

Still Buffering 107: How to Valentine's Day

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[theme music plays]

Rileigh:

Hello, and welcome to Still Buffering, a sisters' guide to teens through the ages. I am Rileigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor:

And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Sydnee:

Welcome, sisters.

Rileigh:

It's so early.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It is early.

Sydnee:

Is it really, though?

Rileigh:

Yes.

Taylor:

Hey, I closed the bar last night, all right? So, it... today, um, is a lot for me.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Taylor:

I—

Sydnee:

But still, it's 10:00. I mean, that's not early.

Raleigh:

I woke up at 9:30.

Sydnee:

Oh my god.

Raleigh:

That's early.

Taylor:

It's pretty early. It's a Sunday, too.

Raleigh:

Yeah, it's a Sunday.

Taylor:

It's the—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. See, okay, here's the thing. Once you have kids—

Taylor:

Oh, ha ha.

Sydnee:

It's doesn't—

Taylor:

She's going there.

Sydnee:

I'm just saying.

Taylor:

She's sayin' that.

Sydnee:

Charlie slept until 7:30 this morning and it was a miracle.

Taylor:

That's not sleeping in. That's not what that's called.

Sydnee:

It is when you're three. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

She's crazy. If I had three years or four years of my life where I didn't have to go to school or do anything and could just sleep as much as I wanted, I would not wake up at 7:30.

Taylor:

Right? Like, your main job in life is to watch cartoons and, like, eat chicken nuggets. Like, what are you... [laughs] Sleep. You're messing it up, kid.

Raleigh:

Yeah. [laughs]

Taylor:

... c'mon. [laughs] You got it good.

Sydnee:

She loves a— If she wakes up in the middle of the night and it is not morning yet, she's always so bummed. Like, I have to go back to sleep?

Raleigh:

That's so crazy. When I wake up in the middle of the night and it's not morning yet, I'm like, oh, thank god it's not time to get up yet.

Taylor:

Oh, well, maybe that's the thing though, is that all she has on her agenda is cartoons and chicken nuggets, so of course she don't want to ever sleep. It's like, I have so many awesome things to do today.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It's like when you grow up and you have adult responsibilities, it's like, no I want to stay in bed. Like, please let me sleep [laughs] until I don't have to deal with this. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Nah, she loves the morning. She's up there at... I can hear her riding her double triple skateboard around and around in the kitchen.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And she wakes up ready to go.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Like, she jumps out of bed and is like, let's go play, let's go do this, let's go I gotta go do this, aah! I mean, like, instantly.

Raleigh:

Did we ever update everyone and tell everyone that you trick worked and now she called her scooter that you got her for Christmas an double triple skateboard?

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Oh, yeah, yeah.

Sydnee:

That's true, that's true.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

She actually referred to herself as the princess of double triple skateboards today.

Taylor:

That's a good title.

Sydnee:

And she was calling me queen—

Raleigh:

That's fair.

Sydnee:

... of double triple skateboards, and Justin king of double triple skateboards.
[laughs]

Raleigh:

That's fair, as you are the creators of them.

Sydnee:

[laughs] I did, and in a sense, I made it.

Raleigh:

You did.

Taylor:

Mmm.

Sydnee:

In a sense.

Raleigh:

I mean, you renamed a scooter.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Two of them now.

Sydnee:

Justin put it together.

Taylor:

You guys might get into some copyright issues with that, I think, 'cause you just called something that already exists something else. But I don't know how that works.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I'm not a trademarker... er.

Sydnee:

[laughs] I don't know. I think as long as I don't try to sell it, I'm okay, right?

Taylor:

All right. Go on Shark Shank with your... This is it.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

This is what I got, all right.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

A brave new world, no idea. I got this.

Raleigh:

Double triple skateboard.

Sydnee:

Ah, excuse me, that's... like, that has another label on it.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

That has a manufa—... I'm like, there's a brand on it.

Taylor:

You literally taped over it with like a piece of paper and—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... some duct tape and you sharpies on the words double triple skateboard.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Like, I don't know if I buy this. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Now, just hear me out.

Raleigh:

Mr. Wonderful.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Please.

Sydnee:

I think this would be great in your wedding line. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Lori.

Sydnee:

Lori, this is a hero, not a zero. I watch too much Shark Tank.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It's the only thing that I think ever is on when I'm in West Virginia.

Raleigh:

That's true.

Taylor:

It's on every TV, just Shark Tank.

Raleigh:

Always.

Taylor:

Just, that's it.

Sydnee:

Ah, well, the other nice thing about Shark Tank is that it is—

Taylor:

[laughs] Tell me the nice things about Shark Tank, please.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Is there any show on TV that's more romantic than one about millionaire investors?

Raleigh:

There is it.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Trying to put their money into fledgling businesses.

Raleigh:

Romance.

Sydnee:

Romance. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Shark Tank. [laughs]

Taylor:

That's wh— that's what that is.

Sydnee:

Is that love?

Taylor:

Uh...

Raleigh:

I think you love Shark Tank.

Sydnee:

I d— [laughs] I do like Shark Tank a lot.

Raleigh:

I think you love it.

Sydnee:

I— maybe. Maybe.

Raleigh:

Does it feel the same way?

Sydnee:

I— just like to, I like to try to guess, like, is that, is it gonna be a winner? Is that..

Rileigh:

I feel like it's always easy to tell sometime.

Sydnee:

Eh, I don't know. It sends me on a crazy rollercoaster with my relationship with my own intelligence. 'Cause sometimes I'll be like, that is so dumb, this is so dumb and that person's gonna make a million dollars. I should have a million dollars if that dumb thing gets a million dollars. And then sometimes it's like, I'm so dumb, why did I never think of that? They deserve a million dollars 'cause I had never thought of that.

Sydnee:

I, see, I find the only thing about it that ever really... I get frustrated with, is they sometimes will have, like, kinda fake medical adjacent things.

Taylor:

Oh, yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, supplementy things that they're making claims on, weight loss things—

Rileigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... devices. And they're just far enough removed that they can get away with it. You know? That they can make those claims.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But I know it's fake. But I also know, as I'm watching, you should probably invest money in this, because this is gonna make millions of dollars.

Rileigh:

Billions and billions of dollars.

Sydnee:

I know, and it's so frustrating. Like, I get so angry about it. Those are the only ones that I can't watch 'cause I'm just like you're ripping people off.

Those are lies, those are unsubstantiated lies. [laughs] People are gonna pay for that, thought, 'cause they're gonna—you're preying on their hope.

Raleigh:

My favorite was the guy who invented an elliptical attached to the back of a stroller.

