#### Still Buffering 109: How to Ask a Teen 3

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[theme music plays]

#### Rileigh:

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

#### Sydnee:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

### **Teylor:**

And I'm Teylor Smirl.

### Sydnee:

Well, hello, sisters. I'm continuing this week on my quest to normalize breastfeeding, [laughs] by breastfeeding through the entire podcast again.

#### **Teylor:**

Yep.

## Sydnee:

And telling you both about it.

# **Teylor:**

In detail.

## Rileigh:

In detail.

## **Teylor:**

Lots of detail.

### Sydnee:

[laughs]

# Teylor:

It's important to know that they're latched correctly, and a surprising amount of boob ends up in their mouth.

Sydnee?

#### **Teylor:**

I don't know when that information is actually gonna company in handy for me, personally.

### Sydnee:

Uh, it just never... maybe, maybe someone will ask you, like, "Gosh, I don't suppose you know anything about breastfeeding, do you? Because I'm having some trouble." And you'll be like, "Well, actually."

#### **Teylor:**

I gotta guess that—

#### Rileigh:

I just know that a lot of boob goes in their mouth. [laughs]

#### Sydnee:

Uh, troubleshooting, uh, just put more boob in, more boob, maybe try some more boob. [laughs]

## Rileigh:

Cooper, do you think more boob or less boob?

## Sydnee:

She's good right now, she's got a good solid latch going on, so yeah.

### Rileigh:

Okay.

## Sydnee:

[laughs]

## Rileigh:

Hoo boy.

## Sydnee:

We're in a good situation.

# Rileigh:

Okay, good.

#### **Teylor:**

So, what else has been going on that's not related to my sister's boobs?

### Sydnee:

[laughs] Uh, I don't know, because I got three hours of sleep last night.

### **Teylor:**

Oh no.

### **Sydnee:**

And that's about the average for the last two weeks.

### Rileigh:

And how old is Cooper?

### Sydnee:

Two weeks.

## Rileigh:

Two weeks.

## Sydnee:

So, I don't know.

## **Teylor:**

I mean, if it makes you feel any better, that's about how much I sleep, and I don't even have a reason, I just don't sleep.

# Sydnee:

[laughs] I know, because see, when you breastfeed at night, it's important not to fall asleep while doing so, because you could—

## **Teylor:**

That seems important.

## Sydnee:

Yes, well, that's not good, you don't want to, you know, like, smush your baby.

# Rileigh:

#### Right.

#### Sydnee:

So, you've got to like keep yourself awake, so I— there's actually a recent study published where this guy suggested, he's a doctor, he's not some guy, actually he's a doctor, but he was also a male doctor who suggested that women go to a bright room and sit in a hard chair.

### **Teylor:**

[laughs]

#### **Sydnee:**

[laughs] You can imagine how a lot of physicians, or a lot of people who are breastfeeding and moms have reacted to this.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

A hard chair, huh?

### Rileigh:

In a bright room?

## Sydnee:

In a bright room, huh?

## **Teylor:**

Just shine a light directly in there... just design some sort of headlamp that just shines light straight in your eyes and maybe has like a high-pitched frequency sound to like just keep you awake.

# Rileigh:

And also, just a giant boulder.

# Sydnee:

What I have resorted to is, I now every night know every trending topic on Twitter, [laughs], I know everything that's happening on Facebook, I have read all of the New York Times, several times, and, um, I am becoming very good at Two Dots.

## **Teylor:**

Uh, if you run out of all of that, you could do what I do when I can't sleep at night, I like to memorize, uh, Nicki Minaj's guest lines in other people's songs. Um.

### Rileigh:

Well.

#### Sydnee:

Okay.

#### Rileigh:

Just that.

#### **Teylor:**

There's that, that's for some reason, like my brain's running a million miles a minute because that's what insomnia is. I was like, I just said, "I'm right in the mind space to memorize some Nicki Minaj lyrics."

#### Sydnee:

[laughs]

## Teylor:

So, next time we hang out in person, we can exchange some sick beats. I don't know what they're called.

## Sydnee:

You can recite Nicki Minaj lyrics and I'll say things like, "Hey, did you hear, Heather Locklear was arrested?"

## **Teylor:**

We'll be great at parties. [laughs] You bring your two babies, it's a whole act.

## Sydnee:

[laughs]

## Rileigh:

I have nothing to contribute to this.

## Sydnee:

You've been out of school, so you've done nothing.

I haven't been in school for a week, so I've been sleeping in 'til like 10:30 every day.

### Sydnee:

That's nice.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

So, but you've got— the teachers resume, their strike ends tomorrow, right?

### Rileigh:

Tomorrow.

### Sydnee:

Or I guess it ends today.

#### Rileigh:

Well, today was described as a cooling off day by our governor.

## **Sydnee:**

[laughs] Today's a cooling off day.

## Rileigh:

Literally his words, an official cooling off—

## Sydnee:

All you students need to cool off from sitting at home and watching Netflix.

## Rileigh:

Yup. [laughs] I will say, though, yesterday, uh, I had like seven homework assignments, some were due at 4:00 PM, some were due at 8:00 PM, and some were due at midnight. So, it hasn't really been much of a week off for me.

## **Teylor:**

So do they keep giving you homework throughout the strike, or is it stuff you had—

Oh yeah.

#### **Teylor:**

From before. Oh, okay.

#### Rileigh:

Oh, no, they kept emailing us, literally every time I checked my emails, like, "Oh, by the way, here's this thing you have to do tomorrow by four o'clock," I was like, "Oh, cool, thanks."

### Sydnee:

That says a lot though, that like here these teachers are striking, and they're still trying to like—

### Rileigh:

They're still trying to make my day so much worse.

#### Sydnee:

No.

## **Teylor:**

They're still trying to educate you, dude.

# Sydnee:

They're still trying to educate you.

## Rileigh:

I know, I'm kidding.

## **Teylor:**

Did anything come of this strike?

# Rileigh:

Yeah. Well-

# Sydnee:

Sort of. I mean—

# Rileigh:

A promise of something came from this strike.

### Sydnee:

They have promised to think PEIA, which is a state health insurance program that is— that that was the real impetus for this. Yes, the teachers deserved a pay raise because they have for a long time because they're paid 48th in the nation. But the other problem is that they raised the premiums on the state insurance so much, they like tripled them.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah, and they were losing money compared to what their raise was.

#### **Sydnee:**

And I mean, there were going to be a lot of people, because the salaries are so low, that were in a position where they couldn't pay their bills, because they were paying all their health insurance premium. So, they're going to—they have promised to fix it, we'll see what comes of that, and then they have—

### Rileigh:

A 5% raise for teachers.

