Aabria: Oh.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Makes it to the bottom.

Griffin: [wheezes] This is a great loss for the galaxy!

Justin: [wheezes]

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: I have sacrificed half the work of Tim McGraw for this puzzle!

Justin: How could you play so fast and loose with the canon, Griffin?!

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Twenty-Four is pulled through the beer funnel and out the other side. Where you are now with Pepsi Liberty, safe and sound.

Twenty-Four: It was something about refried beans. Fuck, what was it?!

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Twenty-Four: Don't take the woman? Fuck!

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: Wait, does he just lose every other word [wheezes] to all of Tim McGraw's songs?!

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs] All the songs, every other word!

Travis: "Was it Tom McGraw? Damnit!"

Twenty-Four: [singing] "And do it like you're dyin'!" [normal] Right? Fuck! Oh no!

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I'm married to a beautiful woman named Faith... Helgerberger."

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I think."

Aabria: It added a new worse name.

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: I hop in.

Travis: To which one?

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: The right one.

Travis: Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah. I beer pong myself to the—

Griffin: So wait, we didn't have to do the whiskey and then the beer?

Travis: No.

Griffin: Alright, see I thought that was the puzzle, or else I wouldn't have sacrificed half of my form.

Aabria: Wait. Okay, hold on. I— Okay, Twenty-Four jumps into the beer. What happens to the Twenty-Four in the whiskey?

Griffin: We'll find out in *Hootenanny six*.

Aabria: Oh, okay. Never mind, I'll leave that for a sequel, and I hop in the right one.

Travis: Yes, you are once more pulled out the end of this beer funnel, and you— all three of you now. Well two and a half of you now. It's fine.

Aabria: Awwww.

Griffin: Hey, no.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I'm my own dude still. It's just I only know half of the Tim McGraw songs.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: A lot— I haven't changed aside from that fact.

Justin: [laughs]

Aabria: Okay.

Griffin: I still love to vape and envelop the heads of [chuckles] random men.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: And goop their waist.

Griffin: [chuckles] And goop their waist, thank you so much, Travis.

Aabria: Yeah. [chuckles]

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: You're welcome. But—

Griffin: You know what? Actually, I left that in whiskey Twenty-Four.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: No!

Griffin: Yeah, whiskey Twenty-Four was really into that, but not so much beer Twenty-Four, his is a—

Aabria: Whiskey Twenty-Four was saying some pretty crazy things back there.

Travis: That's good.

Griffin: Whiskey Twenty-Four is a fuckin' great name for a— Yeah.

Aabria: Yeah!

Griffin: Shit.

Aabria: Yeah.

Justin: I hope someday, everyone in this room brings a friend to *Hootenanny 6*. And they're like, "So catch me up," and you're like, "Okay. Shit. Hold on. Wait. How long do you have?" [chuckles]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "So there are these three episodes you're never gonna hear." [chuckles]

Aabria: Yes.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "I think they played Jenga in one of 'em?"

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: "It was wild man. Anyways, they're all dead now. These are new guys who run the show." [chuckles]

Griffin: Next chamber. Feed me. [chuckles]

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: More puzzles.

Justin: Feed him content.

Travis: Down here, in— in this chamber—

Griffin: Is there just beer fuckin' everywhere down here?

Aabria: Yeah, how'd that work? How did it strain the people?

Travis: Garth Brooks magic.

Griffin: [cackles]

Aabria & Justin: [simultaneously] Awwww.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Alright.

Griffin: Okay.

Aabria: Yeah.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: Down here, there is... no puzzle to be seen, nothing to do. You see—

Aabria: We did it.

Justin: One.

Travis: On a pedestal, illuminated, a fairly small book. And a pretty old dude sitting next to it. His absolutely like just like bone white hair hangs in front of his face. You see a little bone white little soul patch under his chin.

Griffin: Oh, shit.

Travis: And he sits next to the book and says.

Unknown Man: Oh, hello... Pepsi. Twenty-Four. And Missy.

Twenty-Four: There's no fucking way you know my deal.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: There's no fuckin' way you know my whole deal. It just happened.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Unknown Man: I've been watching.

Pepsi Liberty: Sorry, who are you, sir?

Unknown Man: Ah...

Aabria: [quietly] Stop doing the plot.

Chris Gaines: I'm Chris Gaines.

[some of the audience reacts]

Justin: Alright, if you're not aware, Garth Brooks released an album as a pop alter-ego, as part of the promotion for a never released movie that he wrote called "The Lamb," about a fake pop star named Chris Gaines. And he performed and released a greatest hits CD as Chris Gaines. Once appearing on *SNL* hosting as Garth Brooks, and performing as Chris Gaines. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: It's so good.