Taylor:

[laughs] Yeah.

Raleigh:

So you could do that while you stroll. And it cost thousands of dollars, and also he had never made one to sell.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

He only had a prototype. So he had no profit, no buyers, no one interested, but it's a good idea.

Sydnee:

Also, like, walking and jogging are good, too.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And th— we—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... have strollers that you can do that with.

Raleigh:

Like, they're just strollers.

Sydnee:

They're just strollers.

Taylor:

No, that... I saw another one with like, it was like a stroller but it attached to your back, I guess.

Sydnee:

Yeah

Taylor:

So it's like, as you ran the baby was behind you. And it just seemed to me, like—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... not having a baby, but just understanding, like, I don't know, basic how babies work. I'm like, that seems like a really bad idea. And then all the sharks were like, yeah you're not looking at your baby. Who knows what will happen to your baby? [laughs] You turn around, your baby's gone. [laughs]

Raleigh:

You're basically a sled dog for your baby. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I was glad when they all picked up on that. 'Cause that was the first thing as he came running around with that thing on, I was like, you can't see the baby. That's so dangerous. What—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... I would go crazy. Like, you can't see the baby.

Taylor:

Well, you—

Sydnee:

And everyone's like, ah—

Taylor:

Mmm.

Sydnee:

... you can't see the baby. [laughs]

Taylor:

Like, how, rear view mirror, and then it just... that's a lot work, [laughs] so.

Sydnee:

Um, well, speaking of romance.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

It's, uh, it's the week of romance, I guess.

Taylor:

Is it? Okay.

Sydnee:

I don't know. Sure.

Raleigh:

Mmm.

Taylor:

Valentine's Day, guys. Yeah.

Sydnee:

We didn't actually do a full episode devoted to Valentine's Day last year. I think we talked about dating in honor of Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I'm sure though, our kind of unified, um, I don't want to say distaste, apathy is the right word. Apathy towards Valentine's Day, I feel like it sh— probably showed through our last episode as well.

Raleigh:

Probably.

Sydnee:

I don't think any of us are, like, thrilled about the day.

Raleigh:

Well, I mean—

Sydnee:

Well, maybe Raleigh is, I don't know.

Raleigh:

I mean...

Sydnee:

Let me say this—

Taylor:

Well, you got a booyfriend for Valentine's Day, so that's nice.

Raleigh:

I meaaan...

Sydnee:

Well, I mean, I got a husband, but I don't— I—

Taylor:

Yeah, ehh. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I've just never, I—... Even when I was younger, I'd never... it just didn't speak to me, Valentine's Day. And not in like, a... not in a way that I resented it if I was single. I don't mean that, 'cause I think that's a different thing. It's not like that. I just, I don't know. I don't want flowers, they die.

Raleigh:

Whoa.

Taylor:

Well, so—

Sydnee:

I mean, they do.

Taylor:

Hey, man, so do people, but I still like 'em.

Raleigh:

Everyone does. Yeah.

Sydnee:

W—

Taylor:

Boom.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Ha, roasted.

Taylor:

Give me some flowers.

Sydnee:

Okay, personally, I don't want flowers. I like chocolate, but here's the thing. I've very particular. If I'm gonna eat a whole box of chocolates—

Raleigh:

Gosh. [laughs]

Taylor:

Oh, wow.

Sydnee:

... I want to be in on the decision of the chocolate.

Raleigh:

Or else she'll just poke her finger right through the bottom of all of them and see what's inside.

Sydnee:

And [laughs], well that's true. And let's be honest, when it comes to cards, they're... I know two people who read the card right away and, like, look at it. Raleigh is one of them.

Raleigh:

No I don't.

Sydnee:

You always have. You always look at the card. We always joked about it. Even when you were little, you would like, open your card first before your birthday presents.

Raleigh:

That's what you're supposed to do.

Sydnee:

You and Charlie. Charlie goes right—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... for the card and wants to look at the card. No one else I know [laughs] cares about the card. And so, like, you read it and it's always the same thing. And then your significant other tries to write something else in it to make it more special.

Raleigh:

Of if you're mom, you just underline a bunch of things.

Sydnee:

Yeah. You can do the mom method.

Taylor:

Yeah. Yeah.

Sydnee:

I just never... it never spoke to me, and I hate those candy hearts, those little conversation hearts.

Raleigh:

No, sweet tart conversation hearts.

Taylor:

We will... No. Okay, we're not, look.

Raleigh:

[laughs] Whoa.

Taylor:

[laughs] I don't like a lot about Valentine's Day, but Necco conversation hearts—

Raleigh:

Really?

Taylor:

I— this is, I don't know what, like, all of the crappy seasonal candy that everybody complains about—

Raleigh:

Do you like candy corn?

Taylor:

I love candy corn. I love candy corn—

Sydney:

I like candy corn, actually.

Taylor:

... I love conversation hearts. But this is the thing—

Raleigh:

You all are whack.

Taylor:

... like, I don't like conversation hearts anymore, because they—

Raleigh:

Dots. [laughs]

Taylor:

Yeah, Dots. Let's not—... We can't get on me. But they changed the taste. 'Cause they used to taste like delicious, fragrant chalk.

Raleigh:

Chalk. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

And [laughs] now they taste like weird fake fruit, and I miss my fragrant chalk. If there was storage unit, and there's gotta be, full of the classic old-school Necco wafer hearts, I need to know where it is. 'Cause, I miss them. And, you know what, that's all I want for Valentine's Day. Like, I just want my old-school—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... like, chalk hearts.

Sydnee:

I, well, I'm sure you're right. I'm sure you're out there somewhere. Um, and I feel like that you could probably purchase them at a reasonable price. [laughs]

Taylor:

I— seriously was like—

Sydnee:

And they're really old and no one else likes them.

Taylor:

As soon as we're done with this recording, I'm going on eBay and trying to find the classic flavors. 'Cause I just... it just destroyed me when they tried to make them taste like something. It's like, no, that was the joy. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I didn't taste like anything. There was the one white heart that was a little spicy. I like that one. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I never... I just never, and I don't know, Valentine's Day didn't do it for me. I always thought it, like, I remember the few times that I ever went out on, like, a Valentine's Day date. Like, especially when I was a teenager. And we would go to, like, the Olive Garden. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

You know, 'cause you're fancy.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

It's Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

So y— [laughs] You gotta class it up. Go to the Olive Garden. [laughs]

Taylor:

See, I'm surprised that you have such a negative feeling towards Valentine's Day, Syd. 'Cause you always had significant others. Like—

Raleigh:

I just—

Sydnee:

It's true, it's true. I usually did.