### **Sydnee:**

Yeah, over the course of five—four or five years.

## Rileigh:

Hmm.

## Sydnee:

Gradually.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

Yeah, it's like a gradual raise.

## Rileigh:

And then 3% raise for all other state employees.

## **Teylor:**

They've been doing the same thing up here for the minimum wage, um. It's like been going up incrementally over the past year. I— it's kind of like, it's

cool that, you know, they agree to do those things, but there's that point of like, so you realize there's a problem now, like, "Oh, this is not sustainable, we'll fix it in five years." [laughs] It's like, I mean, I don't know, it's a bit of like—

#### Rileigh:

Well, and a long wait.

#### Sydnee:

Yeah, and they'll still be behind, probably.

### **Teylor:**

Yeah, yeah, in five years the cost of living is going to go up so much that that increase isn't going to matter anymore, let's be real.

#### Sydnee:

Well, and that, not to be dire, but the health insurance issue, not just in this state but nationwide, it's going to explode soon enough.

#### **Teylor:**

Yeah.

## **Sydnee:**

I see you coming single payer, you're on the horizon. Universal healthcare.

# **Teylor:**

That'd be cool, because I haven't been to a doctor in like 20 years, so I hope I get to go to one someday. [laughs]

# Sydnee:

This administration is going to screw up healthcare so badly that finely everybody's going to say, "Maybe we should... you know what, maybe like every other developed nation on earth, we should give this whole, uh, healthcare is a right a try. I don't know."

## Teylor:

That would be— that would be cool. That's the only way I'm going to have healthcare in the foreseeable future.

## Sydnee:

Well, I have no transition for this. Hey, Rileigh.

Yeah, Sydnee?

#### **Teylor:**

Let's get off all of these bummer topics.

### Sydnee:

I know. Let's stop talking about these bummer things and, uh, we thought it would be fun to do another one of our ask a teen episodes.

### Rileigh:

So, this episode's all about me. So, you all are done. You can go.

#### **Teylor:**

Okay, bye.

#### Sydnee:

We're going to leave, and Rileigh's just going to tell you all about being a teen.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

For another 50 minutes or 40 minutes, whatever.

# Rileigh:

Hey everybody, this is Rileigh's hour, join me when I talk about a teen—

# Sydnee:

[laughs] You're doing like a late-night radio thing. Heyyy.

# Rileigh:

Hey everybody.

## Sydnee:

Good evening.

## **Teylor:**

I realize, so this is the third time we've done this.

Uh huh?

#### **Teylor:**

And so, we have the document here with questions in front of us, and it's Ask a Teen 3. I really wish you made the two Es in teen threes, because then it would be like a cool flashy title for this. But nobody can see.

#### Sydnee:

Did you fix that?

#### **Teylor:**

Can you fix that? [laughs]

#### Rileigh:

It is fixed.

### Sydnee:

Thank you. Now we know.

### **Teylor:**

3Teen 3Furious.

## Sydnee:

All right, what's our first question?

## Rileigh:

Um, our first question comes from Sam who emailed us, and Sam is a sophomore in high school, and she said, "I have a constant fear for my future and what will happen when I graduate high school. I'm under a lot of stress from my family to be the one that goes to college and succeeds, but I'm not sure if I'll ever be emotionally, mentally, or financially ready for college. Any help to ease my great fears of college?"

## Sydnee:

Hmm. That's a good question—

# Rileigh:

Well, yeah, I'm right there with you, Sam.

# Sydnee:

Yeah, maybe you could start off there, because you're in the same position.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah. Um, I don't know if anyone's ever completely emotionally, mentally, or financially ready for college, honestly, Sam.

#### **Sydnee:**

That's fair.

### **Teylor:**

I'm still not, and I went through it. [laughs]

### Rileigh:

Yeah. [laughs] I, uh, I graduate in about less than three months, and, you know, I'm not there yet. I'll be in college six months from now, but, you know, you figure it out as you go.

#### **Sydnee:**

I think, I mean, as far as emotionally and mentally ready, I mean, it's always— I mean, change— even good change is hard, you know?

### Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

## Sydnee:

So, I mean, if you're talking about, assuming you want to go to college.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

I mean, because that's— I mean, that's underlying it all, if the reason you're not ready is because you don't really want to, that's, I mean, that's valid and you should be able to say maybe you don't want to right now.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

That's okay.

# **Teylor:**

And it's a massive financial commitment, and, you know, you say that they're under a lot of stress to be the one that succeeds, but I think it's important to remember that it's your life, you're not living it for your parents, and ultimately I don't think that your family would want you to. So, you know, maybe look at the source of that stress, if it's your decision to make, it's nobody else's.

#### Sydnee:

And success is not necessarily equated with college.

#### **Teylor:**

Yeah.

#### **Sydnee:**

If— it depends on what you want to do. Obviously, for me it was, because I had to go to med school to be a doctor and—

#### Rileigh:

You have to go to college—

#### Sydnee:

And I had to go to college to go to med school.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

So, you know, my success was predicated on college. But that's not true for everybody. There are a lot of successful people who don't go to college. I think the key is kind of having a path.

## Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

## Sydnee:

And you don't have to have it all figured out, but having some idea of what you want to do, and if college is part of that, then you take the leap, you face your fears, you take the leap, and you do it. But if what you want to do doesn't necessarily involve college, then is it really worth your time, and the stress?

## Rileigh:

Yeah. Because it is very stressful.

#### Sydnee:

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

I'm not even in it yet and thinking about doing it is just very stressful.

#### **Sydnee:**

The— the financial part, you're just, the best I can say is you're not alone, because unless you're lucky enough like I was to get a full ride scholarship somewhere, and that's not possible everywhere, I mean, you know, depending on where you are, what state you're in, what college you're trying to go to, that's not always possible. But unless you're in that kind of situation, it's going to be a financial stress on pretty much everybody. There are very few people that have enough money that it's not going to be a strap— strain on them.

#### Rileigh:

College in America is, you are pretty much 99.9% guaranteed to be in debt after you graduate.

### Sydnee:

Yes. But, you know, from the emotional and mental standpoint, I would say, you know, you're not going to be the only one that feels that way, you're going to be in a class of people that probably feel exactly that way. So, everybody else is just figuring it out their freshman year, this is probably most everybody's first time on their own, their first time completely new social surrounding. So, you will not be alone in that feeling.

