

MBMBaM 353: The Feenysnatcher

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Intro (Bob Ball):

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

[theme music plays]

Justin:

Hello, everybody and welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis:

I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy.

Griffin:

I'm your sweet baby brother, 30 under 30 media luminary, Griffin McElroy. Which one are we doing?

Travis:

Okay, we're doing a watch watch.

Griffin:

I know but we need to pick the film for it.

Travis:

Here's the thing, uh, they're all so good.

Justin:

Okay.

Travis:

They're literally all so good.

Justin:

Sometimes we talk about new movies in the intro and we watch out for them.

Griffin:

Oh, I just— We can do a circle watch and it's about— It's the— What if Facebook was, ugh, bad?

Travis:

Yeah. But like, some would argue, it is. Topical.

Griffin:

Aw, dang. See there'd be a lot of material there if we wanted to go with that as the watch, 'cause I could do a whole like, um, I get all these, you know, um, Dragon Puzzle Kingdom invites— No this isn't— That won't do it.

Travis:

We could do Sleight, but I actually am, like, legit excited to see Sleight but maybe there's some like, we could maybe tie it to the Now You See Me—verse.

Justin:

Fate of the Furious, didn't talk about the new... Uh, oh, wait a minute, I got it. I got it, I got it, I got it.

Griffin:

Alright.

Justin:

[singing] Ooga—chacka, ooga—ooga—ooga—chacka...

Griffin:

Where are we going?

Justin:

The Guardians of the Galaxy are back...

Griffin:

Hey, them!

Justin:

... and, yeah, we're— I'm watching out for them, 'cause, uh, they're back in a big way. The whole team is back. Superman, Batman, uh—

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

... Chris Pratt, all the dinosaurs. Um, the Parks and Rec gang are in this one. [laughs].

Griffin:

Plant...

Travis:

Wow!

Griffin:

Plantwoman, Tree— The small tree. Raccoon gun—haver.

Travis:

Tree Kid. Condor man.

Justin:

[crosstalk]. There is, uh, actually this one's got seven raccoons. They've upped the stakes.

Travis:

Whoa!

Justin:

Um, it, yeah. There's a tree and there's a strong fella, and then there's, uh, like eight or nine raccoons.

Griffin:

Yo, fuck these raccoons and fuck Guardians of the Galaxy and everybody involved with it. I'm here to talk about Chuck. It's back. They did it. We got it, six seasons and a movie. And he's back playing Chuck, and he's doing... Is he a spy or not? Yvonne Strahovski is here too, and she is definitely a spy. And I just clicked through and this is apparently a boxing movie with Liev Schreiber.

Travis:

Oh.

Griffin:

Which is good—

Justin:

Friend of the show.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Friend of the show, Liev Schreiber.

Justin:

Liev Schreiber.

Griffin:

Which is good—

Travis:

Uh, I was hoping it was Chuck Chuck, 'cause I do wanna...

Griffin:

I—

Travis:

... talk about my theory that Chuck is just a gritty reboot of The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes.

Griffin:

I won't let you talk about that on our podcast fucking ever again. You've done it once and—

Travis:

Have I brought it up before? Really?

Griffin:

Yeah, bud, you've done it before.

Travis:

Well...

Griffin:

I wanna go back to Boss Baby now.

Travis:

Okay.

Justin:

Still making a lot of money, I will say that. Making money hand over pudgy fist is Boss Baby.

Griffin:

Boss Baby.

Justin:

Alec Baldwin is back.

Griffin:

Back as a baby.

Justin:

As Jack Donaghy, a baby.

Griffin:

Here's what—

Justin:

From 30 Rock, [laughs], but he's a baby.

Griffin:

What I love about this, I have a baby now. But it's not, [laughs], he doesn't talk, he's not Alec Baldwin, he doesn't wear little suits and do whatever this wonderful baby does in this movie. And I, so now I can look at my baby, and I'll be swept away into a world of, like, make believe and stuff.

Justin:

Sure.

Travis:

I have, uh— If I might. Uh, if you're listening, creators of Boss Baby, and it might be a little late now 'cause your movie's out, but I would like to pitch a tagline for your movie.

Justin:

Little late.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

A little bit late for it.

Travis:

Um but here's a tagline. 'Look who's talking now!'

Justin:

Um...

Griffin:

And it's a bit, the, and, and, it's like: 'Q: Look who's talking now! A: A ba— this wild baby.'

Travis:

A baby.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

It's a baby.

Justin:

It's very, [laughs]—

Travis:

A baby in a suit.

Justin:

It's very businesslike.

Travis:

Who ever heard of such a thing?

Justin:

Um, his parents are putting him in those suits. [Laughs] I don't know if that's the [crosstalk].

Griffin:

What's the story with the Boss Baby? Does he ...

Justin:

I haven't... This is like the one animated film I haven't seen.

Travis:

I haven't seen it either, but I would like to theorize just based off the three seconds of trailer I've seen...

Griffin:

Hmm.

Travis:

... what I think Boss Baby is about. My theory.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

The boss is a fully-grown person who was cursed to be a baby, to remember what life was like before he cared about only business.

Griffin:

About money.

Justin:

So the, [laughs], so the end of the movie he realizes his mistake, he's transformed back into a fully-grown adult, which makes for, I would say, a pretty rough day for his parents.

Travis:

Yes.

Justin:

Uh, [singing] ooga-chaka, ooga-ooga-ooga chaka, remember?

Travis:

It's like a dancing Boss Baby.

Griffin:

Okay, you've confused me 'cause its the second time you've...

Justin:

A dancing Boss Baby.

Griffin:

... done that in the intro bit.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's just hard for me get on board with a watch about some little baby that I don't care about. Some Alec Baldwin baby.

Travis:

It, honest to god, I find it hard, and this is not a joke, to care about any watch other than Trolls 2.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Like, I—

Justin:

It's all I ... Yeah.

Travis:

I'm looking so far forward it's hard to be in the now.

Justin:

I'm looking forward to that. Griffin did you see the new Fast and Furious movie?

Griffin:

No, I didn't. I missed it. I haven't seen it yet. I heard that, I mean, I know that my, um, my big friend Vin Diesel, uh, turns on his family and I'm just okay pretending that this one doesn't exist, I guess. If that's the route that they wanna go, here's the route I'm gonna go: not to the movie theater. I'll go to the Baskin-Robbins instead or something. Find some better way to spend my time if you're gonna betray my family like that.

Justin:

And that's five minutes. Okay.

Travis:

Ugh.

Justin:

All right, now—

Travis:

Whew, we made it!

Griffin:

Jesus Christ, I can't believe how long we talked about Boss Baby.

Justin:

[laughs]. It took, uh, that took longer than— I mean we went 30 seconds over, we could've stopped back there, uh, a while ago. That was the—

Griffin:

I mean, you're assuming that that was all, Justin, pure, gonna make the show, unedited fucking nonstop gold.

Justin:

[crosstalk].

Griffin:

I'm not saying Boss Baby's a bad film, I'm saying I don't know the Boss Baby. I don't know the Boss Baby. I'm looking at a picture and he looks very smug and he's holding a cookie, which like, you're a baby. If you ate that you'd die. You know what I mean?

Justin:

Yeah, for sure.

Travis:

Babies can't have cookies?

Griffin:

No. Not when they're that small, they don't know how to chew or whatever.

Travis:

Oh, no.

Griffin:

Does the Boss Baby have teeth? Uh-oh, oh shit, Travis has to go.

Travis:

[laughs]. I'll be right back.

Griffin:

[laughs]. He has some chips a...

Travis:

I'll just text my wife, it'll be fine.

Justin:

Uh, she's just jamming cookies, [laughs], into the baby's mouth...

Travis:

[laughing].

Justin:

... like, like some sort of human gashapon machine. Uh, "I have this friend that every time I bring up something interesting I find out, they always answer with, 'You didn't know?' Are they lying to me and actually not know either, or do they actually have vast knowledge of fun facts and news?" That's from Aaron in Cincinnati. God, what a bummer.

Griffin:

What a shitty, bad one.

Justin:

Ugh, what a shitty thing.

Griffin:

Um, yeah, that's a ... No, I think your friend's a dick. I don't think they're Computer Wore Tennis Shoes. Well— Let's Occam's Razor this one, either your friend has this bad habit or they are Kirk Cameron in 'Tennis Shoes' with a Google brain. And I don't think Kirk Cameron's got a Google brain,

and I don't think you're friends with him, if that were true. So, I think it may just be uh, sort of a nasty habit that—

Justin:

This is—

Travis:

It also doesn't matter which is the answer, because like, that's not how you're supposed to respond to a human.

Justin:

Yeah, that's not how its done.

Griffin:

Well, I mean, he's got a fucking computer. He's got a Google brain, Travis. Like—

Travis:

But even then Griffin, if you had a Google brain and someone's like "Oh, Boss Baby is already out in theaters." You wouldn't respond like "Yeah, duh. You didn't know that? Get out of here!" Like, there's a better way to handle that exchange.

Griffin:

Yeah. Um, no your friend is an omnipresent, omni-knowledge-having. They probably know what the word is that I tried to get there but, um—

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... yeah. No it's just your friend has a bad habit. How do you fix this? Uh, this is, this is a bad one though.

Travis:

Ooh. You're gonna have to honeypot this.

Griffin:

Oh, shit! Oh, dammit!

Justin:

Yes, yes.

Travis:

You're gonna have to come— You're gonna have to like come up with some facts that ain't facts.

Griffin:

Hmm.

Justin:

Oh my God, I did this.

Griffin:

What did you do?

Justin:

In elementary school, we had a friend who was like this. And he would claim, like, to know all the stuff. And we came up with a sequel to Goonies, and we said... Um, we started talking a lot about Goonies II, and, did he know about Goonies II? And was he excited about it?

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

And he claimed to have known about Goonies II for a while. Not the NES game Goonies II, which I know existed...

Griffin:

I was about to say.

Justin:

... thank you, Twitter, you can fucking close the app, I got you.

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

[laughs]. I got you. And now tweet at me that I got you. If I did just get you, by the way—

Griffin:

If Justin just got you, you, you gotta own up to it.

Justin:

You got ... Tweet at me that I got you, okay?

Griffin:

You don't realize you're this friend and Justin just honey potted our entire listenership.