Raleigh:

Sydnee had boys giving her things and telling her they loved her every day of the year.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

He didn't need a day for it.

Taylor:

Ah, okay.

Sydnee:

That's [laughs], that's not—

Taylor:

Like, I get—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... my disdain, 'cause I have never had a person on Valentine's Day ever in my 32 years. I've gone through the seven stages of grief related to Valentine's Day. And now I'm just acceptance. Like, well, chocolate will be discounted, uh, soon.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

So that's why I'm okay with it. But, like, you have no reason. [laughs]

Sydnee:

It's, I think the problem for me is that—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... especially, and when I think about, like, the last over a decade of Valentine's Days I've had, because, I mean, Justin and I are going on 12 years of marriage, jeez.

Taylor:

Wow, man.

Sydnee:

And we were together for two before that, so.

Taylor:

Oof.

Raleigh:

That's almost my whole life. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Yeah. [laughs] It's been a long time. Um, when I think about, like, those Valentine's Days, the problem is that even if you try to make it a special, romantic day, I feel like the fact that it is Valentine's Day, like, puts this layer of cheesiness on it.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That even if you're feelings are all real, and everything you're doing and saying is for all the, you know, right reasons. [laughs] Okay, we're on bachelorette right now.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Um, even if all that's true, it still feels like this is such a nice dinner that you made me. 'Cause it's Valentine's Day. Oh, those flowers are beautiful. 'Cause they're Valentine's flowers. I don't know, like, even if it's like, and now we're gonna have, like, private times.

Raleigh:

Oh, whoa.

Sydnee:

Because it's, because it's Valentine's Day and that's what we're supposed to do. I don't know, everything about it feel, uh, uh, prescribed. Like, do it on Easter. [laughs]

Taylor:

What?

Sydnee:

And then—

Raleigh:

What? [laughs]

Sydnee:

... then you're catching everybody off guard. Nobody saw that coming.

Taylor:

I d—

Sydnee:

Easter bunny, eggs, religious connotation, and doin' it. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Sydnee.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I'm just saying, like, catch people off guard. Valentine's Day is so predictable.

Taylor:

Oh—

Raleigh:

Stop.

Taylor:

... wacky Easter sex.

Raleigh:

No!

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I just... I can't handle how it just feels like what you're supposed to do. Because even if you really want to be, you know, doing all those things for your love one, it feels forced.

Raleigh:

I can't believe my sisters just did that to me.

Sydnee:

Sorry.

Taylor:

I'm sorry. I'm not sorry. [laughs]

Raleigh:

I trusted youuu!

Taylor:

I'm sorryyy. [laughs]

Sydnee:

One time a boyfriend gave me Taco Bell on Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

Now that's a gift.

Sydnee:

I thought that was a good gift. [laughs]

Taylor:

I mean, I'm glad you married Justin instead, but that's a hard call there.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Justin, if you're listening, you gotta up your Valentine's game. You gotta get some Taco Bell.

Sydnee:

And not like—

Raleigh:

What happened to taco boy?

Sydnee:

... special, not like special... well, you know. It just didn't work out.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm. He took the Taco Bell and ran.

Sydnee:

Yeah, he did. Not like special Valentine's Taco Bell, just like, here's some Taco Bell, 'cause I know you love Taco Bell.

Taylor:

I—

Raleigh:

That's love.

Sydnee:

There you go.

Taylor:

I liked in elementary school when if you were gonna give one person a valentine, you had to give everybody a valentine.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm

Taylor:

'Cause then I got valentines. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Oh, Tey.

Raleigh:

Tey.

Taylor:

Then I got all the valentines. [laughs] So did everybody else, but then it was fair. Like—

Raleigh:

Well—

Taylor:

... why didn't that policy carry over into adulthood? Like, here's the deal [laughs].

Sydnee:

You have to give everybody a Valentine [laughs].

Taylor:

Everybody you know.

Raleigh:

Everybody in your life.

Sydnee:

Can you see walking into work and, like, handing out those little—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... papers?

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Folded up valentines to everyone you worked with. Here. [laughs] My mom made me. [laughs]

Raleigh:

What even kinds of valentines would you get as an adult? Like, when you're little, you get all the cartoons ones. Like, I always had, like, Hannah Montana and Jonas Brothers and Littlest Pet Shop.

Sydnee:

As as adult, you get, like, Dilbert. [laughs]

Taylor:

No.

Raleigh:

[laughs] Do you... wait.

Sydnee:

Please tell me there... No.

Raleigh:

Do you think they have Dilbert valentines? Because if they do, I'm getting those for our father for Valentine's Day. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I hope not, like—

Raleigh:

A whole box.

Sydnee:

The creator of Dilbert is kind of a, you know, not cool dude, let's say that, how 'bout that.

Taylor:

He like a men's rights activist and stuff?

Sydnee:

Yes, yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah, yeah, don't even ironically support Dilbert.

Sydnee:

But it just, it was so perfect, because every disaffected office worker was supposed to like Dilbert, right? For like a moment there.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

There was a moment in history where everybody was connect with Dilbert. And then we were all like, why do we like Dilbert? It's not funny. [laughs]

Taylor:

Well—

Raleigh:

Except for Tommy Smirl.

Sydnee:

Except for Tommy Smirl. And Dan Smirl.

Taylor:

But, even that is, like, recognized as like, yeah, you know what it's like, it used to be funny but now it's just depressing. It's like, no, it was always depressing, dad. [laughs] It's just kind of like, oh life sucks 'cause I work at an office. I should probably kill myself, but I won't. Dilbert! [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] It was, and people try to draw parallels with that and Cathy, and I don't think that was fair to Cathy, frankly.

Taylor:

Eh, I don't think Cathy's much better, though.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Like—

Taylor:

Ack. Ah— [laughs] I had this, like—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Like, oh no, I'm gonna die alone. I ate all this ice cream, this skirt doesn't fit. Ahh!

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

That's a woman right there. [laughs] That's all we think about. This is what we're like.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It's just ice cream and anxiety. [laughs]

Raleigh:

But I mean, [laughs] is it that far off?

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] No. [laughs] Raleigh is like—

Raleigh:

Me? No, that's me. [laughs] It's me.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It m— [laughs]

Sydnee:

Raleigh, have you ever read Cathy? [laughs]

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

But you said ice cream and anxiety and I'm just sitting here like, oh, well, y— okay.

Sydnee:

Th— those are the valentines Raleigh's gonna get in adulthood. Cathy valentines.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Those— those are definitely out there.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Every one just says ack. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I—

Sydnee:

Just Cathy, with her hair out to here.