Twenty-Four: Who the fuck are you?

Chris Gaines: Chris Gaines.

Pepsi Liberty: He and Garth Brooks are real good friends.

Chris Gaines: Well, we were. But Garth has long gone now. He died.

Pepsi Liberty: Wait.

Aabria: [quietly] What?

Pepsi Liberty: Sorry, come again?

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Y— Garth died, but you're...

Twenty-Four: Cool?

Chris Gaines: Here.

Pepsi Liberty: Whoa.

Missy: Like metaphorically?

Chris Gaines: No, he died parasailing. Doing what he loved.

Pepsi Liberty: If I could be so bold, what were you doing at the time, Chris?

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: I was not parasailing.

Pepsi Liberty: Whoa.

Twenty-Four: That's not—

Missy: Okay.

Twenty-Four: [wheezes] I don't think that's how it works.

Pepsi Liberty: [chuckles] That doesn't seem right.

Missy: Um...

Pepsi Liberty: Sorry, can we have the book, or what's up?

Missy: Yeah. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Missy: 'Cause it's the Garth Book.

Pepsi Liberty: The Garth Book.

Chris Gaines: Yes. Tell me, why do you seek—

Pepsi Liberty: Oh, I thought there wouldn't be any more—

Missy: Why do you care? You're Chris [chuckles] Gaines.

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: Garth Brooks was my best friend.

Missy: Okay.

Twenty-Four: You don't sound all that torn up about his passing.

Chris Gaines: He died like 800 years ago.

Pepsi Liberty: How are you still alive?

Chris Gaines: Magic.

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: This— Hold on. No. [wheezes]

Justin: [wheezes]

Twenty-Four: This is a scientific fiction universe.

Justin: [wheezes]

Chris Gaines: Mmm.

Twenty-Four: There must be an explanation for everything.

Chris Gaines: Mm. Tell me about it.

Twenty-Four: [wheezes] Okay.

Pepsi Liberty: No.

Twenty-Four: Chris.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Interesting.

Twenty-Four: You're a lot of fun, Chris.

Missy: So did you like make Planet Garth?

Pepsi Liberty: Yeah.

Chris Gaines: Oh, yes.

Missy: And you did a lot of stuff about Garth and nothing about you or your just off—

Chris Gaines: It's not about me.

Missy: Okay.

Pepsi Liberty: Oh yeah.

Chris Gaines: Garth was my hero.

Twenty-Four: We weren't sent to retrieve the Chris Games.

Aabria: Ha ha haaaa.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: That was good.

Justin: That is good.

Chris Gaines: Why do you seek the Garth Book?

Pepsi Liberty: Um...

Missy: So my dad's not dead, and we can continue...

Chris Gaines: Ah.

Missy: To fly in space.

Chris Gaines: Tale as old as time. [chuckles]

Missy: Yeah.

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Missy: Hey, okay.

Pepsi Liberty: I'm pretty— I'm pretty sure I can't pee til I find it, [chuckles] so...

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Uh, we're— I just wanted to go ahead and have it.

[audience laughs]

Missy: Are you gonna like stop us? 'Cause it feels like you kinda blew your load with the bull.

Justin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: No. Wait, did somebody blow their load on the bull?

Twenty-Four: [defensively] No!

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: Some of us produce a sort of residual data slime.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Twenty-Four: But it doesn't have anything to do with that.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [snorts]

Twenty-Four: And you're the one who made it weird by talking about it.

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: So can we have the book or what?

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: You can read the book here, but the book must not leave this room.

Missy: Why?

Pepsi Liberty: Aalright, partner. Listen, I didn't wanna do this the hard way, but—

Justin: And I pull out my gun.

[audience laughs]

Justin: That I still have. [chuckles] And I'm gonna get this done.

Griffin: [laughs]

Chris Gaines: And, sorry.

Aabria: [laughs]

Chris Gaines: Are you threat— You're threatening me, yes?

Pepsi Liberty: Hopefully not. Hopefully it's a pleasant request and I can just take the book.

Aabria: Oooh...

Chris Gaines: Um, no?

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Alright partner, I didn't wanna do this, but 800 years—

Chris Gaines: It kinda seems like you do.

Missy: Yeah, that's the thing.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: [chuckles] 800 years is a real good run.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Give me the book. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: He really has a—

Travis: Okay.