Justin:

Yeah. Yeah. But he, like, he claimed to like, he really, uh, buckled down on Goonies II existing and his knowledge of the, of the film. Uh, and that's, and that's how we finally got him. I don't think there was a prestige here. That would've been great if we had that. Uh, I don't think we had like a term for this particular grift.

Griffin:

Well, the prestige would've been, the prestige would've been that Goonies II really did exist and this guy really, his dad really was an executive producer on it, and he really did get an early screener, and he would say, he would put you back in your place. Which that would be horrible for you, it'd be great for me though 'cause I'd love a Goonies II. I'd love to see all those kids go on another treasure hunt.

Justin:

Yeah, I would love that. Now, do you know how big that would be?

Griffin:

It would be the biggest.

Justin:

Are you kidding me!

Griffin:

It would be the biggest ever.

Justin:

[crosstalk]

Travis:

Goonies II Toonies?

Justin:

Toonies?

Griffin:

Um, how about a Yahoo?

Justin:

Yeah, do it.

Griffin:

This was sent in by Morgan Davy, Keep It Wavy, Morgan Davy thank you. It's Yahoo Answers user Bunny who asks. "Can you name all of Steve Urkel's catchphrase?"

Travis:

Ugh.

Griffin:

And then additional details, "Can you name all of Steve Urkel's catchphrase." There's no question mark on that one.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

So it's sort of the subhead on this one kind of got a little, like, there's a desperation to it.

Travis:

Let's see.

Justin:

Please.

Travis:

There's—

Griffin:

Yeah. Before we get, I know we're about to just pull out our funny bones and just slam 'em against the table.

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

But before we do that, I mean, 'Did I do that?'

Travis:

Oh, were you trying to be funny? 'Cause I was gonna see if I could really do like, 'Got any cheese?'

Justin:

"Got any cheese?"

Travis:

I feel like that went away 'round middle of like season two? Like, 'Got any cheese?' was huge.

Griffin:

And that's weird how that, they kinda, it's rare that they phase out a catchphrase, huh? They were like "Guys, I just don't think 'Got any cheese' is..."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"... really penetrating the market audience. I don't know. Maybe he's not—"

Travis:

You know—

Griffin:

"Maybe he's not cheese obsessed as a character trait."

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

Uh, there's, "not while I'm pouring," uh, that was repeated numerous times.

Griffin:

Wait, really?

Travis:

While— Someone would try to talk to him whilst pouring a mixture and he would say "Shh! Not while I'm pouring." And it, I'm not even joking, that happened at least, uh, I would say, at least five times if not more. So I think that counts as a catchphrase.

Justin:

Well, uh, at least that's not a joke in any way.

Travis:

Yeah, that is actually just science safety.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Like he was pouring dangerous chemicals and people were trying to fucking talk to him.

Griffin:

Listen, you can lay a lot of...

Justin:

What about—

Griffin:

... slams down at Urkel's feet but he was a very good safe scientist. He kept a clean laboratory.

Justin:

[laughs]. I, uh, what about, "whoa, mama?" Right?

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Didn't he do that where he grabbed the glasses kind of?

Griffin:

Wo— Yes, "whoa, mama" was definitely one of them. Um, that one was listed by Yahoo member KO71 who says, "Did I do that? Who mama," which is a different, but close and good. This user also swears by the following catchphrases, "Sorry, Carl" is one I guess he probably said a lot.

Travis:

Uh—

Griffin:

Because he did foul up Carl's, I think, evening, a lot.

Travis:

But that just seems like human interaction. I don't know if that counts as...

Justin:

There's any—

Travis:

There weren't any T-shirts that just said "Sorry, Carl." [laughs].

Justin:

"Sorry Carl."

Griffin:

And then there was one that's, "Hi, Laura," and that is just sort of a greeting that, uh...

Justin:

Hmm.

Griffin:

... people say to each other and then of course, the timeless catchphrase that user KO71, loves this one, is, "I've made a new invention."

Travis:

Hmm.

Griffin:

Do you remember when Urkel—

Justin:

Um. [laughs].

Griffin:

Urkel would say, "Everyone, I've made a new invention!" And the audience would...

Travis:

They would just gather around.

Griffin:

... just clap and laugh and scream and woo.

Justin:

[laughing].

Griffin:

I've made a new invention. [Impersonating Urkel's voice] "I'm Urkel, I've made a new invention." I love it.

Justin:

I love—

Travis:

The weirdest part about that is once you got to, uh, season four, they just had him barrel, just like look right down the camera and say "I've made a new invention."

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Right he would kick open the—

Travis:

Not even in his Urkel voice.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

He would kick open the door to the Winslow household...

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... and step inside and the audience would applaud for seven minutes, and he would look right down the fucking barrel and he would just say, "I've made a new invention."

Travis:

"I've made a new invention."

Justin:

I like the, [laughs], I like the ones where someone would walk in and find Steve Urkel in their kitchen and he would say, "I've been in your kitchen for 15 minutes."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

[laughing]. Every time they did it, the minutes would get, would be different.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

So sometimes it was like, "I've been in your kitchen for twelve minutes."

Griffin:

And then—

Justin:

And it's just kinda tracking ... 'Cause it was in real time.

Griffin:

Right.

Justin:

[laughing]. Do you remember how every Family Matters episode was in real time?

Travis:

Yeah, that's the best part about it. You can just turn it on at any time of day to see what the Winslow's and Urkel's were up to.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Yeah. And then the Winslow, whatever Winslow family member he says that to or he fesses up to being in the kitchen, that, that family member is just like, "Huh, better make sure all the cheese isn't gone." And he's like, "I don't fucking do that anymore."

Travis:

"I don't do that anymore." [laughing] My favorite, my favorite Steve Urkel catchphrase was every time he would say, "I trapped my parents in an alternate dimension so that I could have full domain over the house."

Griffin:

Yeah, I remember that one. "I've made a new invention, it's a pocket dimension for my parents."

Justin:

I, uh, the— I had a little chuckle earlier because, uh, in Googling trying to find a more complete list, uh, I found a story from HuffPost TV, and the headline of this piece... This dates back to 2015 when Jaleel White, uh, who is an accomplished performer in his own right, but of course is best known as Steve Urkel, uh, was appearing on Worst Cooks in America: Celebrity Edition. And, uh the quote in this piece is, "I might've had a 'did I do that moment' on the show," said White. To which HuffPost replied, "Did you do that?" and he said, "You'll have to watch the show," laughed White. "I don't think you're gonna be disappointed in my participation."

Justin:

The headline of this news post is—

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Justin:

"...Jaleel White hints he's bringing back his Steve Urkel catchphrase."
[laughs]. And it's like—

Griffin:

Ugh.

Justin:

It's not— The headline of this story is, there's some scuttlebutt...

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

... there's some vague hints that somewhere, Jaleel White said out loud, "Did I do that?" and cameras filmed it and you can see it.

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

Believe it ... Now we don't know that for sure, um, but, there's a hint that this, that he did say, "did I do that?" on a camera, in front of a camera.

Griffin:

Jaleel White, potentially made, 'new invention.' Ugh, gotta—

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

[laughs]. Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

... gotta get on it.

Travis:

He, he greeted someone named Laura and apologized to someone named Carl...

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

... but we haven't been able to pin down whether or not it was the same characters, more to come.

Griffin:

This viral video of Jaleel White on a subway train, when he stepped on a man named Carl's foot...

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... and then greeted a friend named Laura who boarded the train, people lost their fucking minds.

Travis:

[laughing]. Do you...

Justin:

[crosstalk]

Travis:

... do you guys remember that episode, it was a whole arc where Steve Urkel, using a jet pack, reached the Step By Step universe and took one of the daughters to a dance and did 'The Urkel'?

Griffin:

[laughs]. I thought you were gonna say, "Using the jet pack, took one of the daughters back to Family Matters." [laughing].

Justin:

Yeah. Your, your—

Griffin:

"What's up, what's Skip, you're on Family Matters now."

Justin:

"Your brood is mine now."

Travis:

[laughing]. "I've bred the lines."

Justin:

"Your brood, your brood is mine now, Duke Boy."

"Wait, you know about Dukes of Hazzard? In this reality?"

"Yeah."

Griffin:

What?

Justin:

"In my rea—" Well, there's Patrick Duffy—

Griffin:

Oh, yes. Okay.

Justin:

... from the Dukes of Hazzard, he's the dad on Step By Step.

Travis:

Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

"Mr. Mr. Matthews, I'm very disa— ... Oh, man. A nerdy child with a jet pack is grabbing me. I'm gone. Bye."

Travis:

[laughing].

Griffin:

"You're on Family Matters now, Feeny."

Justin:

"I'm— You're, I'm recruiting you to the avengers."

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"Feeeeny? Fe-he-he-he-heeeeny? He's not answering?"

"Yeah he got taken to Family Matters."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"He doesn't live in that house anymore. He's on Family Matters, he got taken."

Justin:

They need a lot of entertainment to fill—

Travis:

"Please! Free me from this prison, Mr. Urkel."

Justin:

... They need a lot of characters to fill twenty-four hours of daily programming, [laughing], so they had to recruit some other people. Alright here's another question. "A few months ago I drunkenly agreed to be in a friend's band thinking nothing would come of it. Now he's beginning to book gigs and urging us to rehearse. The problem is, I am not particularly

musically inclined, and I don't have that kind of time to devote to a band. How do I get out of this band, without looking like an asshole? Sincerely, Pete Best from 60 years ago?"

Travis:

What?

Griffin:

[laughs]. I knew it.

Justin:

What? No it's, "Bamboozled in Baltimore." [laughs].

Travis:

I... There are so many parts of this question that confuse the shit out of me.

Justin:

Yeah. Can I say mine and see if it dovetails with yours?

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Is— [laughs] If you are not musically inclined...

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

... how did you get into this band in the first place?

Travis:

"Derek, Derek, you gotta be in the band."

"I don't play any mu— ..."

"You got your spirit, your energy, we need it."

Justin:

"We need it."

Griffin:

This is the tricky thing about spirits is, there is a certain amount of alcohol that you can drink that when somebody asks you the question, "Hey you play the drums right?" The answer becomes, "Yes, I do."

Travis:

[laughs]. Well, yes.

Griffin:

"Hand me, hand me those good skin sticks."

Travis:

I also, I'm confused in this question, that, your friend has begun to book gigs, you haven't rehearsed at all.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Your friend has put the cart so far in front of the horse the horse can't see it. The horse is not aware that there is a cart.