Taylor:

I really hope there's some, like, and there's gotta be some deep web fanfiction out there where Cathy meets Dilbert and they fall in love.

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

You have to create it.

Taylor:

If not, then yes. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Oh.

Taylor:

You just have figured out my goal in life.

Sydnee:

Oh. That's so upsetting.

Taylor:

I know, well, I would say actually Cathy deserves better. So that's not even fair to Cathy.

Sydnee:

Raleigh, you need, like, Grey's Anatomy valentines.

Raleigh:

Ah, yeah.

Sydnee:

And that would do well for you.

Raleigh:

Instead of it's a beautiful day to save lives, it's a beautiful day to fall in love with you. Be my valentine?

Sydnee:

[laughs] You have a career as a valentine writer I see.

Taylor:

Yeah, 'cause that's like, a good, like, a good valentine, it's like, it's not supposed to be clever.

Sydnee:

Uh-uh.

Taylor:

It's just, like, like, clever is a 10, we're aiming for a six. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Instead of— instead of push two of epi, push two of love.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Is that—

Raleigh:

End to your pains.

Sydnee:

... are you just gonna replace words with love?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

That's, uh, that kind of is the formula.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I thought you were you supposed to have puns.

Taylor:

Yeah, yeah, you are.

Sydnee:

Can you throw some puns in there?

Raleigh:

Um... [blows raspberry]

Taylor:

I've had that—

Raleigh:

I'm not great at this in the morning, guys. [laughs]

Taylor:

I don't know, that sound, though. Hey all you guys out there in podcasty land, I bet that was enjoyable. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

A really intense microphone fart.

Raleigh:

[laughs] I forgot we were on air for a minute. Live on the radio. Um, we're not.

Sydney:

Uh, you, I don't know any puns but maybe, like, you... hey, valentine, you cardioverted me right back to life. Maybe?

Raleigh:

Mmm. Mmm.

Sydney:

No?

Taylor:

I'm pretty good with puns, but I know nothing about medicine, so I can't really meet you there.

Sydney:

I still, I mean it was just yesterday, but still don't really know what a spleen is, so, we'll—

Raleigh:

Hey, hey—

Sydnee:

... figure that out first.

Raleigh:

... valentine, you much be Christina Yang, 'cause you're in my heart.

Sydnee:

[laughs] okay.

Taylor:

I am abscessed with you, valentine.

Sydnee:

Hey, there's we go.

Taylor:

Hey. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Taylor is the best at this.

Sydnee:

Oh, now that I like.

Taylor:

Yep.

Sydnee:

That... If you made a Valentine that said that, I would give it to people.
Happily.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

And actually, if I gave that to people at work, they would live it.

Raleigh:

Do that.

Taylor:

Where it's just like a disgusting illustration of an abscess.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Taylor, I need you to draw about 50 of these—

Taylor:

All right.

Raleigh:

... and send them to us—

Taylor:

Here it is, 10AM—

Raleigh:

... and Sydnee will give them to all of the doctors.

Taylor:

... two hours of sleep, probably still drugged from last night. You're welcome. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I— seriously, if you made that Valentine, I— do you know many doctors would love that?

Taylor:

All right. No—

Raleigh:

Even our cousin, who is also a doctor, you give that to him, he'd be like, Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. Yes.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

I enjoy this. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

All right, I gotta draw it, I'll send you the file, you just gotta print it off.

Sydnee:

I love this, yes. Please, please make this valentine a reality.

Taylor:

There you go.

Sydnee:

I'm going share it—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... with all of my... I mean, I—

Raleigh:

Sydnee's gonna roll into the hospital to have her baby, be like, wait, wait, wait. I have something for all of you.

Sydnee:

Look at this valentine.

Raleigh:

Look at this valentine.

Taylor:

See yeah, I actually always make valentines every year. Um, 'cause I, you know, like, people are like, uh, Valentine's Day, gross, and like, oh, I'm single, uh. I don't know, like, for me it's like I get an opportunity to, like, I guess, like, give thanks to people that I care about.

Sydnee:

Sure.

Taylor:

So I always like make, like, some dumb... I love dumb puns, and it's an excuse to give out puns and people want them on Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

That's true.

Taylor:

Like, yeah, that is a form of currency on Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs] It's the one day out of the year my art form is valid. Uh, so, yeah. I—

Sydnee:

It's not the one day—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... but it is a valid form of your art form.

Taylor:

Well, I don't mean, like, drawing. I mean like bad puns. Like, that's, you know, that's the one—

Raleigh:

Those are acceptable every day.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

But Valentine's Day especially celebrates them, I would agree.

Taylor:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Gotta look at the good.

Sydnee:

Yeah. No, I think that's great, though. I don't, I mean, Valentine's Day doesn't not have to be about romantic love. It's about love.

Raleigh:

Yeah, every year up until this year, the person who got my stuff for Valentine's was mom. She always got me, like, candy and, like, some sort of makeup thing.

Taylor:

Dad still gets me a box of chocolates every year.

Sydnee:

Yup.

Raleigh:

I remember last year, I felt very bad 'cause we talked about how dad always gets us boxes of chocolates, and I said I don't really like them.

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

And last year he got me a bag of Skittles. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] See, he listened.

Raleigh:

I know.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Well I do—... See, it's no— it's just about love.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Well, I—

Sydnee:

Well—

Taylor:

... you can practice, you don't have to have a Valentine's Day. You can have a Pal-entine's Day. Or a Gal-entine's Day.

Raleigh:

Or a Gal-entine's Day.

Sydnee:

There you go. We'll steal that one from Parks & Rec.

Raleigh:

With all your pals and gals.

Taylor:

Yup.

Raleigh:

Like Archie.

Sydnee:

Um, well now that we've turned the corner on Valentine's Day, before we—

Raleigh:

Now that we love Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

... before we explore this new horizon any—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... further.

Raleigh:

Let's check the group message.

Sydnee:

We got a lot going on there today, don't we, Raleigh.

Taylor:

Beep boop boop.

Raleigh:

There we go.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Thank you, Taylor, for that.

Raleigh:

We couldn't officially start.

Sydnee:

So, uh, first of all, we've got a sponsor we want to tell you about, and that's Texture. Now, we have told you about Texture before, and, uh, the thing is, maybe you're looking for dependable political reporting, high—quality storytelling, or the latest on culture and entertainment. And magazines can deliver all of that. The problem is, you gotta go to the store or buy all these magazines, or subscribe to all these different ones individually and wait for them to show up. And that can be kind of a hassle, and Texture has solved that for you.