## **Teylor:**

And if it is something you want to do, it's a great time in your life to find people who are like you and are interested in the things you like and that you can really connect with, it's a great time in your life to kind of have independence with training wheels, you know? Where like you're on your own but you're not completely. Um, where you have a schedule of things to do but it's up to you to stick to them, but like there are pressure that encourage you to do— I mean, like, it's a great time to start kind of stretching your wings and figuring out who you are and trying out that person, you know, taking that new independent you for a ride, so to speak.

## Rileigh:

And Sam, you're a sophomore in high school, two years from now when you're graduating, I'll be a sophomore in college, I don't know where you're located or what colleges you're looking at, but you want to go to the same college I do, we'll be best buds, we'll figure it out together.

### Sydnee:

There you go. Rileigh's lining up friendships already.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

#### **Sydnee:**

But make sure it's what you want to do. That's what I would start with that.

### Rileigh:

Yes. That is very important.

#### **Sydnee:**

Yeah. Because if it's what you want to do, then you find the courage and the support and you face your fears and you let that stress and that anxiety motivate you and push you forward. If it's not what you want to do, you know, don't.

## Rileigh:

But it seems like most people, once they're in college and figure out what they're doing, they enjoy it.

## Sydnee:

Yeah. I think most people do-

# **Teylor:**

There's a lot to look forward to.

## Rileigh:

Yeah. Um, are we ready for our next question?

## Sydnee:

Yeah.

## Rileigh:

Uh [laughs], this one comes from Holly, who we all met at PodCon in December.

#### **Sydnee:**

Hey, Holly.

#### Rileigh:

So, hi Holly.

#### **Teylor:**

Hi, Holly.

#### Rileigh:

Uh, Holly's question is, do you or did you feel obligated to have certain experiences as a teen, i.e., kissing, driving, and parties? Have those things ever mattered or factored into how you live? Next year is my senior year and I'm taking 13 classes including theater, and I have a part time job, I feel like I miss out on a lot of teen experiences and therefore can't relate to almost every teen I know. Should I sacrifice part of my academics or income to have these experiences? I am very lost.

#### **Teylor:**

Well, let me say, first of all, you have named classes and theater and part time job, which I would say are all key teen experiences.

## Sydnee:

Yeah.

# Rileigh:

Nerd.

# Sydnee:

[laughs] I'm just saying, I think you are already succeeding in part of your goal.

## Rileigh:

I would like to commend you on your 13 classes, because [laughs] this year is my senior year, and I'm taking three classes.

## Sydnee:

[laughs] You sound like a slacker when you say that.

## Rileigh:

I do.

#### **Sydnee:**

I think we're all going to feel differently about this. I don't think, first of all, I don't think there's any one right way to experience high school or your teenage years.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### **Sydnee:**

I— there just isn't. Like, there's a variety of what we consider like the classic teen experiences, and they change for everybody, and I don't think that you necessarily have to assume that just because there's something a lot of your friends or, you know, classmates have done and you haven't that you're missing out. I don't think that that's necessarily true. I did feel like, uh, probably not, I don't know, my idea of typical teen experiences were all predicated on Archie comics. [laughs] So I did feel enormous pressure to do everything that the Archies did. [laughs]

### Rileigh:

Right.

## **Sydnee:**

So, like, I went to a football game.

# Rileigh:

A football game.

## **Teylor:**

A football game?

## Sydnee:

I think two, when it was all said and done. But one, I was singing with the choir, so...

## Rileigh:

Cool.

# Sydnee:

[laughs] And, uh, I may have engaged in kissing.

# Rileigh:

You may have engaged in smooching?

#### **Teylor:**

You engaged in some smoothing. You were a fan of the smoothing.

### Rileigh:

You smoothed a lot.

### **Sydnee:**

I went to the dances, and I went to—

#### Rileigh:

Did you go to parties?

#### Sydnee:

I went to parties, I cut class once.

#### Rileigh:

I've never done that.

### Sydnee:

I went to a pep rally, I don't know, what else are you supposed to do? Like, I did those things. I made t—shirts.

## Rileigh:

Did you—

## Sydnee:

And I said, "Senior girls, woo." I said that once. [laughs]

## Rileigh:

Did you go to the homecoming football game and go to a party after where you smooched? Because that sounds it would just encapsulate all the teen experience—

## Sydnee:

I don't think I ever did that, like in that order. I drove around, I ate Taco Bell, what else do teens do? I did those things.

## **Teylor:**

See, I didn't, and I mean, I think, I get the pressure, I totally get that, because I did feel like there was this weird list of things that you need to

check off. But at some point, I'm just like, "But no", like, I'm saying this, this is not hyperbole, I tried a smooch once in high school, I didn't really like it. [laughs] That was it. It just wasn't my thing, you know? I got my driver's license when I was 18 because it seemed like it was about time to stop, like, walking to school. But I didn't really care too much about it. Like, I went to two dances.

#### **Teylor:**

Uh, I didn't— I don't know, I think, whatever, if you feel like you're missing out on things that you want to do, then you should try to make time for them, but as someone that didn't have interest in those things and didn't do them and never really regretted not doing those things. Because I was doing things I wanted to do. I took a whole ton of art classes. I had on again off again little fun art jobs. Like, I had my nerd friends that I was busy playing role playing games with. I had my other things that I was really psyched on, and I did not care about checking off things on that list. So, if you want to make time for these things because they sound awesome to you then you should. But if they're just— you don't have to... you know, you're not playing teen bingo here. [laughs]

#### Rileigh:

Yeah. I definitely think that's true. If those are things you want to do, then like, make time to do them, and I don't think you should ever sacrifice your academics for your income, though. Like, if you have time and you have an opportunity to do these things and you think it might be interesting to try them out, then do them. But in the long run, I feel like academics and income and feeling good about where you are in your own life is more important.

### Sydnee:

And I don't— I did a lot of those things, and I, as you may be able to tell, I don't even remember them very well, let alone like, treasure those memories forever. There are lots of experiences I had as a teenager that I do treasure, and they had nothing to do with your quote unquote typical high school experiences.

## Rileigh:

Yeah. The only reason I probably remember ever partaking in any of the stereotypical teen experiences is because they happened within the past year of my life, so...

## Sydnee:

[laughs] You just haven't forgotten them yet.

Just wait a year, I probably will. [laughs]

### **Sydnee:**

So don't worry, Holly, you're doing fine.

### Rileigh:

Yeah. And, you know, you're making money, you're doing theater, and you're taking all sorts of classes. So, you sound like you're doing pretty good to me.

#### **Teylor:**

That's a lot.

### Sydnee:

Yeah.

### Rileigh:

that's a lot.

### **Teylor:**

that's so many more classes than you're doing, by like...

## Rileigh:

You're right. [laughs] It's like over four times as many.