Griffin:

Yeah, and the horse does not know how to play the bass as well as the horse maybe said they did...

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... when they had a little too much of that Boone's Farm. Um, now, how do you get out of the band? Justin was joking earlier, but you kinda can't, because you never know when— what is gonna be the new Beatles. It's— "Me and my friends we're just gonna play a little skiffle." You don't know.

You could be skiffing one day and then A Hard Days Night'ing the next day. And you gotta— You can't destroy this thing before it has the chance to get off the ground.

Travis:

I feel like this might be a self correcting issue, like show up to the first rehearsal, sit down with your bass—

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

... and you're just like [imitates a musical scale] and they're like, "Okay we're good here. All right. Yeah, you're fine, yep. Bye-bye."

Justin:

"Yeah. You're, you're out."

Griffin:

"Alright guys, let's just, let's just see what this old dog can do. [imitates drums]. "Okay, let's ... Well, we can't do this."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"We can't make this. We have, uh, we have this space for three hours though do you guys wanna, I don't know, get some pizza?"

Justin:

Is it possible that this is a Mighty Mighty BossTones situation, and this person was recruited just to like... Like the dancing guy in Mighty Mighty BossTones who's just like a hype—

Griffin:

Oh, shit. Oh.

Justin:

... hype man to get the party rocking?

Travis:

Who's the umbrella man? You know, the umbrella man?

Griffin:

From Outkast?

Travis:

Yes.

Griffin:

Uh, yeah, they— Outkast...

Justin:

Um, it's a good name.

Griffin:

... was originally like, "Hey we're putting a band together." And Umbrella Man was like "I can play, the trumpet." And they were like—

Justin:

Fon—

Griffin:

"Alright let's get in there," and then he couldn't, and so they just handed him an umbrella instead.

Justin:

Fonzworth Bentley.

Travis:

Thank you.

Griffin:

Fonzworth Bentley, yes, Jesus.

Travis:

Oh, that was gonna eat me up.

Justin:

Yeah. Um, Ben Carr was the name of the dancing guy in, uh, The Mighty Mighty BossTones. Now, if that name seems familiar to you, it's 'cause he, also used to work at Harmonics.

Griffin:

Holy shit. That was him?

Travis:

What, really?

Justin:

Dig it.

Travis:

Maybe, maybe, what your friend needs in this band is a dynamic front-person. This is a thing that's gone out the window. You're Diamond Daves, but like, you just don't see it as much any more. Now here's the thing, I will also say, David Lee Roth is also a pretty good singer. So, if you don't have that going for you, you're already at a bit of a disadvantage. But if you can really bring the energy, if you're really like, you might not be able to sing like Freddie Mercury but if you can just ooze charisma like Freddie Mercury...

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

... you might be able to make it through a couple gigs.

Griffin:

Yeah. Hey do you, um, ooze sex? 'Cause if so, you might have a place in this band— ... You can't play, you have no musical— That's fine. Can you ooze sex?

Justin:

What do you exude?

Travis:

We're just gonna put you at a mic that's not plugged in, um...

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

... and you just, ooze.

Griffin:

You just ungulate. Or, can I hit you with this? Maybe you'll learn. Maybe you get in there, and day one it's, [imitates drums] "Which drum does what?" And then by day two it's, you know [imitates the Amen Break]. Just like, maybe you're— There's people who just, they pick it up, and then like the little boy in, um, Love Actually, they're going, they're going Buddy Rich on that shit, in like a week—

Justin:

[imitates drums]. Yeah, right.

Griffin:

Just a lot of duzz-da-gooshes and a lot of paradiddles.

Justin:

You just gotta get J.K. Simmons to come in and yell at you.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Or Liam Neeson to come in and talk to you like, "It's okay to be sad about your mom."

Travis:

Oh, have both. Have Liam Neeson come in to bring you down...

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

... and then like J.K. to bring you up.

Griffin:

Monday, Wednesdays, Fridays, [laughs] ... Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays you get Neeson. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and either Saturday or Sunday, he likes to keep his weekends kinda flexible, you get J.K. Simmons. It's like, "What did Liam say? Well, the opposite of that."

Justin:

[laughs]. It's sorta like, it's like Searching for Bobby Fischer, and one is your Ben Kingsley...

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

... and the other is your Joe Mantegna, I guess. Joe now would be—

Travis:

Harry Connick Jr.? Harry Connick Jr. is in there too somewhere.

Justin:

Harry's in the mix—

Travis:

Maybe Harry shows up on Sunday.

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

You get J.K. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. You get Liam, Monday, Wednesday, Friday. And then Harry Connick Jr. comes in on Sunday—

Justin:

Yes.

Travis:

... and you guys just like, smoke some whiskey and talk about, I don't know, love. Whatever.

Griffin:

Love.

Justin:

Harry Connick Jr's role in Searching for Bobby Fischer is, every three minutes or so, he pops his head up from the corner of the screen, no one's quite sure where he's from, he says, "Hey kid, chess is pretty cool. But have you tried, the Panano?" [imitates music]

Travis:

[laughing].

Justin:

And the kid is like, "One, I'm pretty sure it's piano."

Travis:

"Not when I do it."

Justin:

"Not when I do it!" [imitates music]

Griffin:

He would be the all time best music— Have you guys ever seen that video—

Justin:

[laughs]. Sorry. Real quick. Uh, I just looked at the Searching For Bobby Fischer, uh, IMDb page 'cause I couldn't, um, [laughs], I couldn't remember Joe Mantegna's name in the moment, and there's a user list... You know how IMDb has like the user lists...

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

... somebody has a list, um, it's 41 movies long and it's, "Sydney Pollack Movies I Haven't Seen But Want To." [laughing]. It's 41 fucking movies. "I'm a huge fan, except..."

Griffin:

Can I give you this Yahoo?

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Is it about Harry Connick Jr.?

Griffin:

It is, it's from Harry Connick Jr—

Travis:

Okay.

Griffin:

... and it's asked by Harry Connick Jr. And, uh, no it's from Level 9000 Ya-Drew Druid Drew Davenport, and, thank you Drew it's, uh, [crosstalk]...

Travis:

Harry Connick Drew-ner.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Harry Connick Drew-ner. It's from—

Justin:

It's a new nickname. New nickname. I'm getting' rid of it, sorry.

Griffin:

Aw, shit.

Justin:

No more Shaman, he's Harry Connick Drew-ner.

Griffin:

All right. Uh—

Justin:

[laughs]. That's really hard to say.

Griffin:

It's really tough. It's by Ya-Drew-nier Answers user Michael who asks...

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"...Will this make me look like a douche or something?"

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"I've been away from work for two weeks and I'm coming back on Monday. I know my coworkers needed me while I was gone, and I know, not for sure, they missed me." So you don't know? "Um, my work place is just a neighborhood bookstore so there are, like, only 10 employees. I thought it would be cool to make a nice return entrance and come in with some awesome music, like the beginning of Crazy in Love or something in that style. My fear is that I might look like a huge douche while doing that without even meaning or noticing it. Um, so what—"

Travis:

Well, hold on. You can't say without even meaning to at that point.

Griffin:

Yeah. "So what do you think? Is it a cool thing to do or extremely douchey?"

Travis:

First of all, can I ask this question of you boys?

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

What do you think this question asker thinks was going on in their absence that they were like, "I know they needed me at this neighborhood bookstore of ten employees? Without me the whole place was falling apart."

Griffin:

Yeah, the fucking store owner like kicks in the door like, "Guys, guys, guys! Books II! There's a sequel to Books, and we're not ready for it."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And everybody scrambled to, like, stock the shelves with Books II.

Justin:

Um, I, it's such a fine line, isn't it? It's such a— Ostentatious gestures, there's such a fine line between douchey and thrilling, you know? There's— I think your own personal charisma is the x-factor that makes this really hard to dictate, right?

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Like you could, could you sell this? Harry Connick could.

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Harry Connick Jr. could sell this.

Griffin:

Yeah, absolutely.

Justin:

For sure. Do you have his charisma? Let me help, you don't. Um, but, are you close enough to pull it off? I don't know.

Griffin:

One of these users says, "It will be cool if you use the right song. Play the Superman theme song and hire out a Superman suit and some cabling, then fly into the store to save them all from your bookstore."

Justin:

Wait, [laughs], okay, a few problems—

Travis:

What kind of fucking rigging system do you think this neighborhood bookstore has?

Justin:

Yeah. Some cabling, like, that's a pretty big, that's a lot of jumps you're making there. Uh—

Travis:

We're gonna have to cut out the window above the door so I can get in.

Justin:

The problem is it's a bookstore, so I think coming in with a boombox is not...

Griffin:

Ideal.

Justin:

... very cool. What if you came in with a boombox... Okay, here's the move. Come with a boombox just blaring Crazy in Love, except it's very quiet, it's at, like, a tasteful volume. But your gestures and your various gesticulations are sort of at a max.

Griffin:

Right. Okay.

Justin:

Uh, yeah, at, like, the max level.

Griffin:

So it's, the door opens and you just hear like [hums] but you're just flailing wildly.

Justin:

But you're flailing wildly.

Griffin:

Yeah, I've got a... I got an idea. You're coming back and you want people to be excited about you coming back, right? Um, you could bring some like, brownies. Or something that's good for me, you know what I mean?

Travis:

Well—

Griffin:

Your dance number, it was very cool, but, you know what's even cooler? A billion cookies.

Travis:

Let me...

Griffin:

Um—

Travis:

Okay, Griffin, counterpoint. And let me wrap this all into a big bow. Are you ready for this? I think all—

Griffin:

Well, I still, I wanna play in the space. Don't close off the space, Travis. I still wanna play in here.

Travis:

Well, but, uh, when I pitch my idea you let me know if I've solved it or not. You are going to need to hire a string quartet and an opera singer to do Final Countdown.

Griffin:

I don't know that this is gonna be it.

Travis:

No, because, Postmodern Jukebox is very popular right now. People are really into these like, you take a song and you turn it. And this is a book store, right? So they have to like, you know, books and nerdy shit.

Griffin:

Classic. Yeah.

Travis:

So like, you're gonna bring in a string quartet and they're gonna be, and like they're gonna come in one by one, playing, one by one, and it's gonna build, and the opera singer comes in for like, [singing] "It's the final count—"

Griffin:

Yeah, sure.