Raleigh:

Yes, they have.

Sydnee:

The Texture app gives you unlimited access to over 200 premium magazines, they have leading titles like Time, the Atlantic, the New Yorker, Vanity Fair, and Wired. And right now, you can try Texture for free.

Raleigh:

What?

Sydnee:

So, how can our listeners try Texture for free?

Raleigh:

Well, if you want to start your Texture free trial, go to Texture.com/StillBuffering and if you choose to continue, all of our listeners will get Texture for just \$9.99 a month. So, go to Texture.com/StillBuffering to start your free trial today.

Sydnee:

Just imagine having your favorite magazines and their back issues any time, anywhere.

Raleigh:

Yup.

Sydnee:

So that's Texture.com/StillBuffering.

Sydnee:

Now, we have another sponsor to tell you about this week. This is a new one.

Raleigh:

It's a new one.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Um, and this is specifically aimed at our teenage audience, or, let me say, at our teen audience, but as someone who has read a lot of YA fiction [laughs]—

Raleigh:

Anyone who enjoys teen books.

Sydnee:

Yes. I have, I— as someone who has indulged in... I mean, yes, of course, all the Harry Potters, but also all the Twilights—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

That's right, that's me.

Taylor:

Uh.

Sydnee:

Uh, I feel like that this is not just limited to our teenage audience.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Um, this episode is sponsored in part by Tor Teen, the proud publisher of Sightwitch, by New York Times bestselling author Susan Dennard. So, do you want me to tell you a little bit about this book—

Raleigh:

Please do.

Sydnee:

... Sightwitch? Ryber dreams of becoming a sightwitch. When they... when that day comes, she must instead undertake a perilous journey to save her sightwitch sisters and save the witchlands, too. So don't miss this all new story set in the witchlands. Praised by Alexandra Bracken as a world you'll have to inhabit forever. It's available wherever books are sold. And you can visit thewitchlands.com for more information on witchlands novels. So check out Sightwitch.

Taylor:

Man, I am not a teen but I want to read that. That sounds really cool.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. It sounds really good, so. Check that out. And we have one more thing to tell you about this week. It's a jumbotron.

Raleigh:

It's a jumbotron.

Taylor:

Woo hoo.

Sydnee:

So, this is a message for Aoife, from Matthew. And, Tey, you want to read this message?

Taylor:

Indeed. All right. Uh, "Happy Valentine's Day, to my wonderful girlfriend and partner in all things. Who would have thought a university debate evening could actually be so important? The last five years have been the best of my life." That's so sweet. "And I hope we have many more. A song from the sisters would be most appreciated."

Sydnee:

I had you read it because—

Taylor:

Ah, you didn't use—

Raleigh:

Gotta do the song.

Sydnee:

Oh no.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs] Oh no.

Sydnee:

Is it a Happy Birthday, or a Valentine's?

Raleigh:

Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

It's a Valentine's Day song.

Taylor:

I don't know.

Sydnee:

Yeah, that's not a—

Raleigh:

Taylor.

Sydnee:

... birthday, it's a Valentine's Day song.

Taylor:

All right.

Raleigh:

[sings] Taylor, sing us a song about love.

Taylor:

Uh... [sings] Hey Aoifa, Matthew loves you. Hey Aoifa, always be true. Hey Aoifa, do awesome things together. Hey Aoifa, hope it lasts forever.

Sydnee:

Yay!

Raleigh:

Yay!

Sydnee:

That was really good, Tey.

Raleigh:

That was great.

Taylor:

There you go, boom.

Sydnee:

You're the best at coming up with those songs.

Raleigh:

I can't do that.

Taylor:

Right?

Sydnee:

No, I can't do that either. Well, Happy Valentine's Day, Aoife and Matthew.

Riley:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

Y— you got a special song from Taylor.

Taylor:

There you go.

Sydnee:

That was... I'm really impressed with that. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Riley:

I am too.

Sydnee:

Taylor really... Let me just clarify, let me pull back the curtain. Taylor really just did that.

Riley:

Yeah.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

And she didn't know—

Taylor:

I did, I had not read that. [laughs] I got to the end, I was like, crap.
[laughs]

Raleigh:

Sydnee and I read this part [laughs] before we talked to Teylor and I was like, I can't come up with a song. Sydnee was lie, "Teylor's good at coming up with songs."

Sydnee:

Uh. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I had already decided I'm gonna make Teylor do this. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

That was really good. That was... Now, I will say, uh, it was only rivaled by earlier today, Charlie decided to make up her own lyrics to the song Look What You Made Me Do, by Taylor Swift.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Oh. What were they... were they related to farts? [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] They were mainly about her double triple skateboard. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Oh. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs] That's excellent.

Sydnee:

Um, but it was adorable. She has learned the song from KIDZ BOP, by the way. 'Cause when she started singing it one day, I was like, where did you hear this?

Raleigh:

Just the KIDZ BOP commercial though where the only parts of the song they sing are 'look what you made me do.'

Taylor:

Mmm.

Sydnee:

Yeah, that was pretty much all it was—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... just about double triple skateboarding.

Taylor:

That's... all right.

Sydnee:

Except for the line where she went, "And I am a teenager." And then she went, "I'm a teenager for this song."

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Okay.

Taylor:

You know, I, like—

Sydnee:

Sure.

Taylor:

... no offense to you, Swift, but I would definitely rather hear that version, um, then—

Raleigh:

Me too.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

... than the actual one. I—

Sydnee:

I'll try to get her to lay it down.

Taylor:

And this is an aside, but, it makes me a little sad, 'cause, like, I really like, like, Shake it Off. 'Cause T Swift is like, none of this stuff is gonna bother me, I'm just gonna shake it off. And then, Look What You Made Me Do came out, and she's, like, she's not shaking it off. She's, like, letting it all the drama affect her and get it—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... get to her. And I'm like, nah, shake it off. You said that already. Like, go do that.

Raleigh:

And she's like, and she like covered in snakes in her video and—

Taylor:

Yeah, shake—

Raleigh:

... picks up a whole lobster with a fork.

Sydnee:

I'm also nervous what is she g—wait, hold on a second.

Taylor:

[laughs] what?

Sydnee:

Did you say picks up a whole lobster with a fork? [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

I— that was a weird, like, like, uh, she's so traumatized, she's picking up lobster with a fork. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Well, she does. Like, she's talking about—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... throwing a feast. And then there's a whole lobster sitting on a tray, like, in it's shell and everything, and she just, like, stabs a fork into it, picks it up, and holds it next to her while she's singing. I'm not making this up.