# Teylor:

I almost did that math and I said, "Nope, can't." [laughs]

# Sydnee:

I'm just going to say that every time you complain about like being tired or school being tired, and be like, "Well you know what, Holly's taking 13 classes."

### **Teylor:**

Yeah, really.

## Rileigh:

Sydnee—

# Teylor:

Oh, you've had a hard day? Imagine how hard Holly's day was.

### Rileigh:

I am a teen podcaster. My life is stressful.

### Sydnee:

Cooper thinks that's very funny.

### Rileigh:

Cooper does think that's very funny. Look at that goofy smile.

### **Sydnee:**

She's like, "Oh, that's ridiculous."

### Rileigh:

I wish you all could see this smile.

### Sydnee:

All right, what's our next question?

## Rileigh:

Uh, our next question comes from an eight-year-old fan we have named Sophia.

## Sydnee:

Hey, Sophia.

# Rileigh:

And she was at Candlenights this year and wanted to ask us this question at Candlenights, but we're going to answer it now instead of Candlenights. And Sophia asked how you deal with mean people at school growing up.

### **Teylor:**

Aw.

## Sydnee:

That's tough, Sophia. And I'm sorry, let me say this first, I'm sorry you're having to deal with mean people at school.

## **Teylor:**

Me too.

Mean people at school suck.

#### **Sydnee:**

They do.

### **Teylor:**

Mean people in general.

### Rileigh:

Yeah, throughout life.

#### Sydnee:

Yeah. And— and unfortunately, I will tell you that there will al— there are always mean people that you run into, but you do get better at dealing with it as you get older, and you meet way more nice people, and eventually, uh, you get to decide where you go and who you spend your time with a lot more, and so you can, you know, only hang out with the nice people.

### Rileigh:

Some day you won't be stuck with all the mean people.

## Sydnee:

Yeah. Um-

## **Teylor:**

And I do think we have to remember the great words of Michelle Obama here, that when they go low, you go high, that, you know, people might be mean to you, but never drop to their level of meanness. You can always be the better person and ignore them, rise above. Like, sometimes they're being mean because they're not very happy with themselves or what they're doing with their lives, and that's not something that you can control so you can always control the way you react to things, you can't necessarily control the way people act towards you.

## Sydnee:

That's true. I think that's the biggest thing, is to try to, and this is a hard lesson to remember when you're young, and it gets somewhat easier as you get older, but I still have to remind myself of this as an adult. When someone's being mean, it says a lot more about how they feel about themselves and their own life than it does about you. It usually has nothing to do with you, so don't let it decide how you feel about yourself, uh, how

much you like yourself, how you feel about the things that you're into or the clothes that you wear or how you like to style your hair or whatever. Don't let it influence any of the ways you feel about you, because it really stems from some other unhappiness they have with their own life and with the person that they are, and you never know where that's coming from. So, I think that's the biggest thing you can do, is not let it change the way you feel about yourself or, you know, ruin your day and make you sad.

#### Rileigh:

And we have all dealt with mean people at school and outside of school.

#### Sydnee:

Yes.

### Rileigh:

I will say. And while you all have been out of school for a while and I am still in it, I think we all can say that we have gotten past all the mean people at school.

### Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

## Rileigh:

And they are not important, and do not matter, and it was hard, but we're cool now, just looking at this cute baby now and everything's okay.

## **Teylor:**

[laughs] Don't let mean people make you a mean person. Like, that's the important thing.

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

# Sydnee:

Yeah. Yeah, you keep being a kind, happy, good person, and what you hope is that the mean people will want to follow your example. But it's okay, while I say that, it's okay if sometimes you just need to come home and cry to your mom and dad, it's totally okay, because sometimes you need to do that. Or your big brother or big sister, or your grandma or grandpa, or aunt or uncle, or whoever you feel comfortable crying to, um, sometimes you need to do that, because sometimes mean people get to you, and that's okay, but you just gotta pick yourself back up and go, "You know what? I'm

going to keep being me and I'm going to keep being happy and I'm not going to let those people change how I feel." And hang in there.



Yeah.

### **Sydnee:**

It does get better.

### Rileigh:

It does.

### **Sydnee:**

It absolutely gets better.

#### Rileigh:

And Sophia, we will all always be here for you.

### **Teylor:**

Always.

### Rileigh:

We're your friends.

## Sydnee:

Charley would love your name, Sophia, because she would want to meet you, because you have the same name as Sophia the First.

# Rileigh:

On Disney.

# Sydnee:

On Disney, who is a princess.

# Rileigh:

Yes.

## Sydnee:

And a protector of the ever realm.

# Rileigh:

You know a lot about Sophia the First.

### Teylor:

I mean, we don't actually know if this is in fact not a princess Sophia that we are addressing here.

### Sydnee:

That's true.

### Rileigh:

That's true.

### **Teylor:**

If we made that mistake, I am sorry, Your Highness.

#### **Sydnee:**

[laughs] Well, I want to go to our next question, but before we do that.

#### Rileigh:

Let's check the group message.

### **Teylor:**

What do we got this week, Rileigh. What was that, "Let's check the group message."

## Sydnee:

Well, I was about to make beep boops, but then Cooper made a cute noise, and that's just the official transition. Now we just need to get it on a record so we can replay it every time we go over to it.

## **Teylor:**

Better than her grunting to poop again.

### Sydnee:

Ah ha, ooh.

## Rileigh:

How do you feel about this group message, Cooper? Okay.

## Sydnee:

She doesn't have anything to say.

# Rileigh:

She has nothing to say. This week we have a sponsor to tell you all about that we have not gotten to tell you about before, and that is BarkBox. This week, Still Buffering is supported in part by BarkBox, which is a monthly package of four to six natural treats and super fun toys curated around a surprise theme. And while none of us are dog owners, uh, my boyfriend has dogs, so I got this BarkBox, and I gave it to him, I was like, "Hey, play with your dogs and tell me how your dogs like this, because I don't know how dogs work and I don't know what their deal is and I don't know what they like."

#### **Teylor:**

How to dog?

#### Rileigh:

I don't know how to dog, but he knows how to dog. And I will say, his dog loved this BarkBox very much. It came with two big packages of treats, and it came with two super cute toys, and they were all themed around Knights of the Hound Table instead of Round Table.

### **Teylor:**

[laughs] I like that.

### Sydnee:

So you can sure there are many dog themed puns in these boxes, dog puns?