Travis:

And then, you come in, and maybe there's also like a caricature artist. I don't know, you know, classy shit.

Griffin:

Okay but, well, um, it's been, two weeks.

Travis:

Uh-huh. [laughs].

Griffin:

It's a fact that we haven't really dove into yet.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

If I— When I was working at the Country's Best Yogurt, and I like to think that we were the country's best The Country's Best Yogurt.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Um, we were all sort of—

Travis:

TCBTCBY.

Griffin:

Yeah. We were all putting in extra hours, um, and my coworker, Mark, left to go with his family to the Smokeys for two weeks, and then he comes back with a choreographed dance number, I think I would probably be, just kind of angry at Mark in that moment. 'Cause I haven't missed you, I haven't missed you, uh, that much Mark. I don't know that you've earned this, Mark. The ultimate version of this is, Mark comes back after six months of not being there, and he comes in to a string quartet playing Final Countdown and you're like, "Mark, what the fuck? Where you been?" And he's like "I got fired for stealing money."

Justin:

[laughing].

Griffin:

"Holy shit Mark."

"Yeah, I spent all of it on this string quartet."

Travis:

"Legally I'm not supposed to be within a hundred yards of this building."

[singing] "It's the final countdown!"

Justin:

Uh, could you hide in a closet in a sleeping bag, and then when they arrive for work and they open it up, and you sort of tumble out and try to sell them on the fact that you've been living there.

Griffin:

Oh, that's fun.

Justin:

Like you've had, that's where you've been is you had some hard times and you lived in the bookstore.

Griffin:

I mean, you could have a lot of fun with that too, 'cause you could like get in the crawlspace and just sort of yell at them.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Um, and say that like the bookstore did consume you in some way, like it consumed your spirit. Um—

Justin:

[laughs]. Right.

Travis:

"The bookstore and I have become one."

Griffin:

"Yeah. I am the bookstore, dust me, dust my walls."

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

"Don't sell that book that's my kidney."

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

"I wasn't done reading that one."

Griffin:

And then like your entrance back is you just smash through the fucking drywall and are birthed from the house womb and there you are and you're back.

Travis:

And you are— You have written every word of Jane Eyre on you and you're just like, "I'm free."

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

And that is what House of Leaves is about, in case you're curious.

Griffin:

That is, we solved it.

Justin:

[crosstalk].

Griffin:

Don't worry about it. There's a bunch of stuff you gotta, like, turn the book upside down at some point—

Justin:

Don't do it.

Griffin:

... don't even worry about it.

Justin:

We got you covered.

Griffin:

Don't sweat it.

Justin:

All right. We need to take a quick detour, let's stop into The Money Zone.

[music plays]

Griffin:

Hey, I wanna tell you all about Harry's. Um, y'all know about Harry's, right?

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

They do the shaving stuff, but they do it, like, better than anybody. Um, basically, instead of having to, like, go to the store and spending \$100,000, uh, on, on like four razors or whatever, because razors are really stupid expensive, uh, Harry's will just sell the razors directly to you. And in doing so, by cutting out the middleman, they can offer their blades at, at, well, it says here, half the price but, uh, I— That sounds like, \$50,000? That's not true.

For just \$2 a blade, uh, compared to \$4 or more that you'll spend at the drugstore, this is what you can get a Harry's razor for. Um, and they are so

confident you'll love their blades, they're willing to send you a free trial set, uh, if you just cover three bucks shipping. Uh, that set includes a weighted ergonomic razor handle, a, uh, a five precision engineered blades with a lubricating strip and trimmer blade, a rich lathering shave gel and a little, uh, travel blade cover.

Uh, that's a \$13 value for, for you to try out. Um, so stop messing around and get started shaving with Harry's today by claiming your free trial offer. \$13 value for free, just cover shipping. Uh, to get that free trial including your razor handle, five blade cartridge, and shave gel go to harrys.com/mybrother, right now. That's harrys.com/mybrother.

Travis:

Let me ask you guys a question.

Justin:

Okay.

Travis:

Do you know flowers?

Justin:

I don't, I'm sorry.

Griffin:

Those are like, um, those are like fruit but you can't... They're like trees but they're little and not wood—

Travis:

Mm-hmm. Yes.

Griffin:

... and they have a lot of color to— Well, trees are like, green and brown always—

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... but these little trees, or fruit, I'm not 100% sure, uh, have many colors, including, red.

Travis:

Sure. Um, well, here's the thing. Hey, everybody gather around. Get in close. Mother's Day is coming up, um, and it's your chance to show a little bit of appreciation to all the moms in your life. All of them. Um, and how you're gonna do that is, through ProFlowers. ProFlowers, we've worked with before, um, we're big fans.

They're great anytime gifts but, they're even better gifts for special occasions. And right now you can get the '100 Blooms for Mom Bouquet' from ProFlowers this Mother's Day, and make a real impression. And, they sent us, uh, one of these, uh, bouquets and they're beautiful, and what they do, and I love this, they send them to you just before they're about to bloom.

So that way they last even longer and you get to experience like, the fireworks of, "Oh my, I went to sleep and they were just little buds and I woke up and they were beautiful flowers."

Justin:

It's beautiful.

Travis:

And it comes with a free glass vase, for just \$19.99.

Griffin:

Beautiful, delicious flowers.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

No, Griffin, no. But they're just \$19.99—

Justin:

Crunchy, sweet—

Griffin:

I mean, you don't eat all of—

Travis:

No.

Griffin:

No, no, no, no. You don't eat all of them all at once 'cause you do wanna enjoy the visual bouquet.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

I mean, the literal bouquet of flowers but I mean, [laughs], Travis, hold on, hold on, hold on. Stop the ad. You're snacking on these things right?

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

No, I paid \$10 to get the gourmet chocolates that come, um, in the upgraded premium vase.

Griffin:

I mean that's sort of like a— It's like a side— That's like a companion food...

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... to these delicious incredible blooms that just have this umami flavor to them that I don't quite... Um, I can't live without it.

Travis:

Please don't tell our listeners to eat the flowers, Griffin, this could go so badly.

Griffin:

I'm not telling— I'm not telling them, I'm not telling you to eat the flowers. I'm saying you can eat the flowers and...

Travis:

No, Griffin.

Griffin:

... they're fucking delicious.

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

No. Don't. Please, don't.

Griffin:

I like to crack open one of these blooms, kinda spread the petals apart, and I put a little bit of cheese whiz in there and all of a sudden I've got some very floral Combos.

Travis:

No, Griffin.

Justin:

This is good, this is good... No it's good. Griffin's gonna be able to scientifically prove whether or not these flowers are edible. Because, we'll put this episode out and then we'll wait to see if we get an email from ProFlowers with the subject line "Warning: Highly Poisonous Flowers. [laughs]. Please—"

Griffin:

No, it's a flower.

Justin:

"Please pull episode."

Griffin:

Hey, goats do it, bees do it, even certain types of trees do it!

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Eat these flowers, they are so so crunchy and delicious, [laughs], and sweet and they are—

Travis:

Don't, please don't.

Griffin:

Um, every, every bloom is honey-glazed.

Justin:

[laughs]. They got different flavors too. The new—

Travis:

No. They're not Skittles, please don't eat these flowers. We love you.

Griffin:

I thought, they asked me what flowers they wanted me to have...

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... and so I said, "I would love the Nacho Cheesier Tulips," and they did.

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

No, Griffin.

Griffin:

And they are cheesier than nachos.

Justin:

They are, and there's no saturated fat, which is so important these days. Um—

Travis:

You can choose—

Justin:

If you wanna get 100 blooms for mom, with a free glass vase, that is not edible, starting at \$19.99, go to ProFlowers.com and then you click on a little microphone in the top right corner and use the code 'mybrother,' ProFlowers.com, com, click the microphone and then use the code 'mybrother'—

Travis:

All one word.

Justin:

All one word. And, uh, this sells out fast so, uh, order it today. And get hungry—

Griffin:

I'll tell you the problem though.

Justin:

... get... So don't skip breakfast.

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

[laughing]. The problem is I got a bouquet of Cooler Ranch Roses, and I was just pounding 'em, and I realized there's only one left, and now when all the

delicious flavor-blasted petals fall off of that one, I'm gonna turn back into the beast or whatever.

Justin:

Hmm.

Griffin:

Do you guys want this Jumbotron? Too bad. It's from Nick, nope. It's from Leia Burns and it's for Nick Pittman and Leia says, "Happy 25th Birthday Nick. Thanks for being the best partner ever and for getting me into MBMBaM even though it meant me listening to the entire back catalog and trying to get you to do the same by, uh, referencing goofs that you don't even get. I can't imagine a better person to go through life with and I'm so lucky to have you. I love you and I like you."

Um, this is, this is a very sweet message and a very sweet thing that you've done for each other and for us. Um, and, yeah, we just, we just appreciate you so much. Your birthday is May 7th so, we really split the uprights... Well, Leia split the uprights, I think, but, yeah, happy— Happy birthday.

Travis:

I would like Justin to read this next one.

Justin:

Uh, okay. This is a message for Amelie, and it's from Matty M. And the message is this. "Happy Birthday, you big dumb idiot."

Griffin:

Oh.

Travis:

Whoa.

Justin:

Oh, man.

Travis:

Whoa, hold on, wait, Justin say that in the Amelie voice and I think maybe that will soften the blow.

Justin:

Uh, I'm not—

Griffin:

No, I don't wanna ruin Amelie by making her mean.

Travis:

Well, this is Dark Amelie—

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

This is, like, Amelie with a goatee and an eye patch.

Justin:

I'm not— I'm not a fucking— I'm not a fucking monkey. I'm not a fucking professional.

Travis:

Well, Charles Darwin would say otherwise.

Justin:

"Happy Birth..." [laughs].

Griffin:

Whoa.

Justin:

Oh, whoa, whoa.

Travis:

Whoa.

Justin:

Grandpa Eddie. Some fucking, fucking high-brow humor.

Travis:

[laughs].

Justin:

Well, we took a fucking hard pivot into Dennis Miller town, huh? Like a lot of real good, good references. [laughs]. "You've been a top-tier homie since day two of college." I don't know what happened day one but, "...since day two of college. Pretty chill—"

Griffin:

Day one, you were kind of a ding-a-ling.

Justin:

Little bit of a dick. "Uh, pretty chill that we've kept it up for seven years now. Even though you named your fucking human rogue child Kevin James, you're the best, and I just spent all my money on this so you owe me drinks." So. [laughs].