Sydnee:

That's a weird move. Um, what is she gonna do?

Raleigh:

The song.

Taylor:

Sh— yeah.

Sydnee:

The song is the revenge?

Raleigh:

This is what you made me do.

Taylor:

That— that song, yeah.

Raleigh:

This bad song.

Taylor:

Be angry.

Sydnee:

See, that's my problem, is like, this is what you got. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

You were better off with the shake it off, because this is not beli— like, I don't feel threatened by this. I don't know what's happening, but I'm not threatened.

Taylor:

No.

Sydnee:

I'm not scared of you now.

Raleigh:

Well, it wasn't for you, Sydnee.

Taylor:

No, it's—

Sydnee:

Well, I, yeah, that's true. I don't think I did anything to her.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

If I offended Taylor Swift, I don't know how.

Taylor:

I just want to, like, look, T Swift, if you're out there, just shake it off, man.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

I hope you—

Sydnee:

I like that.

Taylor:

I hope you shake it off someday and [laughs] make better songs.

Sydnee:

And— and Shake It Off lead to the, uh, Disney princess version of Shake it Off that was very popular on YouTube that I have seen 8,000 times because Charlie adores it and only knows the lyrics to that.

Raleigh:

If you throw on the regular Shake it Off, she stops as soon as she notices and just goes, "No, this is wrong."

Sydnee:

"This is wrong."

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I want the one about Snow White and Cinderella. So, we've decided that Valentine's Day is redeemable because it's about love.

Raleigh:

Love. And love is good.

Sydnee:

And, let me say, like, I— it's not like Justin and I refuse to acknowledge the day.

Raleigh:

Just don't acknowledge that it exists.

Sydnee:

No, [laughs] I... We do, I mean, we celebrate it in the sense that Justin and I will usually go out and, like, go through all of the boxes of candy that are available to find the one that's, like, the most decadent. Like, you really shouldn't spend this much on a box of chocolates, but it's our together box.

Raleigh:

It's our together chocolate.

Taylor:

Aww, that's sweet.

Sydnee:

And so we get, like, an really nice box of, like, this is candy we really enjoy. Um, and we buy it together. We typically don't... Although, you know, since Charlie's been born, Justin has, like, gotten us each a card. But generally, we didn't get each other cards. He knows I'm not a big flower girl, so we don't do the flower thing. And, like, sometimes I'll buy him, like a goofy little present of some sort.

Sydnee:

But, like, we don't do the dinner thing. I think we did one year, and it was just, like, you're crammed into a restaurant with every other couple—

Taylor:

Mmm.

Sydnee:

... in the city. And, like, the waitstaff just looks like they're so over this. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Because they've been serving people who are trying really hard to show how in love they are all day, and you're rushed through, and, like, I don't know, it's just everything about it has always felt kind of like, huh. And I waited two hours for this. You know?

Taylor:

Yeah. Well, I always, like, my restaurant doesn't do this, but I've worked at a lot of restaurants that do, like, a prix fixe, or, like, a special menu for Valentine's Day. And I don't... I feel like it's never, it's never what the restaurant's good at. Like, it's never the good stuff.

Sydnee:

No.

Taylor:

It's just like, this is something we can pump out fast 'cause we know a bunch of people are gonna be in here for [laughs] Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

Right. And I mean, like, Justin has cooked for me before, but I— I like the, especially our s— what we call our single days, before we had kids. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

In our single days, [laughs] we would cook together. You know, buy a nice bottle of champagne together. Like, it was like a together thing. Like that, I dig a lot more than, like, the pressure of the Valentine's Day, like, gift exchange and surprise and romantic, like, what are you gonna do for each other? I always like that much better. Like, let's just together.

Raleigh:

I get that.

Sydnee:

I don't know. I feel like Raleigh, you have a different opinion on all this.

Raleigh:

No, I agree with what all you're saying. It's just so exciting when you're a teenager. Like, and you—

Sydnee:

What is it like? [laughs]

Raleigh:

... have, like—

Sydnee:

What it's like? [laughs]

Raleigh:

... a boyfriend or a girlfriend, it's just like, it's like, it about love.

Sydnee:

Is there a big school display, is that like a thing?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

You don't do anything at school?

Raleigh:

I mean, like, when I was in, like, elementary school we would have a little Valentine's party and we'd all get each other valentines [laughs]. But, not in high school.

Sydnee:

'Cause, I remember back, not in t— see, I remember back in high school, sometimes you would see, generally speaking, girls, I'm sure that there were girls buying boys, or, I'm sure that boys were receiving presents too from their SO's, so—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... not just for girls, but generally I feel like it was usually a girl receiving, like, flowers or balloons, or something, like, in class.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

And it was like a big thing.

Raleigh:

No, see—

Sydnee:

Like, look at this thing. Like, oh my boyfriend loves me so much, look at this thing.

Raleigh:

I would feel about that like I would feel about people singing to me on my birthday in a restaurant.

Sydnee:

You wouldn't like that?

Raleigh:

That makes me so uncomfy. [laughs]

Sydnee:

The... Do people still do that? 'Cause tha— I mean, I remember that happening a lot. I did not desire it, but I remember seeing it.

Raleigh:

I don't know if I've ever seen anything like that, but I know there have been years where we've had, like, you could pay a dollar and we'll deliver, like, a chocolate flower to your person.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Whoever you want us to deliver it to. And they'll deliver it during class. And, like, tell you who it's from.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

But, that's it. I don't think I've ever seen anyone get, like, a lot of big stuff during class.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Which is good, because, part of me would be like, aww, that's cute, I want that. But then part of me would be, like, man, I hope that's not for me—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... 'cause, that'd be awkward.

Sydnee:

I always wondered about that, um, I've never wanted that at work, but that extends into your work life. Like, I have seen that at workplaces.

Raleigh:

That would make me even more uncomfy.

Sydnee:

People getting big flower deliveries in the middle of the workday. And I always just think, like, where would I put that? [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Don't you have to carry it home?

Sydnee:

Yeah. Or leave it in the office, and, like, I left it in my office, well, like, so you didn't even care about it enough to bring it home.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That doesn't work.

Taylor:

Mmm.

Raleigh:

Flowers are very pretty, though. I don't know why you don't like flowers. Flowers are very pretty.

Sydnee:

Okay. Two things. One, if it's a live plant, it requires upkeep. So that—

Raleigh:

Well, I mean, flowers only require a certain amount of upkeep, 'cause they're not gonna live forever.