# **Teylor:**

I'm just going to get one for me, just for the puns. [laughs]

## Rileigh:

There are some other themes I looked up on their website, like Chewrassic Bark, and Throwbark Thursday. [laughs]

# **Teylor:**

[laughing]

## Rileigh:

They're very good. But his dog's favorite toy was this cute little, like, stuffed gray chew toy with a jester hat on, it was very cute. And every month picks the best all natural treats made in the USA or Canada and innovative toys to match your dog's unique needs, including allergies and heavy chewer preferences. And I will say they do have different sizes of boxes and toys based on the size of your dog, so it is all very, like, customizable for your

pup. And if your dog doesn't like something in Barkbox, they'll send you something they'll love for free, and that's so nice of them.

#### Sydnee:

That's so cool.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### **Teylor:**

How do you know if your dog doesn't like a... I've never tried to get a dog's opinion. And I feel like—

#### Rileigh:

You, uh, you set it in front of them—

### **Teylor:**

I guess so.

#### **Sydnee:**

It's never happened with Barkbox, so we don't know.

## Rileigh:

It's never happened.

## **Teylor:**

Well, I feel like dog's opinion about everything is, "YES, YES."

# Sydnee:

[laughs] I will say, we got this for Carol, for my mother-in-law, even before they were our advertiser.

### Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

Just because we thought it looked so cool.

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

## **Sydnee:**

I mean, she has dogs.

#### Rileigh:

Right, for her.

### Sydnee:

[laughs]

### Rileigh:

We have a special deal for Barkbox for all of our listeners. Sisters, do one of you want to tell them about it?

#### **Sydnee:**

Uh, sure, I would be happy to. So, if you want to check out Barkbox, Still Buffering listeners can get a free extra month of Barkbox when you sign up for a six- or 12-month plan, all you have to do is visit Barkbox.com/buffering when you subscribe. That's Barkbox.com/buffering.

#### Rileigh:

Do that now, for all the pups of various sizes in your life.

### **Teylor:**

Just, guys, as an aside, I've just realized that, well, I cannot own a dog, my apartment will not allow it, I need to find some way to get a dog in my life. Like, I don't want a partner, but I'm at that part of my life where I would like to have a relationship with a dog that is my friend. And I don't know how to do that.

## Rileigh:

I do enjoy having a dog that I can visit when I so choose.

# Sydnee:

Is that what dog parks are for, you just go there, and you can hang out with dogs?

## Teylor:

Oh, I've learned that, no, they don't let you in if you don't have a dog. [laughs]

## Sydnee:

It is not the dog petting zoo. [laughs]

Teylor brings a stuffed dog on a leash, one of those that has like a stiff leash that you can walk, like do do do, I'm here with my dog.

### **Teylor:**

That's really my dog.

### Sydnee:

Just scoot real close to like a dog and be like, "No, this is mine." No, stop claiming other peoples' dog and leave the dog park, please.

### **Teylor:**

Are there dog cafes like cat cafes?

### Sydnee:

I don't know. I've never—

## Rileigh:

I don't know. I feel like dogs get too excited.

### **Teylor:**

That would be rough for a café.

## Rileigh:

Like you'd be sitting there trying to... you can just like, chill like with a cat, when they just sit next to you and drink your tea and eat your snacks. Like, a dog would be running all over the place, like, "Hey, hey, hey, you want to play?"

## Sydnee:

Play with me. All right, what's our next question?

## Rileigh:

Uh, our next question comes from Raymond, who says, as an Ohioan who's now based in Los Angeles, your podcast is a way of taking me back to my roots and conjuring up some good nostalgic feels when I'm homesick. With Teylor living in New York and Rileigh approaching college, I would like some advice on how to homesick.

## Sydnee:

Hmm. Well, I'm going to defer, because...

Well, I mean, you spent four years at college where you were not living at home.

### Sydnee:

That's true.

### Rileigh:

And you traveled a lot.

#### **Sydnee:**

I did.

#### Rileigh:

So, you are not completely...

#### Sydnee:

No, I just kept living here.

#### **Teylor:**

[laughs] Kept living here.

## **Sydnee:**

I just keep not leaving. Uh, I don't know, I've only had to deal with homesickness in small bursts. I didn't feel homesick when I moved into the dorms, because I could come home like every weekend to like, eat and do laundry.

## Rileigh:

Because you can't actually do that in college.

### Sydnee:

And mom calls a lot.

## Rileigh:

She does. And I haven't even left yet.

## Sydnee:

Yeah. So that never stops. [laughs] Be lucky, count yourself lucky, it never stops. She loves us. But, uh, so I mean, I only had to deal with short bursts of homesickness, and for me it was just like concentrating on that the

experience was short lived and I'd be home soon. So I don't know that I have good advice on this, but I bet Teylor does.

#### Rileigh:

I was going to say, I bet Teylor does.

#### **Teylor:**

Well, you know, it's the most obvious thing, but I think it's a thing that I forget, is just how important being in contact with the people that you're missing, like, is. I get— I still get homesick, and I've been on my own for, I don't know, like 13, 14 years now? It's been a long time. But just picking up the phone and like, calling mom or dad or talking to you guys, like touching base, is really important. And— and making time for that, because sometimes it's so easy to get distracted with your own life and it just kind of gnaws at you at the back of your head like, I'm really bummed out, I wonder why? You know, there's a big part of you that's across the country that you gotta check in with from time to time.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

Do you think it helps to kind of make your own, like, and I mean college is a temporary situation, but, um, for you, like, you've made your own home.

## **Teylor:**

Well, there's definitely that, and that took a long time, I think, it took a couple of years for me to finally feel like it's weird now when I go back to West Virginia and visit, there is a point where I miss certain things that are back here in New York, like I think of it as a home too. I think that, you know, that is like... like it's okay to let your, you know, your heart live where you are.

And I think sometimes that can feel like you're sort of betraying your past. I think I had that feeling for a while, like, "No, but West Virginia's my home, you know, it would be wrong to have those sentimental feelings about where I am now." But definitely kind of allowing yourself to like make those connections. And they're never going to be stronger than where you come from, but, you know, you gotta build yourself those sort of like concrete things where you are.

#### **Sydnee:**

I think that's a, like I said, I haven't left home permanently, but, uh, it's a good analogy for like, I remember when I first started referring to the house that Justin and I lived in together as our home, as my home.

#### Rileigh:

Aw.

#### **Sydnee:**

Huh?

#### Rileigh:

Aw.

### Sydnee:

Well, you know, and I stopped thinking of mom and dad's house as home. I remember making that mental shift, and how impactful that was for like the way I looked at my relationship and my future and what my family was and how I felt about where I was, like it really changed. And it doesn't necessarily happen like the second you move in with somebody or tell them you love them or marry somebody.