Griffin:

That's a lot of drinks. [laughs]. One Jumbotron equals, several drinks

Justin:

Yeah. Several drinks, or one very big one.

Griffin:

One very big, very good drink.

Elizabeth:

Hey Max Fun community, this is your friend Elizabeth Gilbert, Author of Eat, Pray, Love and a bunch of other stuff. I am a long-time member, supporter, and devoted follower of Maximum Fun. And now I finally have my own podcast on the network. It's called Magic Lessons and it is me coaching people through their creative issues and problems.

This season we have some amazing creators that we're helping through their joys and struggles of making something out of nothing. And then I'm

bringing special guests like, Glennon Doyle Melton, Brandon Stanton, Martha Beck, The Poet, Mark Nepo, Michael Ian Black, Sarah Jones, Gary Shteyngart. These amazing friends of mine come and help coach these people, so that they can get their work done. I hope you'll tune into it. It's called Magic Lessons and it's all about love.

[ad break ends]

Justin:

Uh, we have a special treat now, um, and it is a discussion with a Guestspert, uh, named ... Well, you'll, I guess, we say it in the segment, right?

Griffin:

We say it in the segment and several times just when we address the person. I am going to apologize for the quality of it probably won't be so good, we kind of had to drop back and, uh, punt with how we recorded the call. Um, but, it's good stuff and I think y'all are gonna like it.

Justin:

So here is that. Today's Guestspert is a TV star who is so excited to be finally getting his big break in podcasting. [laughing]. From Hidden America, and the new Mystery Science Theater 3000, which isn't the title but would be a very good name, it's Jonah Ray, welcome to the program.

Griffin:

The real Mystery Science Theater 3000.

Justin:

[laughs]. [crosstalk]

Jonah:

Yes. Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs]. Hi Jonah.

Travis:

[laughs].

Jonah:

Hi. Uh, thanks for having me, uh, I am very excited. This podcasting thing is—

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

... out of this world.

Justin:

Yeah.

Jonah:

It really is a real trip, it's real funky.

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

We'll hold your hand, we'll keep you safe. Don't worry.

Justin:

Now Jonah, unless I'm mistaken, I can kinda hear from your voice that you're doing a lot of fun faces, and I do wanna tell you that that is, [laughs], it's neither necessary nor appreciated. And—

Griffin:

Yeah. This is a marathon not a sprint, you need to save that face muscle energy...

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

... for just raw audio production.

Justin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

I get your concerns but I have no control over it. I do have a spasm and I, I, uh...

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

... ask that you not bring it up on this medium.

Justin:

Oh.

Jonah:

Uh, which is why I've done so well in the, uh, silhouetted, uh, entertainment world where you can't see my face.

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

Now Jonah, how does that work? If I—

Griffin:

Yeah. How do you... Are you really in a big theater? I've always wondered.

Justin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

Oh, darling, you know, movie magic is—

Justin:

Hey, but Jonah, how does it work? [laughs].

Travis:

Yeah, but no, but really, I am curious.

Griffin:

[laughing].

Jonah:

You wanna know that like, the thing— The thing that, like, I was most, like... 'Cause like, you know, watching the show so much and like trying to find out all about it and how they made it, uh, like I knew they did like the silhouettes in front of a green screen or a blue screen originally. But when, uh, we were... it was time to do ours, um, they put me in a, like, a dark gray jumpsuit...

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

... um, and then the bots were painted, uh, completely like a matte black.

Griffin:

That must be very, very, very upsetting.

Jonah:

It just, it looked like a bizarro-world, negative-land, uh, Mystery Science Theater—

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

... and, uh, that was like a thing that I was like "Oh, yeah." And that was probably the one thing that, uh, I was really shocked by noticing.

Travis:

Now, Jonah, are the robots hard to work with...

Griffin:

Okay.

Travis:

... 'cause they seem like they're always razzing you?

Griffin:

All right.

Justin:

Yes, it seems like they're always giving you the business.

Jonah:

[laughs]. They really are but they are good friends of mine. They're true professionals and—

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

It's the way we work, it's just, it's a lot of fun. I mean, you guys know what you do here on your radio show. Uh, it's just a good way to have fun and not take things too seriously.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Hey, is Har— Is Har Mar Superstar really fucking cool in-person, 'cause it seems like he'd be a really fucking cool guy?

Jonah:

He's a really cool... I mean, I've known that guy for probably now, like, fourteen years or fifteen years, uh, and he's, uh, he's an awesome, good dude, he's a good friend. Uh, he, uh, he actually was the wedding band at, uh, my and my wife's wedding.

Griffin:

You're kidding me.

Justin:

God, I cannot imagine.

Griffin:

[laughs]. That's a fucking cool wedding.

Jonah:

Yeah, it was a really fun wedding we did it like at this place that was right on some train tracks. So we timed the ceremony to be when trains were going by.

Travis:

That's awesome.

Jonah:

And it was like fun to like look at the, uh, look at the audience, um, and to see who thought it was awesome and who thought it was a horrifying thing to happen during a wedding.

Travis:

[laughing].

Jonah:

Um, but, uh, and this gonna sound, uh, uh, real name drop—y, and I apologize if it does but, um, when, when Har Mar was playing, uh, they were, like they did a bunch of Har Mar Superstar songs and then they

started playing like some like, you know, wedding kind of covers and they started playing, uh, Power of Love. Uh, what they didn't know though, is that, uh, in attendance, uh, was Tom Wilson, the guy who played Biff.

Griffin:

Holy shit.

Justin:

Oh, no.

Jonah:

And so, like, and, you know, Tom kinda like, he's like a really awesome guy, a really great comic, a good actor, but he does ... You know, there is a bit of a complex. Not a complex, but like, it's something he deals with.

Justin:

He did a song about it. I mean, he did a song about people asking him about Back to the Future.

Jonah:

Yeah, exactly. "Stop asking me these questions." But then, uh, so, he was, uh, he was there and then they started playing the song and then, I guess a couple of people around him were like, uh, "Hey, get up there." [laughs].

Travis:

Hey.

Griffin:

Oh, that stinks.

Jonah:

And so, so he ran ... But he ran up on stage and started singing the song along with, uh, Har Mar, who did not know he was there—

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

... and was blown away. Everyone started screaming, everyone, uh, everyone like was really blown away, and then he left shortly after. I emailed him, saying like, just like, "Hey I'm sorry if you felt... Uh, they didn't know you were there," and he was like, "Oh, no, no, it's totally fine I don't mind." But he said the worst part was when a friend of mine came up to him and, uh, he was drinking uh, he was drinking a light beer, and someone said, [laughs], someone said, "Light beer?" Uh, like, uh, like, uh, the reference like to, you know, "Oh, I bring your car all the way back here and all you got for me is light beer?"

Griffin:

Ugh, shit.

Justin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

And then Tom's response to that, Tom's response to that, uh, "Come on man, you're better than that."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"Yeah. I didn't, I didn't come to this wedding to work."

Jonah:

Yeah.

Justin:

I... Do think though he does have to stop dri— ... I mean, he can't just drink a light beer in public and not expect ... You know?

Jonah:

[laughs].

Travis:

Yeah, there's certain things you trade off for fame.

Justin:

Um, like if, like, when Clint Eastwood's at the casino, he doesn't say like, "I'm feeling lucky," and everyone's like, "Oh, go on."

Griffin:

"Oh, okay. Do you?"

Justin:

[crosstalk]. [laughing]. Hey, we, you're not here because of TV or because of jokes, you're here because you're an expert...

Jonah:

I am.

Justin:

... Jonah, and we're gonna pick your proverbial brain, which is an excellent choice of, um, uh, phrase, from me, a broadcasting professional.

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

Because I am, [laughs], I'm gonna, uh, we're gonna talk about zombies and some about comedy... shows.

Griffin:

We got many more... Here's the thing. We got many more questions about zombies than we did about putting on comedy shows. Like, many, many, many more. Which is surprising to me 'cause I thought like, I don't know, like, a lot of people who listen to our show are like comedy folks, right? That do like actual, do like improv and stuff like that. But no, they, I think they're more concerned with being devoured by a dead person. Well, and I—

Jonah:

Do you think it's the bubble? Is it, is the comedy bubble finally over? Is this like the first inkling that it's all gonna go downhill for all of us?

Travis:

No, actually Jonah I think what it is is we might've forgotten to mention on the show, the comedy show aspect of it—

Griffin:

That'll do it every time.

Travis:

I think we might've only tweeted about it and I think that might've had a pretty big impact. Um, but we, uh, we did fail to mention in your intro that, uh, along with MST3K and Hidden America, you also were one of the hosts of The Meltdown with Jonah and Kumail. Uh—

Griffin:

Who was the other?

Jonah:

I played the role of Jonah.

Griffin:

Yeah I was gonna say who was the other... Oh, who's the other host on that one?

Travis:

Well, I actually went, I went to one of The Meltdown live shows and Kumail was not in attendance and filling in his place was Judd Apatow, which made for... It was a very surreal experience for me.

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

Wait, is that... What's The Meltdown?

Jonah:

So The Meltdown was a, uh, it was comic book store that, uh, I started doing a show at like, you know, eight years ago or so. Um, and then when Kumail moved to town, I was doing it monthly, he wanted to try to figure out a weekly show, so we just kinda joined forces with his wife Emily Gordon, and,

uh, she started producing it and we started hosting it. So it's just a weekly comedy show that we did for a while that we ended up turning into three seasons of a show on Comedy Central.

Justin:

But it wasn't a podcast?

Jonah:

It was never a podcast.

Justin:

Oh, thank God. Okay, good. 'Cause listen—

Jonah:

No. [laughs]. No.

Justin:

... it's crowded in here Jonah, you gotta— Uh, my whole intro woulda been so stupid if you had done a podcast before. So I'm really happy to hear—

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

At home that's— We call that, doubling down.

Travis:

[laughing].

Justin:

There's no, [laughs], there's, there's no backing out of this ill-fated bit now. Uh, will I return to it again? We'll just have to see. But it's time—

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

It's time to start really digging deep into these questions, and this is a very good one that I like. And it's not the first one Travis has listed, but, I'm gonna lead with it 'cause I think it's great.