Pepsi Liberty: Only 'cause I want it.

Twenty-Four: Sorry Chris, let me explain. The optics of wasting you with a gun right now are pretty bad.

Chris Gaines: Okay.

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: Okay. Go for it.

Griffin: [laughs]

Missy: Hey.

Justin: No, I put my gun away.

Pepsi Liberty: Alright, what'd you—

Missy: What?!

Chris Gaines: No no no! No, big man!

Missy: Come on!

Twenty-Four: No, Jus— I mean, Pepsi!

Pepsi Liberty: No, you have some sort of—

Missy: Pepsi.

Pepsi Liberty: — rhyming puzzle, let's hear it.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: You want me to fill up a crystal goblet with blah blah blah blah. Give me the book!

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: No, the book literally can't leave this room. It's glued to that—

Justin: I'mma try to grab it.

Travis: Okay. It's glued to the pedestal.

Pepsi Liberty: Fuck.

Chris Gaines: You can read it.

Justin: Alright, I read all of it.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: When—

Griffin: We chill, for about an hour.

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: When you open the book, there's only writing on the first page.

Justin: [snorts] Cool book.

Aabria: Take! The page!

[audience laughs]

Justin: Wait—

Travis: It's really strong paper.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: [chuckles] This is like—

[audience laughs]

Travis: This is like some cardstock shit. It's amazing.

Griffin: The paper is also glued to the floor.

Travis: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: And the paper simply reads "As you look higher and higher, and reach for your goals, never forget where your friends are."

Pepsi Liberty: Oh...

Missy: You got kinda misty there, what's goin' on, bud?

Pepsi Liberty: Well.

Twenty-Four: Do you need her to drown you again?

[audience laughs]

Missy: Oh! Yeah. I brought some of the whiskey.

Griffin: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Well.

Missy: Hold this.

Pepsi Liberty: I'm so— Oh, thank you.

Travis: You can't breathe.

[audience laughs]

Twenty-Four: Why did you do this?

Travis: But only for a second, it's really good whiskey.

Justin: Okay.

Pepsi Liberty: Oh boy, that's good.

Aabria: [laughs]

Justin: You know, I don't normally breath when I'm drinking regular whiskey, to be fair.

Travis: Yeah, that's for the best.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Yeah, it's just not safe.

Travis: Doesn't mix well.

Justin: No. Yeah—

Travis: Unless you vape it.

Justin: You're basically saying that when I went in the whiskey, I held my breath.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: Is that what we're saying?

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: No, it's worse. It's that when you were drinking the whiskey, you somehow decided to try to breath and could not.

Justin: [wheezes] Yeah, at the same time.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Okay, I cough. Ahhhh! Is this about [chuckles] friends in low places again?

Griffin: Sounds like it.

Travis: As you close the book... music begins to play. So this is a thing that we do at the end of each *Hootenanny*.

Aabria: Ho.

Travis: This is where it's comin'.

[guitar music starts to play]

[audience cheers]

Justin: [singing] *"Blame it all on my roots, I showed up in boots
And ruined your black tie affair
The last one to know, the last one to show
I was the last one you thought you'd see there"*

Travis: [singing] *"And I saw the surprise, the fear in his eyes
When I took his glass of champagne"*

Travis & Justin: [singing] *"And I toasted you, said, 'Honey, we may be
through
But you'll never hear me complain'"*

All: [singing] *"'Cause I've got friends in low places
Where the whiskey drowns and the beer chases my blues away
And I'll be OK
Yeah, I'm not big on social graces
Think I'll slip on down to the oasis
Oh, I've got friends in low places"*

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: Dance break!

Griffin: These goggles are so foggy.

[audience cheers]

Aabria: I don't know this song. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Let's go.

Griffin: [singing] *"Well, I guess I was wrong, I just don't belong"*

Aabria: Woo!

Griffin: [singing] *"But then I've been there before"*

Paul Sabourin: [quietly] He has, he's been there before.

Griffin: [singing] *"Everything is all right, I'll just say good night
And I'll show myself to the door"*

Paul Sabourin: [signing] *"Hey, I didn't mean to cause a big scene
Just give me an hour and then"*

All: [singing] *"Well, I'll be as high as that ivory tower
That you're livin' in*

*'Cause I've got friends in low places
Where the whiskey drowns and the beer chases my blues away
And I'll be OK
Yeah, I'm not big on social graces
Think I'll slip on down to the oasis
Oh, I've got friends in low places"*

Griffin: 12 more times on this chorus, let's go!

Travis: Everybody!