Like, it's a decision you make, this is my home and I'm going to treat it like my home and live in it like my home and love it like my home. And it really is like a mental decision, like a change that you make in your life. And it was very powerful for me to feel safe and at home in my home.

## Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

## **Teylor:**

Well, that's like... because I feel like there's a very— there's a sort of transient quality to living in New York, you're always assuming that this apartment, once this lease is up, my rent's going to go up too high that I have to move again. So, you know, I think I went several years just kind of living and like, this is where I live but it's not my home, like I'm not going to spend time painting the walls or like, you know, hanging art or making it comfortable, because who knows how long it's going to last. And I think it is, like what you're talking about, like very much like living in the space you're living in and making it comfortable. And, you know, giving it that sense of home is important.

## Sydnee:

Yeah.

And I will say also, I think... oh, sorry, go ahead, go ahead.

#### **Teylor:**

I'll say, I also have like touchpoints, like music that I listen to when I'm feeling homesick, Jimmy Buffett.

#### Rileigh:

Jimmy Buffett.

#### **Teylor:**

Yeah, I listen to Jimmy Buffett when I'm homesick. You know, there's certain, like, meals that I'll cook myself. Um, a weird thing that a lot of my friends have, it's harder for me because West Virginia is very specific, but there are a lot of bars that are sort of like... there's a Texas bar in my neighborhood, there's like an LA bar, and it's like, it's owned by people from that place, they like, you know, rep the sports team from those areas. So, I don't know, you might have like an Ohio themed bar somewhere out there, you're in a big enough place that that might exist. And that's actually, like, it's a big trend in New York, there are a ton of like state specific bars. So, I don't know, maybe look into that.

## Rileigh:

Like that episode of How I Met Your Mother, where Robin goes to the Canada bar.

## **Teylor:**

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

Yeah, just like that. [laughs]

## Rileigh:

Yeah. I was just going to say that I have not moved out of home yet. I have always lived at home with mom and dad, because I am a child. But I do think about that a lot when thinking about where I'm going to college, because there's a college, of course, I could go to that is where Sydnee went and that's 10 minutes from home that I would basically still be here with everyone, or I could go to college, you know, a few hours away, and I think it's important to think about family in the sense that, like, family is very important and will always be there with you in your life and are the people that watched you grow up and you have, you know, spent your entire life

with and will spend your entire life with. But also, like, any decision you make that might take you away from family, obviously, is important enough and means enough to you that it will do something good for your life. So even if you are away from family or doing something that is improving your life in some way, and that's all family wants for you, to be happy.

#### **Sydnee:**

Be happy.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah. Uh, are you all ready for another question?

#### **Teylor:**

Yeah.

#### **Sydnee:**

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

Uh, this one comes from Andrew, and it was on Twitter, and I feel like it was very timely considering the episode we did last week. And Andrew said, how severely does ageism affect teens? If you could lower the voting age, would you, and to what? What other changes would you make if any to help teens have their voices heard? And I thought this was very, uh, current, considering we talked about last week how big of a noise teens are making recently.

## Sydnee:

Well, what do you think, Rileigh, as a teen. Do you think that you are not heard or you're disregarded because of your age?

## Rileigh:

Uh, I definitely think I am. I think that a lot of times people think that if you're what they would still consider a kid, you don't really know what you're talking about or couldn't possibly be.... [laughs] sorry, I'm just looking at your baby. You couldn't possibly be educated or know what you're talking about, because you're not an adult yet and you haven't had as many live experiences, so people kind of disregard what you think. And I think that definitely affects teens being able to feel like, and myself, being able to feel like you can talk about what you believe in, and you can state your opinions, because no one's really going to take you seriously. Um, but I don't know if I'd lower the voting age, just because I feel like... I mean, I am 17 just now and I'm registered to vote, and I can vote in the next election, but I don't

know if before now I would have been educated and prepared enough to vote.

#### Sydnee:

It's hard, because it's such a range. Like, I think that there are, um, I think we've seen very articulate and well informed 14-year-olds.

#### Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

### Sydnee:

Recently, speaking out and understanding issues and, um, you know, using their voices and using their political power, and they certainly could make good decisions about voting. But is everybody at that age?

#### **Teylor:**

I think Cooper's trying to cast a vote right now.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah, Cooper wants to vote.

### Sydnee:

She wants to... I don't know what she's voting for. But I mean that's hard, too, because... and that's why any test to like ensure that people are educated enough, quote unquote, to vote, is such a bad idea whenever you hear that kind of thing proposed, because, I mean, being 18 doesn't necessarily mean you are.

### Rileigh:

Right.

## Sydnee:

There are a lot of people my age that vote without being really well informed.

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

Or don't vote because they're not well informed.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

#### Sydnee:

Yeah, so I agree with you. I don't know, I don't know what I would lower it to, I don't have like a good answer for that.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

But I definitely think, you know, we've seen, uh, in the wake of this shooting, we've seen like some of the teenagers who are standing up and asking elected officials totally legitimate questions, being criticized on the internet for, like, disrespecting adults?

#### **Teylor:**

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah.

### Sydnee:

Which you would never, like, if an adult stands up and asks the exact same question, they're challenging their political leaders in a way that is totally... I mean, they're your elected representatives, they're there to speak for you, so it's totally appropriate and not only your right but your duty to ask them these questions. But yet a teenager is disrespectful if they ask the same question?

#### **Teylor:**

Right.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah.

#### **Teylor:**

I don't know, I could see a case where like 16, I mean, you can drive a car, that's a pretty big responsibility, I think you could have an informed opinion. [laughs]

#### Sydnee:

That's a good point. I think that's a good point. I think you can do a lot more damage driving a car... well—

#### **Teylor:**

No, I don't know.

#### **Sydnee:**

Immediate, direct damage. [laughs]

### **Teylor:**

I would say that this last election is kind of like a massive two million car pileup, so I don't know. I think it's a little worse.

### **Sydnee:**

That's true. Maybe you can do more damage voting.

### **Teylor:**

Yeah.

#### **Sydnee:**

But see, what I'm trusting is that your generation is going to fix all the damage. [laughs]

## **Teylor:**

Yeah.

# Rileigh:

And also, be better at driving cars?

# Sydnee:

Well, I didn't really mean that, I meant voting.

## Rileigh:

I know.

## Sydnee:

Vote better.

## **Teylor:**

Yeah, I want you guys to all be of voting age as soon as possible.

# Sydnee:

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

Yeah. Um, I feel like there are many times where I will watch some of our family members or people we know post things on Facebook that happen to be adults, that I have something very educated and not like attacking in any way or biased, but just like an educated and informed opinion I could share with them that happens to not agree with theirs. But I know the minute I do they'll be like, "Well, you're just a kid, what do you know?"