"Jonah and McElroy Brothers, how do you feel about people in zombie movies and shows who seem to have no concept of zombies? Y'all are really so shocked to see undead folks? You've never even conceived of this before? There's no George Romero, [laughs], in your universe? Come on. How would you all handle it if you made a zombie flick?" And that's from Jennifer.

Jonah:

Well, Jennifer, uh, it is kind of brought up in a very clever way, in Shaun of the Dead.

Griffin:

It's the best.

Jonah:

Yeah. Which is, uh, like, it's, uh, Nick Frost's character says, "Zombies," and then Shaun says, "Don't use that word."

Griffin:

And that's it.

Jonah:

Uh, and that's it, he's like, "Which word?"

"The Z word." You know? It's a— And he's like "Why not?" And he's like, "Because it's crazy." Because that's the feeling people would have I'd imagine.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It bothers me so much in Walking Dead, which is now like the biggest zombie thing fucking ever of all time and probably always will be, is this

whole concept of like, "Oh no, here come, here come the flesh skeletons."
And it's like, "Oh, that's what you call 'em?"

Jonah:

[laughs].

Griffin:

"We call 'em walkers. What do you call 'em?"

"I call 'em shamblers. What do you call 'em?"

"I call 'em stink meats," and it's like...

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

They're zombies. You guys have seen these fucking films.

Jonah:

[laughing]. Um, did you say one of 'em was Sandlers as in Adam Sandler?

Travis:

[laughing].

Griffin:

I said sham— [laughs], I said shamblers but I'm sure there's a group of people like, "What's up? We're the Nasty Boys, we call 'em Sandlers."

Justin:

[laughs]. Like—

Jonah:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Like, why do you need your own club and not call them zombies?

Justin:

"We're the Spike Kings, we call 'em Zohans, 'cause you don't wanna mess with them."

Jonah:

[laughing].

Griffin:

Um, I don't, I think— Like, I really think that Shaun of the Dead model is the best way to do... Uh, has there ever been a zombie movie where like, where they just flat out just, call 'em zombies and they call 'em zombies the whole time? Zombieland. Zombieland did, right?

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Zombieland, they just leaned into it. Um—

Travis:

I feel this about any movie where it's like, it must be so hard when you're, like, the scriptwriter for the movie. Like, if you're doing a vampire movie and, you know, somebody shows up and they like, have a lot of eye makeup on and they're being really creepy, that someone's not like, "Oh, that's the vampire."

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

"You guys know about vampires right?"

Griffin:

Right?

Travis:

"Okay. We all know about vampires? This is the vampire." Okay.

Griffin:

They can't do that in other movies. The fucking upcoming, and I can't believe they're making a Mummy reboot with Tom Cruise, is it— They're not like, "Uh-oh, here comes a bandage boy." Like no, they know what fucking mummies are.

Jonah:

[laughing]. There's a really funny thing, uh, Kumail once said where he said, "Why isn't every movie with The Rock, uh, every time he meets someone new for the first time, why isn't the first thing they say go, Whoa! You're huge?"

Griffin:

[laughing].

Justin:

I'd—

Jonah:

Oh, also in Return of the Living Dead, uh, they, um, in the beginning, uh, they bring up the, uh, Romero Night of the Living Dead. Like, it's like, they, they make allude, they allude to like, they say, "Oh no, that was based on real things!"

Justin:

Hmm.

Jonah:

So. Covered up.

Justin:

What's the scariest that you think zombies have ever been? Like what's the scariest portrayal of zombies that like, actually got to you?

Jonah:

Hmm. I mean, it's like, it's different because, it's like, when I was a kid, I didn't know Return of the Living Dead was a comedy, [laughs], I just

thought it was frightening that the zombies could run faster than, you know, the ones in Dawn of the Dead, the original Dawn of the Dead. Um, pro— uh, probably the original Dawn of the Dead was the one that really made me the most scared.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

For me it was Resident Evil I. I know that doesn't technically count 'cause it's not a movie but that shit literally gave me nightmares for five or six years straight.

Jonah:

Resident Evil 4 gave me nightmares, but just, like, stress game nightmares.

Griffin:

Yeah, yeah, yeah. You're right.

Justin:

Right, right.

Travis:

No joke, Thriller. Thriller freaked me out when like—

Griffin:

Oh, my God.

Justin:

Oh, yeah.

Travis:

When I was really young the first time I saw it, when they came up through the floorboards, like, the concept of like, well, just being inside your house doesn't make you safe, was very scary for me.

Jonah:

Yeah.

Justin:

Hey, does the robot lady from Superman 3 count 'cause she—

Griffin:

No.

Justin:

... gave me the yips in a major way.

Griffin:

Why would she?

Justin:

She's like—

Griffin:

Why would she count?

Justin:

... she's like a mechanical zombie. She's like a mechanical zombie, right?

Travis:

That's a robot Justin. I guess all robots are mechanical zombies, in a way.
[laughs].

Justin:

Too bad.

Griffin:

I have a fucking— I have a fucking Roomba in my house, is it, do I need to be afraid of this for you or?

Justin:

I don't wanna do this anymore

Travis:

Did it make it scary to make Mystery Science Theater 3000 to know that you were working with robot zombies?

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

[laughs]. I did have to bring them back from the brink so—

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Jonah:

... yes, it was very scary the entire time. But luckily they only feast on other robot zombies.

Justin:

"Jonah, I'm currently performing a comedic one-man show in New York."

[laughs]. Come on out everybody, it's gonna be— Not me. This is...

Griffin:

What's it called?

Justin:

... a question asker.

Griffin:

Oh shoot, I thought we could play, I thought we play a little bit in the space.

Justin:

Sorry. Sorry.

Travis:

Just-In Time.

Jonah:

The show is called "Oh, I Didn't See You All There."

Travis:

[laughs].

Griffin:

Oh, that's fun.

Jonah:

How would you guys start your one-man shows? What would be the first line?

Justin:

Oh, fuck.

Griffin:

[crosstalk].

Travis:

Is like, "In the neighborhood I grew up, there sure were a lot of characters."

Jonah:

[laughing].

Justin:

Uh, Griffin, how would you start your, um—

Griffin:

Well, it's tough, mine would entirely be pantomime and just sort of movement. So it would sort of start with me like, laying perfectly still on the stage and then, um...

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

... doing what can only be described as 'human blossoming'.

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

Which is dancing to the theme song from Blossom, [laughs], if I can remember correctly.

Griffin:

That is the beginning, yeah.

Travis:

[singing].

Jonah:

It's anybody's guess.

Justin:

I would just start with like, "700 Sundays, I couldn't believe that there were that many Sundays back to back to back."

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

And then I would just recite Billy Crystal's 700 Sundays, uh, verbatim from memory. [laughs].

Jonah:

Just the fart bit though, you would do an extended version of the fart bit, right?

Justin:

[laughing]. You mean City Slickers?

Travis:

That... [laughing].

Jonah:

Have you seen 700 Sundays?

Justin:

I've seen City Slickers.

Jonah:

Well, 700 Sundays has a real long fart bit.

Justin:

Nah, nah, luckily for us, uh, we don't actually have to know anything about things, [laughs], to just randomly reference them. Thank God. I'm sure it's a delight.

Jonah:

It's not.

Justin:

He's a consummate professional.

Travis:

[laughs].

Justin:

Hey, Billy's a friend and a fan, who I'm sure is listening right now, so please. [laughs]. Uh, okay so the question is, "It's a storytelling show about my Bar Mitzvah and struggles with mental health. What are some ways I can actually get butts in the seats? A publicist? Online ads? Skywriting? Thanks and good work on the Satellite of Love."

And that's from One-Man in Manhattan. Who— Did— Can I say something? I just wanna do— I have to point out the very obvious. Um, one good way would be to get a free mention on a [laughs] fairly popular podcast.

Griffin:

[laughs]. Oh, no.

Justin:

And maybe just toss the name in there, huh? Just get that, get that old... that old name in.

Jonah:

Ooh, yeah. Yeah. So one-man shows, I've never done one, really. Uh, you, you wanna make fliers, you wanna make physical fliers. Like if I... The thing with, like, doing a comedy show is, it's regularity and I'm sure you guys...

It's the same thing with podcasting. If you kinda stay on a schedule, it does help a lot, just the consistency of it. Uh, but yeah, do it... Like, I'd say, and, you know, Kurt Braunohler, a few times has tried skywriting to promote stuff. Uh, it never really works as well as you'd think it would 'cause everything starts to drift away, you know, chemtrails and what not.

Justin:

Sure. Of course.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

No, tell us more about chemtrails. Let this be your appearance, your Ronda Rousey, 9/11 Truther, uh, appearance.

Jonah:

I wish sometimes I knew more about conspiracy theories to be able to joke around about 'em. But as far, like that's as much as I go. Uh, for chemtrails I go, "Yeah, look at those chemtrails man, Boron, controlling your minds."

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

I think that's all I got.

Griffin:

That's a lot, that's more than I did.

Justin:

I can tell from Googling I think it's called 'My Bar Mitzvah Brunch'. It's at the Peoples Improv Theater. Um—

Jonah:

The PIT.

Justin:

Yeah. The PIT, well, we did—

Griffin:

Hey, we've done the PIT.

Justin:

We've done some shows there.

Griffin:

We did three shows—

Justin:

We've done way too many shows in one day.

Griffin:

Yeah. That was a bad move we did.

Jonah:

You did three shows in one day? [laughs].

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Well, I did six. Uh, yeah, we just didn't schedule good. [laughs]. We were young and foolish. So, that all seems good, good advice.

Travis:

Do that.

Griffin:

Well, we didn't do it.

Justin:

yeah.

Griffin:

We didn't really say anything at all.

Travis:

Oh.

Jonah:

Well, no, make physical fliers. Make fliers, uh, put it in, like, the neighborhood. Uh, don't rely too much on... You know, you wanna do your Facebook ads, I guess, but, uh, I'd say, make a cool looking flier, put it up in the coffee shops and the bars around the area. Find some community cork boards.

Travis:

Mobilize people that you know and if you're like, "Hey..."

Jonah:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Hey.

Travis:

"...tell a friend," that, like, word of mouth is usually your best bet.

Justin:

How do you keep that, like, how do you balance that between like, trying to get people you know to come like, as a favor versus ... You know? How do you keep from leaning on that too heavily?