Justin: Let's hear y'all!

All: [singing] *"Oh, I've got friends in low places*

Where the whiskey drowns and the beer chases my blues away"

Justin: Everybody!

All: [singing] *"And I'll be OK"*

Justin: Beautiful! Beautiful!

Aabria: [laughs]

All & Audience: [singing] *"Yeah, I'm not big on social graces
Think I'll slip on down to the oasis
Oh, I've got friends in low places"*

Griffin: I envelop Chris Gaines's head and drown him and take the book.

Justin: No, impossible. It can't be again.

All & Audience: [singing] *"Yeah, I've got friends in low places
Where the whiskey drowns and the beer chases my blues away
And I'll be OK
Yeah, I'm not big on social graces
Think I'll slip on down to the oasis"*

Griffin: Please, Garth.

All: [singing] *"Oh, I've got friends in low places"*

Justin: Come on Garth.

Paul Sabourin: One more time on that last one!

Justin: No, Paul. Impossible!

Griffin: No! No! No!

All & Audience: [singing] *"Yeah, I've got friends in low places"*

[country music backing ends]

Travis: Thank you.

[audience cheers uproariously]

Travis: And as the music fades...

[audience applauds]

Travis: You hear a soft sob and a deep sigh.

Griffin: We're good.

Travis: Just like that...

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: And you see Roby Keith and Old Man Rock walk in with Shoots McCracken.

Aabria: What?

Travis: And Old Man Rock says—

Old Man Kid Rock: That was beautiful! So, my "Friends in Low Places" made me think about how much I love Roby Keith!

[audience cheers]

Aabria: [pants] I knew it.

Old Man Kid Rock: As a— As a friend! As a friend!

Missy: [shouts] No!

[audience boos]

Griffin, Aabria & Justin: [simultaneously] Boooo!

Justin: Bend the narrative to my will!

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: Love him for real!

Travis: As a boyfriend.

[audience laughs]

Griffin, Aabria & Justin: [simultaneously] Yaaaay!

[audience cheers]

Griffin: [claps]

Aabria: We did it.

Roby Keith: I've always felt the same way. [chuckles]

Twenty-Four: Hell yes.

Pepsi Liberty: Does that mean you guys don't care about the book anymore, 'cause you're found a treasure that's even greater?

Aabria: Ooo!

Old Man Kid Rock: You know what, I wasn't thinkin' that way til you said it, but damn that sounds real good. Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Hell yeah. Is the book free now? Can I lift it up?

Aabria: [laughs]

Travis: No?

Griffin: Has Chris Gaines turned into a pillar of ash?

[audience laughs]

Aabria: Ooo.

Chris Gaines: I'm gonna go now. Ugh.

Missy: Where— Where? Where are you going?

Chris Gaines: I've got a racket ball session.

[audience chuckles]

Pepsi Liberty: Hey.

Missy: Racket ball?

Chris Gaines: Yeah.

Pepsi Liberty: Chris, have you ever wanted to see the stars?

Chris Gaines: No.

[audience laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: [chuckles] Alright, take her sleazy, man.

Griffin: [laughs]

Chris Gaines: Alright. Bye, man!

Aabria: [laughs]

Pepsi Liberty: Hell, man.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Are you sure?! 'Cause— Oh, wait.

Twenty-Four: Are you sure, 'cause it would be cool.

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Chris Gaines: I'm good.

Aabria: [laughs]

Missy: Yeah, you wanna try someone else's accent on, little—

Pepsi Liberty: Wait! Wait, how's Shoots?

Travis: Aw, Shoots is fine. He's back, he loved the song, he's proud of his daughter.

Aabria: Aww.

Justin: Aww, that's great.

[audience awws]

Pepsi Liberty: Sounds like it all worked out.

Travis: Yep. You did it.

Justin: And then I take out my gun and I say—

Pepsi Liberty: Maybe next time, partner.

Aabria: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: And Benny Gene wakes up and comes out of the shitter and goes—

Benny Gene: What did I miss?

Justin: That's Dad. Hey, thanks everybody so much for comin' tonight.

Aabria: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

[country outro music fades in]

Justin: Thanks to our special, special guest, Aabria Iyengar! Thank you, Aabria!

[audience cheers loudly]

Justin: Thanks to Paul and Rachel and Amanda and Danielle, and everybody that made this possible.

Travis: And Rachel.

Justin: Rachel.

Travis: And Coco.

Justin: Thank you. Coco, everybody. Thank you so much!

[outro country music plays, then fades out]

[ukulele chord]

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