### Sydnee:

Yeah.

### Rileigh:

So, I'll be like, "Hey mom", or "Hey Syd, Teylor, do you want to hop in?"

### Sydnee:

I think— but I think the best thing you can do to challenge that bias is exactly what's happening now, which is being organized, making clear, coherent demands, and reminding everyone that we're voting very soon.

### Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

### **Sydnee:**

And then vote.

# Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

I think I said that last week.

## Rileigh:

Yeah, don't just say you're going to, do it.

## Sydnee:

Actually do that.

# **Teylor:**

Please save us.

### Rileigh:

Got my registration card in the mail.

#### Sydnee:

Yay. I keep mine.

### Rileigh:

Do you?

### Sydnee:

Yeah, just because I like to have it, to show, "Look, I vote."

#### Rileigh:

Look at what I do.

### Sydnee:

I'm registered. I was so excited the day I got it, I put it in my wallet, and I started carrying it around with me, and I never stopped. It's right there with my ACLU card.

### Rileigh:

Nerd. Just kidding.

## **Teylor:**

I lost mine a long time ago, but they don't... that's okay, because they don't make you have one to vote, which is nice.

## Sydnee:

Yeah, you don't have to have it, it's just... yeah, you don't have to have it—

# Rileigh:

It's just a nice little thing—

## **Teylor:**

Yeah.

## Sydnee:

What's our next question?

# Rileigh:

I think we have time for another question.

#### **Sydnee:**

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

Um, this question was asked in two different ways by two different people on Twitter, but basically, Joseph and Tsunami both asked in their own way, when should teens start dating?

#### Sydnee:

Well, hmm, I mean, I'm a parent now, so aren't I supposed to say, like, 32, waah. Yeah. Isn't that the stereotypical thing I'm supposed to say?

#### Rileigh:

Probably.

#### Sydnee:

I don't really feel that way, though.

### Rileigh:

Well, Charlie's also three.

## Sydnee:

Well, yeah, it's easy for me to say that now—

# Rileigh:

Cooper's also like two weeks old.

# Sydnee:

I have a two-week-old and three-year-old, so I'm in no danger.

# Rileigh:

Yeah. [laughs]

## Sydnee:

I want on my first date in fourth grade, so that's not a good metric. Hold on.

## Rileigh:

You weren't even a teen.

### Sydnee:

My dad was there, my dad was there. Dad sat in the back row of the theater while the two of us watched Sandlot, the Sandlot together.

#### Rileigh:

Probably like with his binoculars, like, "Hmm."

#### **Sydnee:**

He tried to put his arm around me and got his watch tangled in my hair. Um, but I started dating, like dating someone.

### Rileigh:

Dating dating.

### **Sydnee:**

When I was in my sophomore year of high school. I think I was old enough.

### Rileigh:

Yeah. I mean, you're what, 15, 16?

### Sydnee:

Yeah, I was like 15. I think I was... yeah, I was 15. So, I think 15 was fine. [laughs]

# Teylor:

I mean—

## Rileigh:

I mean... go ahead.

## **Teylor:**

Like I said, I didn't date anybody 'til, actually, really, it was after high school, maybe, I guess during my senior year, sort of, but I was, maybe that was too early for me. [laughs]

## Sydnee:

I think it's individual.

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

## Teylor:

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

You can't like set an age for all teens and say this is when you should start dating.

#### Sydnee:

No, because everybody matures at a different rate, and everybody's interested in dating at a different time, and some people never are, and I don't think there's an age where you should look at your kid and go like, "Why aren't you dating yet? You're old enough." Or, "Oh, you're 16 and you want to date? Nope, you gotta arbitrarily wait until you're 17."

Like, I don't think that applies. I think I was mature enough to date when I was 15, because I wanted to, I entered into the relationship of my own free will, I was not pressured to do so by him or by society or by my parents one way or another, and I was very safe about, you know, all the things you gotta be safe about when you date somebody. And, um, I was terrified of sex, so that wasn't entering into it at the time.

### **Teylor:**

Rileigh still is...

### Sydnee:

But you know what I mean, like, I think I was ready to make those decisions, and I talked about it with mom openly, she knew everything that I was doing and where I was and when I was doing it. And I mean, so I think that was fine. I think if you have a 15-year-old who is terrified and doesn't want to date but feels pressured to by their friends, and so they're going on dates and very uncomfortable and not enjoying it, then I think maybe they're not ready to date. So...

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

## **Sydnee:**

I think you kind of have to, like as a parent, I would say you have to know your kid and talk to them.

## **Teylor:**

Yeah.

### Rileigh:

I mean, I first quote unquote dated someone my freshman year of high school when I was 14, but it was just because it was a boy that I enjoyed spending time with and thought was a cool person and everyone was like, "Oh, well, you're all dating?" And I was like, "Well, I mean, I guess." I felt like I should, like I didn't really want to, it was just like, "Well, it's like cool, he's a cool bud."

Um, but I don't know if I was actually ready at that point, which, you know, is different for everyone. I think I would still— I'm younger than everyone else in all my classes, so I was in high school but probably should have still been in middle school, and everyone was telling me, "Oh, you all should date." But I probably was still in that kind of little kid mindset, like, "I'm just hanging out with a cool friend."

#### **Sydnee:**

When— when do you think on average your friends started dating, what age do you think most teens are dating nowadays?

### Rileigh:

When you say dating, do you mean like serious relationship, or do you mean just like casually hanging out—

### **Sydnee:**

I'm talking about going steady.

### Rileigh:

Going steady.

## Sydnee:

Like an exclusive relationship that you go on actual dates and stuff.

## Rileigh:

I'd say like sophomore, junior year of high school. So, like 15, 16.

# Sydnee:

I think that's later.

## Rileigh:

Really?

## Sydnee:

I don't think teens are dating earlier, I think they're dating later.

#### **Teylor:**

Than for us, yeah.

#### Rileigh:

And like maybe—

### Sydnee:

Yeah.

#### Rileigh:

Maybe I'm just around an odd group of people, maybe that does not hold true for all teens everywhere, but I'm just thinking of my friends that I know that have been in going steady relationships in high school, they either all started like their junior or senior year of high school. I have one friend who started dating her current boyfriend in eighth grade, but they're still dating in 12th grade. So, you know, it just varies.

### **Sydnee:**

I feel like I had a good number of friends, and just classmates who had, like, steady relationships in middle school.