Jonah:

You, you don't... I mean, it's tricky. I mean, if you know anyone that performs in any kind of, like, stand-up, a band, or anything, it's just... It's like you don't wanna overuse your favor.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

You wanna hope— Like, you wanna pick one night that you tell all your friends to go to. I don't know. I try, so I try ... Like, when we were starting The Meltdown, uh, Emily said, "Oh, should I get a Facebook invite going?" I said "No, no I don't wanna do that because I get resentful." When I see something like a Facebook invite coming in all the time for a comedy show, uh, it makes me actively not wanna go to the comedy show. [laughs].

Griffin:

That resistance is there. Like when I lived in Chicago for a year and I knew a lot of folks who were like, doing stuff in Chicago. Like a lot of folks who were doing stuff in Chicago, and if I went to all of their stuff, it would be literally all I did, morning, noon and night. Um—

Jonah:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

And it's like—

Justin:

Is that a big deal in comedy circles, Jonah? Like people, like, whether or not somebody came to your show or whether or not you went to their show, is that like a big currency?

Griffin:

An etiquette breach? Yeah.

Justin:

Yeah, right.

Jonah:

Yeah, it can be. It's like, you wanna go and you wanna support a show ... You know, there was a, there was a big thing every time, uh, you know, someone, when we were doing The Meltdown, they would just, uh, they'd say, "Oh yeah, I'd love to do your show" and you, we would kinda just go, "Yeah, come and hang out."

You know, you're, you know, comics are always welcome to hang out with us at the show. Um, and, uh, that would kind of show that they, like, you know, wanted to be a part of like our little, the thing, you know, the thing we had going on which was like a, you know, a growing group of friends putting on a funny comedy show every week.

But there was also the other people that would hear about... They would just hear about the fact that it was a popular show, and then just ask to be put on, without really putting in any effort. It's like, they, you know, we had a different idea coming into that show...

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

... than just your average, you know, comedy show. And we didn't need to like, uh, there's another kind of currency for shows where it's like, if you have a show and someone else has a show, you can kind of... There's this idea of swapping sets. It's like, "Hey, I'll put you on my show," and when you say that, you're essentially saying, "Please put, also put me on your show."

Justin:

Hmm, okay

Griffin:

Hmm, okay.

Jonah:

Um, but that, you know, so, but if someone has like a show, [laughs], that's really good and someone has a show that's really bad, like, all of a sudden,

the, uh, the discrepancy between the value of those sets becomes an issue.

But it really is, it's like, if you support a show, if you go and you hang out and you're, you know, you're not a, you know, a dick, it's a good way to just get on a show. Because they'll be like "Hey, you, thanks for coming and hanging out. Yeah, we'll put you up next week." Or something like that.

Travis:

Now, what if you have never done stand-up and wouldn't know how to do stand-up and don't feel like working on jokes? Can I still come be in your stand-up show?

Griffin:

[laughs]. But you feel like you might be pretty good at it.

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Yeah, somewhere.

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Yeah.

Jonah:

This is my recommendation to you. Go to a comedy show, start heckling the comic.

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Jonah:

Tell him you can do a better job. Hope that they bring you up on stage...

Griffin:

Oh, yeah.

Jonah:

... by saying, "Oh, you think you're so funny? Let's see if you can do it." And that's when you break it out, that's when the moment of inspiration ... And without the help of your magic skateboard...

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

... you're able to do the best comedy sketch.

Travis:

[laughs].

Jonah:

[laughs]. The funniest stand-up set ever.

Griffin:

You have your fucking—

Travis:

That word-for-word is how Jerry Seinfeld got started.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

Yes. [laughs]. Yeah.

Justin:

I did stand-up one time...

Griffin:

Oh.

Justin:

... a single time.

Griffin:

When? Where? What?

Justin:

Yeah, well, it was a Valentine's Day fundraiser, um, where they have 'local celebrities' come and do jokes.

Griffin:

Hmm.

Justin:

And, uh, it's a competition, I should've thought through that. I worked on my set for a long time, a lot of local jokes, you know, like, a lot of local references.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

And then—

Jonah:

Yeah. There's a great, uh, Blaine Capatch line which says, "Local jokes gets you local work."

Justin:

[laughing]. Uh, I wish that had been the case for me, that would've been grand. 'Cause I did get beat by a guy who works at a used car dealership around here, who I think was just reciting a Bill Engvall bit? It's impossible for me to...

Griffin:

Uh-oh.

Justin:

... to tell, I'm not ... You know, uh, but I did get beat handily. I mean, like, and this wasn't like, when I was a— It was fucking like six months ago. Like I was, it was absolutely miserable. "Oh, so you gotta TV show, huh? Well, let me show you how the big boys do it."

And, uh, I got beaten pretty badly, so that was... I feel like I contain— Like I know it's important to bomb early in your stand-up career, to build up that, like, a thick skin, I think I did it all sort of, [laughs], in one night. I feel like I— That was really, that was really enough, uh, uh, enough to prepare me for anything.

Griffin:

You ca— Is there anything you have, that you can break us off, even a little ... Just a ... You know— I know I'm asking you to be very vulnerable right now, is there anything you can break off?

Justin:

It was mainly about how long it takes you to get into a restaurant here in Huntington. I mean that was basically, [laughs], the thrust of the, the bit. Um, it was all kind of in my noodle, I don't think I wrote any of it down. I'm sorry.

Jonah:

So you literally have to be there to get the joke?

Justin:

I mean, yeah, and apparently not even that is enough.

Jonah:

[laughing].

Justin:

Uh, how about another question here, um, "Some TV shows now are playing it pretty fast and loose with the decomposition of their zombies. At what point does it just become a spooky skeleton man? And would you say there's a significant difference between a zombie and a spooky skeleton? This quandary keeps me up at night, uh, mostly because the nightmares of spooky skeletons." And that's from Mark.

Jonah:

I don't think you should ever get near a xylophone if you have the thing with spooky skeletons, Mark.

Justin:

[laughing]. Yeah.

Jonah:

The thing with zombies is that, uh, they still, you know, they need, they can't, it can't just be a skeleton walking around because there's no, uh, flesh or muscle mass to move, uh, you know, the, the limbs around.

Griffin:

That's just science, that's just anatomy and science 101.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Jonah:

Yeah, exactly. And that's why, um, uh, running zombies also, side note, can exist. 'Cause if you, uh, you die and you come back, uh, as a zombie, you still have the same, you still have the same muscle mass you had right when you died.

So, when your impulse is to go to something as fast as you can to eat it, uh, your body is gonna take you there as fast as you can. But since you are dead, uh, the muscles will tear and not recover, and therefore that's when you start to get that zombie, the slow zombie shuffle.

Griffin:

I see.

Justin:

Okay.

Griffin:

I've never thought about this before.

Jonah:

I've thought about it too much.

Travis:

Do you think, Jonah, are there some zombies that are faster than other zombies, based on how fast they were in life?

Jonah:

I'm sure, like, yeah. Uh, uh, I'm sure if you were a good runner, good at track or the track and field game, uh, for Nintendo, I'm sure you can—

Griffin:

If you were good at the track and field game for Nintendo you could like do the, essentially the Superbowl shuffle in place very very rapidly.

Jonah:

[laughs].

Griffin:

But that's about it. And that's, I mean, that would be entertaining to see a shambler do.

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

I think it would be a shuffler, at that point. I mean—

Griffin:

It would be a shuffler. Yeah.

Jonah:

"Oh we got shufflers over here."

Travis:

[laughing]. "We don't take the Yankee shamblers"

Griffin:

I get what this question-asker is saying though because like, it feels like the Walking Dead SFX team is like, um, they're just nasty. And I imagine there's conversations they have all the time that's just like, "Look at this new nasty thing I learned how to do."

Travis:

[laughing].

Griffin:

"This one doesn't have a butt." And it's like, "Whoa! You made that one not have a butt." And so, they're just like, competing to see who can make like, the most nasty sort of skeletal, and I think this is gonna result in like what? Season seven or eight, just, a literal skeleton chasing Rick and the gang like, "This doesn't make sense! Clankity-clank-clank!"

Jonah:

I, well, that effects team, which is the Greg Nicotero effects team, can be— Which, uh, he was, uh, like an apprentice to Tom Savini, who is like the modern maker of zombies.

Griffin:

Yes.

Jonah:

And, um, there is... there's that element within the effects community, uh, that, where it's just, everyone's like, it's everyone is just trying to one-up each other with everything. And that's what I still really enjoy about, uh, The Walking Dead is that, every episode you watch, even if it's like story-wise not the best episode, you will see a thing that you've never seen before in regards to zombies. Uh—

Travis:

So, just thinking about zombie deterioration, you could outlast a zombie apocalypse. If you hold up long enough and, like, were able to stay out of

harm's way, would they deteriorate to a point where they were no longer a threat?

Jonah:

I'd imagine so, but then it would just kinda almost become like, uh, landmines, where they might, you know, fall and winter would come and they kinda get pushed into the ground. And then if you're, you know, you're a kid just kinda running around a forest, uh, and then you kinda, you're sitting down and all the sudden one kinda, is able to come up and reach you. Um—

Griffin:

You spooked me Jonah. Uh, you just spooked me...

Jonah:

[laughs].

Griffin:

... with your words!

Jonah:

It's very possible and then, and then it could start all over again.

Travis:

Um—

Jonah:

Also remember, this is all fake.

Travis:

What?

Griffin:

Yeah that's another thing I kind of didn't know how to breach the subject of. But, like, I know you spend a lot of time thinking about zombies, have you ever gotten on Amazon late one night, and made a purchase with your money, or taken any sort of action, like, physical action to say like, "Well, just in case?"

Jonah:

[laughs] I ... Yeah. Me and my wife have, uh, we have bug-out bags in, uh, in both of our cars. And also, um, it's, I say it's for, uh, the impending California earthquake, but it's also a little bit inside the back of my head, a zombie contingency plan. I just got LASIK, so in case that, you know—

Griffin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

... uh, I lose my glasses or anything like that, I still have my vision.
[laughs].

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

I will say, uh, you're—

Griffin:

No, Travis. I'm sorry Travis, you can't start talking yet.

Justin:

Travis, no, you can't just move on from that. So—

Griffin:

'Cause Jonah just said he took on an expensive and painful elective surgery in case he dropped his glasses when the zombies were attacking him.

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

And you know that they had an interview like, "So why do you wanna do this Jonah?"

"Oh, I just wanna ... I think it'd be, uh, handsome, I think it'd be that. Yeah, that's it."