Sydnee:

Okay, okay. So I just want to clarify, 'cause, like—

Taylor:

W—

Sydnee:

... I kill everything in the plant world. Not intentionally, like, I'm not trying to. I'm not... I don't have a vendetta. [laughs] But I've been given plants before and I kill them, because they require a lot of upkeep and I can handle that for the humans I've created—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... I can't handle that for plants. But, for flowers that have already been pre-cut and everything, it's like, you arrange them in a vase and they look all nice, but then you know, like, eventually, those are gonna wilt. There's gonna be dead leaves all over my table, and I'm gonna have to clean up that mess.

Raleigh:

And then, you do what I do—

Taylor:

It's an accurate parallel to romance. [laughs] What do you do, Raleigh?

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

You— [laughs] you get a little shadow box and you save all the dead flowers once they're dead and wilted and you save them all in a box, that's like, see-through on the front.

Sydnee:

And do what with that?

Raleigh:

I mean, you can like, keep it as like, a memento. Or display it.

Sydnee:

[laughs] I don't know. Where would I display that? [laughs]

Raleigh:

I don't know! You can just keep it!

Taylor:

She's trying to help you out. So, it's that it's that they die. So what if it was a plant that didn't require upkeep, like a small cactus?

Raleigh:

Now, I love cacti.

Sydnee:

If— if I... Okay, I am to understand, and I have never had one, but my understanding is that they require very little maintenance.

Raleigh:

Yeah, I have—

Taylor:

Yes.

Raleigh:

... like 10 of them and you just, like spritz them with water every two weeks, and you're fine. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I might be able to handle that, maybe.

Raleigh:

I don't know how you can take care of tiny people and your job is literally—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... to care for humans.

Sydnee:

The stakes are a lot higher, Raleigh. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

It's, wait, it's not the same upkeep, you just spritz them with water twice a week, and that it?

Raleigh:

I thought you just spritz Charlie with water every now and then and she just kept going.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] That's what happens. She would like that. She likes if you spritz her with water, that's one of her favorite things to play.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

But, no, no, it's the stakes. Like, I mean, you know, we made— we made a human, we're making another human. Um, that's, like, you know, they're supposed to like, grow and live and be people.

Raleigh:

All right, but if you don't have—

Sydnee:

And, like, I love 'em.

Raleigh:

If you don't have tiny humans, and you don't have animals—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

... you don't have anything else to care for, besides that plant.

Sydnee:

Yeah, it's just, I don't know.

Raleigh:

And is it not exciting when someone gets you flowers, and you take them home and you get out a vase, and you put 'em in water. And, like, you find a place to put them and it adds that little pop of color, and then you see them and you're like, aww, remember when they got me those flowers?

Sydnee:

No. Not for me. But that's fine.

Raleigh:

That's just nice.

Sydnee:

That can be exciting for you and not for me. That's okay.

Raleigh:

I know.

Sydnee:

We can have that difference.

Raleigh:

I know.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I, uh, I like fresh flowers a lot. Like, I like having them in my room. It's just one of those little things, you know. Uh, and I... It took me a really long time to accept that it's okay if I buy them for myself.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah, of course.

Taylor:

Like, I don't need to wait 'til somebody's in my life that will buy me flowers. I can just do that for myself, and it's okay. It's not sad. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Well, I don't think it is sad. I think it's fine to buy yourself flowers. I think it's, I mean, I don't think there's anything wrong with, now, I think buying yourself a Valentine's Day card seems a little, like... yeah, I mean—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... just, just because, again, we're getting back to the futility of the card.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Like, you're gonna write in it and then you're gonna seal it up in an envelope, and then you're gonna open it and read it.

Rileigh:

And you're gonna be like, ah, a card.

Sydnee:

So okay, the card would be a little far. But I— but if we're talking about, like—

Rileigh:

But like, candy, flowers—

Sydnee:

... candy, flowers, little presents—

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... like—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

... a nice meal.

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

A, you know, bottle of sparkling grape juice, perhaps, if you're underaged or [laughs] nice champagne. Like, I don't think there's anything wrong with any of that. Treat yourself. Like—

Rileigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Well—

Sydnee:

I—

Taylor:

... and, anybody out there that, 'cause I think Gal-entine's Day, you know, Pal-entine's Day, doing things with your friends is great, but, if you don't have any plans and you don't wanna, you know, whatever. You're single, you— you don't have any buddies that have the day off. Make it like a self-love day, self-care day.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

like, take yourself out. Buy yourself some flowers.

Raleigh:

Run yourself a bath, use a bath bomb.

Taylor:

Do a face mask, yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Yeah, I don't think there's anything wrong with that. I think, if we're talking about Valentine's Day as a celebration of love, I think self-love is a perfectly reasonable, you know, application of that holiday.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

So, you know, love somebody else or yourself, or whatever.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That sounded a little more gratuitous—

Taylor:

A cat, a cat perhaps.

Sydnee:

... that I meant for it to sound. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Love someone else or yourself or whatever.

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Happy Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

That's gonna be my Valentine's Day card.

Taylor:

Love, Sydnee. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I just think we should all love everybody every day.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Just be like Charlie.

Taylor:

Yeah, but there's—

Raleigh:

Your superpower is love.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Right.

Taylor:

There's nothing wrong with taking a day and, you know, making it about the people you care about and, you know, and taking care of yourself. I always give Jack a can of tuna on Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

Aww.

Sydnee:

Aww.

Taylor:

He is my forever valentine.

Raleigh:

Aww.

Sydnee:

I feel like there was a time where we got CJ, she's one of our cats, um, presents for Valentine's Day. But, I think that probably stopped at some point along—

Raleigh:

That day has passed.

Sydnee:

That day has passed.

Taylor:

When you've got actually small humans in your life.

Sydnee:

I think that's probably what happened.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And then at some point we got CJ Amelia. And that's her pet.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And so they love each other. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Sometimes.

Sydnee:

Na, no, they're really, they, that is her pet. We can't touch Amelia, but CJ—

Raleigh:

CJ can.

Sydnee:

... CJ can. Amelia's our other cat and I think she's part feral.

Raleigh:

So—

Sydnee:

Or maybe all feral.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I don't know. She was a rescue, um, but we didn't know, but not that it mattered, like, I'm okay with not being able to pet her. I care for her.

Raleigh:

You rescued her out of love.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I love her even though have not touched her since, like, the week we brought her home. She was sick, we took her to the vet a couple times. Once she got better she has stayed away from us. [laughs]

Raleigh:

I will say, we're talking about pets. I think the best Valentine's Day present anyone could ever give me is a small pet.

Sydnee:

You think?

Taylor:

Oh.

Raleigh:

Like a kitten. Or a puppy.