### Rileigh:

Yeah. And I never had that, I don't think I would be ready for that, honestly, in middle school, so...

## **Teylor:**

Well, and I would hope that that maybe speaks to like less of a social pressure, because that's one thing that I always felt, like there was something wrong with me because I never had a significant other, really, in high school. Like, or then, to follow suit through college. Like that there was like I should be doing this, I will be— I will lose the ability to be a functional human in my adulthood if I do not have this valuable experience in my youth, and that's super wrong. I hope that kids feel less of that pressure, that, you know what, maybe you want to do it when— maybe you don't want to do it until you're 30, maybe you never want to do it, and that's totally okay. Yeah.

## Rileigh:

And I will say, I think that pressure may exist in some form just because, like, last year I was 16 and a junior in high school and I never actually seriously dated anyone, and pretty much most of my friends had, and I was just like, "Hmm, this is something that I feel like everyone my age has

experienced and I never have, and maybe I never will in high school" And I felt like I should. Now I am because I want to, not because I felt like I should. But you know.

### **Teylor:**

And you get a lot of that dialogue, like, "Well, you learn so much about yourself from a relationship." I don't know if that's true. [laughs]

### Sydnee:

Yeah. And I definitely don't know if that's true when you're that young.

### **Teylor:**

Yeah, totally. Like, you're just as capable of figuring yourself out on your own.

#### Sydnee:

Yeah. I definitely learned a lot from some of the relationships I was in as I got older. I would not say that my, you know, my relationships I had in middle school I learned a great deal.

#### Rileigh:

About yourself.

## Sydnee:

About myself.

# Rileigh:

Teen relationships are weird. Like, you can't really have like a real real relationship, because you're still like a kid and have to follow your parents' rules and living at home. But you can have enough of a real relationship where it's like you're not middle school or elementary school anymore. I don't know, high school relationships are a weird middle ground.

## Sydnee:

So, I guess our answer is, when—you're ready to date when you're ready.

# Teylor:

Yeah.

## Rileigh:

Yeah.

### **Teylor:**

And to have like an open dialogue with your kid to make sure that they're, you know, they're comfortable, that they're being safe, that they're making decisions for themselves. Yeah.

#### Sydnee:

I know we're out of time, but would you just read this last question real quick?

#### **Teylor:**

It's so good.

#### Rileigh:

This one is on Twitter from Ash, and Ash said, "My nephew says fidget spinners are out and that now they all have stress balls shaped like food. Is this nationwide or just my community?" And I will say there was a short conversation after this tweet where several people said, "Yup, that holds up here in my town." [laughs]

#### Sydnee:

Okay, I don't know if this is... I wonder how old your nephew is, Ash, because, uh, Charlie is really into—

## Rileigh:

Stress balls shaped like food.

## Sydnee:

Yeah, they're called Squish Delish. We have quite a few of them. They do look delish and they do squish. Um, they're like cakes and macaroons and things like that, and they're all... they've got faces, and you can squish them, and they look delicious.

## Rileigh:

Oh, do they relieve her stress?

## Sydnee:

I don't know if they relieve her stress, but they relieve my stress.

## Rileigh:

Do they relieve your stress?

### Sydnee:

Yeah, I like them. I enjoy squishing them.

#### **Teylor:**

Things that look like food that aren't food make me really mad, because I can't eat them. Like all those beautiful soaps that are like, look like cupcakes, it's like, "Why isn't it just a cupcake? I don't want soap. I want the cupcake. I don't like things that aren't food that look like food."

#### **Sydnee:**

She did have one that was a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, like cut into a triangle, it was just half of it, and, um, it looked really real, and it made me sad every time I looked at it and I was like, "I wish that was really a peanut butter and jelly sandwich."

### Rileigh:

Now, Sydnee, you're an adult, you could make yourself a peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

#### Sydnee:

I mean, I know, Rileigh, but that one was just sitting there, ready. I don't know, I think you're ahead of the curve, I think this is the wave of the future, because my three-year-old's into it, so...

## Rileigh:

Yeah. Maybe by the time she's a teen, it's just going to be sweeping the market. This generation of teens knows what's up.

## Sydnee:

But I'm okay with saying farewell to the fidget spinner.

## **Teylor:**

Yeah.

## Rileigh:

Me too.

## Sydnee:

Yeah, that's fine by me. Well, thank you, sisters. This was— I've learned a lot.

## Rileigh:

You're welcome.

#### **Sydnee:**

I hope you, audience, have learned a lot as well.

### Rileigh:

[laughs] And I hope if we answered your question, you got the answer you wanted or something close to it. It's possible you didn't.

### Sydnee:

[laughs] Thank you for listening to... thank you for listening to our show, um, and indulging my, um, two-week-old who was periodically—

#### Rileigh:

She looks milk drunk.

### Sydnee:

Yeah. [laughs] She's been nursing the entire time.

### **Teylor:**

Is that— is that okay?

## Sydnee:

It's called cluster— it's called cluster feeding, sisters. Very normal.

# Rileigh:

She is an A+ boober.

# Sydnee:

Yeah, she's very good at it.

## **Teylor:**

Sounds like a weird sci—if term, "cluster feeding."

## Sydnee:

[laughs] No, it just means my baby won't stop breast feeding. But it's okay, I'm chunking her up. Thank you to the Maximum Fun network for hosting our show, you can check out Maximum Fun.org for a lot of other great podcasts, you can tweet at us @stillbuff, you can email us at

stillbuffering@maximumfun.org, and, uh, thank you to the Novellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

#### Rileigh:

This has been Still Buffering, a sister's guide to teens through the ages. I am Rileigh Smirl.

### Sydnee:

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

### **Teylor:**

And I'm Teylor Smirl.

### Rileigh:

I am a teenager.

### **Teylor:**

And I was, too.

#### **Sydnee:**

And I was, too. [laughs]

[theme music plays]

## **Teylor:**

I was just waiting for you to say something else about your boobs.

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### Speaker 5:

In a world dominated by dudebro movie podcasts, a world where Casey Affleck has an Oscar and Angela Bassett does not, only one podcast is brave enough to call bullshit. Who Shot Ya? With Ricky Carmono. "A lot of people don't know, "Ports, Puerto Rican." Alonzo Duralde. "I would eat Okja." April Wolf. "I want to interrupt and say that the fishman was real sexy." Dreya Clark. "I have a real soft spot for King Kong." And Women of Color, "I was like damn." "Ryan Coogler got final cut?" "Coogler got final cut?" "I just felt like the film was so sour and so completely irrelevant to basically anything in life." Who Shot Ya. Listen every Friday on Maximum Fun or wherever you get your podcasts.

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