Jonah:

[laughs].

Justin:

"I think I'd be more handsome, if I didn't have my glasses all the time."

Jonah:

I think I'd be— I think it's actually quite the opposite. I think I'm weirder looking without my glasses.

Justin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

Uh, but, but it's a price that I'll pay. It's, uh, it's not that painful and, [laughs], and it's, um ... Imagine this, uh, inevitable nuclear war, uh, like, you know, uh, it takes out everybody, and then you wanna read all your books—

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

... you'll have time, you'll have time to read all your books.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Jonah:

No— You will not live in fear of your glasses falling, breaking, and not being able to read your precious books.

Justin:

Sure.

Jonah:

You can smell your burning flesh during the procedure.

Griffin:

Then see, and that's not ideal.

Jonah:

Yeah.

Travis:

That's a turn-off Jonah. That's a turn-off.

Jonah:

So you're, here's the thing, you're walking around with crutches my man. [laughs]. You got crutches and you're afraid— You know, someone says to you, "You know, with the technology we have with lasers, uh, we can easily make it so you don't have crutches anymore."

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

And you're like, "I think I'll just wait. And so, the, the Doc say six weeks with the cast—"

Griffin:

[laughs].

Justin:

"... so I'm just gonna wait. I guess, thank you. Thank you random person approaching me in an alley with a laser gun. I think I'm just gonna wait to take the cast off."

Griffin:

[sneezes] "Hey, and I've got some fucking lasers that I could shoot up your nose to get rid of that cold."

"Nah I'm good, I got soup, kind of." [laughs].

Justin:

Jonah, when, uh, when can we see the, uh, the next season of ... Obviously MST3K is on Netflix right now, when is Hidden America coming?

Jonah:

Uh, it comes out May 4th. May the 4th be with—

Griffin:

I know that one.

Travis:

Oh, like the Star Wars.

Justin:

So it's a Star Wars thing?

Jonah:

Like the Star Wars. Episode one, Phantom Menace.

Griffin:

No.

Travis:

No, Jonah.

Griffin:

We talked about this.

Jonah:

We did talk about this.

Justin:

Jonah, you promised.

Griffin:

You promised.

Travis:

You promised.

Jonah:

And I was given an opportunity to just revolt. Please don't hang up on me.

Griffin:

Mee-sa, editing this out.

Jonah:

[laughing]. Uh, yeah, so it's gonna be out May 4th, uh, eight new episodes. And we've got like a ton of really awesome people on this season. Uh, a lot of the old Mystery Science Theater people are on it. Uh, we got Kevin Murphy playing my old, uh, band teacher from high school. Uh—

Justin:

I really love that dude.

Jonah:

We've got— Uh, he's so great. Trace Beaulieu, uh, plays, uh, my uncle who was a cartoonist. Um, uh, we got Joel Hodgeson and Mary Jo Pehl, uh, in a scene and for many episodes we got Bill Corbett, uh—

Griffin:

Wow. You fucking collected them all.

Travis:

Man, you really did great. Yeah.

Jonah:

Yeah. I know. It's like I really just, I wanted to— And a ton of other like awesome people too. Like this guy that's in a ton of horror movies, uh, Derek Mears, uh, he's in the show. Jorge Garcia from Lost.

Justin:

Hell, yeah.

Griffin:

Hell, yeah.

Jonah:

Yvette Nicole Brown from, uh, Community. Just like, uh, I just got like a ton of awesome... Oh, oh, Mike Haggerty, which was like, huge for me to have Mike Haggerty in the show. You might not know him by name, but he is the, uh, you know in the movie, uh... He's Bad Billy Pratt from Overboard, and he was also, he was the guy that ran the, uh, the station at, um, like the local station on Wayne's World.

Justin:

Okay. Yes. Yep. All right. Gotcha.

Griffin:

Oh, shit. Okay. I know who you're talking about now.

Jonah:

Yeah. Yeah.

Justin:

Gotcha.

Travis:

um, and Jonah, where, where can people find this show? Hidden America, where can people find it?

Griffin:

There must be a really good, like a great service that everyone should subscribe to.

Justin:

All the pros are involved with...

Griffin:

All the, um, real comedy fans are at.

Jonah:

Yes, uh, you know, you could find it the same spot you saw these beautiful babies, uh, doing their wonderful show, My Brother, My Brother and Me, which is Seeso. Which, I wanna say it now on the record even though I messaged it to you guys a while back, it is truly one of my favorite shows. It is so much fun.

Griffin:

Thank you, Jonah.

Jonah:

It's so good.

Justin:

Thanks Jonah.

Travis:

Thank you buddy.

Jonah:

It's so good. Now, cut this part out 'cause it'll ruin my bad-boy image.

Justin:

[laughs].

Jonah:

Uh, but, yeah, it's, like you guys did such a good job, it is so fun and it has the, like the perfect amount of silliness and joy and, uh, like, and also like awesome meta-ness in it too. And, uh, how things like could sometimes fold in on each other or the callbacks, it's just, it's all so much fun. I was really really excited about it.

Justin:

Thank you Jonah.

Griffin:

Thank you, that's very...

Travis:

Thank you.

Griffin:

... that's very kind of you.

Justin:

If I knew you had this deep well of love for our show, I would've started talking about it much much earlier. [laughing]. Why did we waste so much time with zombies?

Jonah:

[laughing].

Justin:

Uh, Jonah Ray, thank you so much for joining us. Go watch Jonah's show on Seeso on May 4th and go watch MST3K right now. And anything else that you wanna plug? Anything, anywhere else people can find you?

Jonah:

Nope that should be good.

Justin:

Okay, perfect. Well, thanks Jonah. [laughs].

Travis:

Great.

Jonah:

[laughs]. Sweet. Thank you so much for having me.

Justin:

Well, folks that's gonna do it for us, thank you so much for, uh, listening to our program and we hope you've had a fun time. Uh, hope you've enjoyed yourself. Um, thank you—

Travis:

I just wanna make sure everyone's picturing this correctly. As Justin says that, you know, we're sweeping up, or putting stuff back into the, like, the crates.

Justin:

Right.

Travis:

You know, nail 'em up, put 'em back onto the podcast train to head on to the next town.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Um, so just, just know we're like wiping off our podcast grease paint.

Griffin:

[laughs].

Travis:

Um—

Griffin:

Well, you wanna get so ... How do I—

Justin:

Yeah. The door to our dressing room was cracked just a little bit, you just slipped in. And, you know, we're— Normally we'd have Buster throw you out, but, uh, pull up a stool. [laughs].

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I don't understand how I get so dirty doing this damn podcast. Every time I finish recording I go and look at myself in the mirror and I'm just covered in grime and grease paint and dirt.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Well, you're disgusting.

Justin:

Uh—

Griffin:

Oh, that's it. I'm like a disgusting hog.

Justin:

[laughing]. Travis threw my rhythm off, I was in a pretty good rhythm. Um, so thanks to everybody for listening. That's all my bit, Griffin do your bit.

Griffin:

Uh, thanks to John Roderick for The Long Winters, thank you for that.

Justin:

[laughs].

Griffin:

And thank you for the use of our theme song. It's a Departure off the album, Putting the Days to Bed. It's a very, very—

Justin:

Can you wait just, can you just slow down and then ... This has been apparently a very hot topic lately.

Griffin:

Okay.

Justin:

Can you just say the name of the fucking song—

Griffin:

I will enunciate.

Justin:

... and the album and the group?

Griffin:

There is a band called The Long Winters.

Justin:

Right.

Griffin:

The front-man and lead singer of which is, John Roderick, who is a friend of the show, he's been on the show, opened for us in Seattle. Uh, and, they, there's an album The Long Winters had called, Putting The Days to Bed. And track 10, I believe, is called, It's a Departure, and that is our theme song, and it's very good.

Um, and so, go get that album. And thanks to Bob Ball for doing our intro voice. Um, I feel like that... Uh, a lot of folks are asking about that these days. That's Bob Ball, he did our intro, uh, thank you Bob Ball.

Travis:

Make sure to go check out, uh, Hidden America on Seeso, uh, coming this week. Um, and while you're there you should probably also check out the My Brother, My Brother and Me show, uh, that we did.

Justin:

It's pretty good.

Travis:

It's pretty good and we're pretty happy with it. Um, and Mystery Science Theater 3000 is up on Netflix now, check that out as well. Um, we have a website, McElroyShows.com, where you can find all our various projects, ways to reach us, Facebook groups, Twitter accounts, P.O. Boxes, all that stuff is there.

Griffin:

Um—

Travis:

Um, go to maximumfun.org and check out all the other amazing shows there. There's a ton on there, uh, and I think you're gonna love 'em all 'cause they're all great.

Justin:

And, uh, that's gonna do it for us. Griffin, do you have one more Yahoo to just sort of send us out on?

Griffin:

Yeah, this one's a real thinker.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

It's sent in by, um, Rachel Rosing, Game Recognize Game, Rachel Rosing. Thank you, Rachel. It's Yahoo Answers user Lauren, who asks, "I know this sounds weird and stupid, but, who closes the door when a bus driver gets off the bus?"

Justin:

Wait a minute.

Travis:

Whoa.

Justin:

Who—

Travis:

Who does?

Justin:

Who does?

Travis:

Does the bus just do it?

Griffin:

I think the bus just stays open.

Justin:

Does he set a timer?

Travis:

Does the bus know? Is it like a rubber band... Maybe it's like a rubber band and like he walks off and pulls the cables, like a ripcord.

Justin:

Yeah, like a Pee-wee's Big Adventure breakfast machine, sort of situation.

Travis:

Yeah

Griffin:

I think maybe the bus driver just throws a baseball very hard at the lever.

Justin:

[laughs].

Travis:

That's the only thing that makes sense.

Justin:

And the a Yankee's...

Griffin:

It's the only thing that makes—

Justin:

... recruiter sees him and he's like, "Hey, you got heat. You ready for the big show?" And then he recruits him as Tony Danza in a movie.

Griffin:

Tony Danza is—

Travis:

But he still has to drive the bus for the team.

Griffin:

... Tony Danza is Bus Baseball Man.

Justin:

My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis:

Bus Ball. It would be called Bus Ball.

Justin:

My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis:

I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin:

I'm Bus Baseball Man.

Justin:

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

[theme music plays]

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Speaker 8:

Thanks Judge John Hodgman.