Taylor:

Uh-oh.

Raleigh:

'Cause then if you get it for me, then it's like, sorry mom and dad, it was a present.

Sydnee:

Hey—

Raleigh:

I didn't ask for it.

Sydnee:

... are you gonna, are you gonna try to get your significant other to listen to this episode before Valentine's Day?

Raleigh:

No.

Taylor:

Aww, man.

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

'Cause we're supposed to publish this on the day before.

Raleigh:

The day before Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

No.

Taylor:

Raleigh's SO, you better get that kitten.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

You better get that kitten.

Raleigh:

He also has a puppy that I like playing with, so like, I kind of get a pet.

Taylor:

So you want him to give it to you, is that—

Raleigh:

Yeah. I want... No.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I'm just saying that, like, I—

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... kind of get a pet with out having to ask for a pet.

Sydnee:

All right.

Taylor:

But this is your hint, you want a— you want a cat or a dog. Which one do you want?

Raleigh:

No, yeah.

Taylor:

Which one? Both?

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Both.

Sydnee:

What is you plan when you go to college in a few months?

Raleigh:

Secret dog.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Hmm.

Sydnee:

Because I will tell you right now, dad is not gonna be thrilled about this. And he's doubly not gonna be thrilled if it's like, okay, I'm off to college now. Take care of my animals, dad.

Raleigh:

No, you know what? Mom and dad would not be a fan of my boyfriend any longer. Never mind.

Sydnee:

Oh, that's true.

Raleigh:

Not gonna ask for that.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Mmm.

Raleigh:

That's why I stick with flowers. Because it's like, I'm not a fan of chocolate. So, like, I don't really like chocolate in general, most days of the year. Especially not on Valentine's Day. So like flowers are just like a nice little, like, here.

Sydnee:

Sure.

Raleigh:

An inexpensive way of saying, like, I was thinking about you and these are pretty, so here's some flowers.

Taylor:

Or some Taco Bell.

Raleigh:

Or some Taco Bell. Honestly, Taco Bell is—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

... probably the best move.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Um, you know, I just have to say before we wrap up, I have had so many people ask me, because, you know, we kinda... we didn't get to pick the day that our daughter's going to be born, but, um, because I was a, um, I'm gonna be a repeat C-section, we kinda di—... I mean, you know.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Within reason. Like there had to be, like, a surgeon. Like, my doctor had to be available. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And all that kinda stuff. And I had to be far enough along for it to be safe and all that kinda thing. So, it's not like completely by choice. But I had so many people say, well, why don't you pick Valentine's Day? You're so close. And, like, I couldn't fathom what the advantage of that would be. Like, what would you—

Raleigh:

Mmm.

Sydnee:

... want to be born on Valentine's Day?

Raleigh:

And everyone has to show you how much they love you.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And you're always loved on Valentine's Day.

Sydnee:

Well, it's just, it's a weird, like, I don't... even if you're not like me and you're ambivalent towards Valentine's Day, like... what is the plus?

Taylor:

Yeah, then they... Then Cooper's gonna miss out on, like, some form of present, 'cause you get birthday presents, but then you get stuff on Valentine's Day. But if it's the same day—

Raleigh:

Yeah, but—

Taylor:

... then someone's, you know someone in their life is gonna just be like, ah, this doubles.

Sydnee:

Yeah, exactly.

Raleigh:

But, now her birthday's the day before Valentine's Day. So what if one day she has a significant other, and they're like, I just got her birthday presents, now I have to get her Valentine's Day presents.

Sydnee:

They, well—

Raleigh:

Two days in a row.

Sydnee:

Hey.

Taylor:

But also... yeah.

Sydnee:

But listen, if you're gonna be worthy of a daughter of mine—

Taylor:

Yeah, they better.

Raleigh:

There you go.

Sydnee:

This person better step it up.

Raleigh:

And get 'em presents every day of the year.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Every day. A puppy every day.

Sydnee:

Well, eh...

Raleigh:

365 puppies.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Okay. Once she moves out of my house. [laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

He can buy her puppies. [laughs] We're more of a cat family here.

Raleigh:

What if they got her kittens every day?

Sydnee:

Uh—

Taylor:

Kittens every day!

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs] Kittens every day.

Sydnee:

Then she can come stay with Aunt Taylor and all of her kittens. [laughs]

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

Well, sisters, I hope you both have a happy Valentine's Day.

Raleigh:

You too.

Sydnee:

Um, thank you. Thank you. I hope so too. I hope all is happy and full of love for everyone.

Raleigh:

There'll be a new person.

Sydnee:

All the world. A new person will be here.

Raleigh:

Next time we do this podcast, there will be a new person.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

Yeah. Yeah, you know, for someone that doesn't really care for Valentine's Day, Syd, you're giving the world a heck of a Valentine's Day present there.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

[laughs] That's true. And I will enjoy having her on the outside. Right now she is making her presence very known to me—

Raleigh:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

... not to anyone else.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

Just to you.

Sydnee:

Yeah, to me and my bladder. [laughs]

Taylor:

She's doing a little dance in there.

Sydnee:

Yes she is. She's excited about Valentine's Day one way or the other.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

'Cause she gets to be outside. She gets to stretch for the first time ever. Can you imagine how that must feel? The first time you ever get to stretch out?

Raleigh:

It must be so, like, satisfying.

Sydnee:

I bet it is. All right, well, listeners, I hope you all have a wonderful whatever you decide to celebrate. Valentine's, Pal-entine's, Gal-entine's, self—

Raleigh:

We don't have any other words to go by.

Sydnee:

... your holiday of self-love.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Whatever you want to call it, have a great day, love yourself or someone else. Or both.

Taylor:

[laughs] Or whatever.

Raleigh:

Or both. Or whatever. [laughs]

Sydnee:

[laughs] Just love. And, um, if you want to check out other great shows on our network, you should go to maximumfun.org, um—

Raleigh:

Show them some love.

Sydnee:

Show them some love. And check out a lot of other wonderful podcasts. Uh, if you want to email us, you can, at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. And if you want to tweet at us, you can do that too, at StillBuff. And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Raleigh:

This has been Still Buffering, a sisters' guide to teens through the ages. I am Raleigh Smirl.

Sydnee:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Taylor:

And I'm Taylor Smirl.

Raleigh:

I am a teenager.

Sydnee:

And—

Taylor:

And I was too.

Sydnee:

... I was too.

[theme music plays]

Taylor:

I love you.

Raleigh:

I love you all.

--

Travis:

Following the news is hard and it sucks.

Brent:

How do you know which stories are important?

Travis:

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