

Still Buffering 108: How to “Everything Sucks!”

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[theme music plays]

Raleigh:

Hello, and welcome to 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.

Sydnee:

Well sisters, before we get into this week's episode, I feel like— See, I'm not a teen, but I'm a mom.

Raleigh:

Well, that's the point of this show.

Sydnee:

Right.

Raleigh:

That you're not.

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

That I'm not a teen. Not that I'm a mom, that doesn't matter but— [laughs]

Taylor:

I am neither. I don't know what the point of this is. [laughs]

Sydnee:

I'm not a teen, but because I'm a mom, I get like, things pushed to me on social media, because the internet knows I'm a mom.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Just figured it out from my, I assume my ordering habits.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And they push articles to me about things teens are into so that I'll be aware.

Raleigh:

Even though your children are what, three years old and like, three weeks old.

Sydnee:

The internet doesn't know that, it seems. The internet just knows, "You're a mom, aren't you? Here's some mom stuff." [laughs] And so for instance, they push, they've been pushing articles to me recently about teens engaging in a new dangerous behavior using something called a JUUL. They do not mean the uh—

Taylor:

The musician?

Sydnee:

... songstress and musician and poet. [laughs]

Taylor:

I feel like that's—

Sydnee:

As it were. [laughs]

Taylor:

I mean, she does pose a very dangerous behavior. She, you know, like, spreads the idea of catching a cold from somebody in a romantic context and it's never okay to try to—

Sydnee:

That's fair.

Taylor:

Get a disease, you know.

Sydnee:

That's... [laughs] That's fair.

Taylor:

So, she can be very dangerous, but what is this?

Sydnee:

And her, I mean, her poetry too, like, have you ever read A Knight Without Armor?

Raleigh:

No.

Sydnee:

Raleigh? Okay. Well, it's the finest of '90s poetry—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

...that you can read.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

I have the book. I will share it.

Raleigh:

Oh good.

Sydnee:

But anyway. Raleigh, what's JUUL?

Raleigh:

It's like, it's like a vape. Except it has a lot of nicotine in it. And it's— A JUUL is very small. A JUUL is like, it kind of looks like a flash drive.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

Um, it's like a flat black rectangle. Um, only like a few inches long.

Sydnee:

And it's spelled—

Raleigh:

It's spelled J-U-U-L.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Taylor:

Does this thing stand for something?

Raleigh:

I don't... If they do, I am unaware. Um, all the letters—

Sydnee:

Is it a reference to the musical artist Jewel?

Raleigh:

I don't think so.

Sydnee:

Because, has she hit a resurgence with your generation?

Taylor:

Is she selling drugs to teenagers?

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I don't know what her career is like right now, I would assume it's better than that, but I don't know. It's been a while since I've checked in.

Sydnee:

Our beloved Jewel would never do that.

Taylor:

I know, I shouldn't even joke. [laughs]

Raleigh:

All the letters in the title are lowercase so I would assume it's not an acronym. That would not be grammatically sound. Um, but—

Taylor:

This sounds like a Sailor Moon Negaverse plot.

Raleigh:

The top like, inch—

Taylor:

That's what it sounds like to me. Like, smoke of the JUUL, it will suck your energy for the Negaverse. [laughs]

Sydnee:

This is definitely, this has got Queen Beryl written all over.

Taylor:

Hail! It's sold by Jade-ite. [laughs] I really— I just want to like, shout out to like, the fact that Jedite got by on two secret identities. One was Jed-ite and one was J-dite. Like, come one [laughs]. I just wanted to say like, I guess, the sailor scouts need to up their awareness game. But go ahead, let's talk about drugs. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Um, the top like inch, maybe half an inch, is a little pod that you replace and it has liquid in it that you vape, and it is 5% nicotine.

Sydnee:

It's supposed to be— My understanding is that the thing, the little cartridge is the equivalent of a pack of cigarettes.

Raleigh:

Yeah, one pod is the equivalent of a pack, which is very scary, because the actual pod is only about maybe an inch big.

Sydnee:

And each inhale is like—

Raleigh:

I mean it only takes—

Sydnee:

No, I don't remember.

Raleigh:

I'm not exactly clear on how many, like, puffs it takes to get through one whole pod, but there's not a lot.

Sydnee:

The idea I think is that this was meant to be used for like—

Raleigh:

People who smoked.

Sydnee:

People who smoke using, getting, like, having— being able to use it less frequently—

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

... than a vape.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

So you get more nicotine, so you use it less frequently, but instead, from what I've read, it's being used by teenagers to inhale a whole bunch of nicotine really quickly.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Because if you do that you get kind of a buzz, so to speak.

Raleigh:

Right.

Taylor:

Oh that's a bummer.

Sydnee:

But we used to call it nic sick. You get nic sick.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Because I was never a smoker but I tried cigarettes, 'cause I think most people do at some point in their lives, not everybody but I did. And if you are not used to smoking and you did and you got a bunch of nicotine, it, you felt really bad.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But the teenagers like that?

Taylor:

You know—

Raleigh:

I guess?

Taylor:

You know, and I see so many like, comments about like, how is the same generation that's actually making massive changes to gun control and the government also like, the generation that's eating Tide pods and like doing stuff like this. It's like, well I think it all goes pretty much together. It's like, yeah, you guys are growing up in a world that's way too real and every now and then it's like, I'd see you eat a Tide pod, I just need to smoke an entire pack of cigarettes in five seconds. 'Cause that's your world. Don't ever smoke cigarettes or eat Tide pods but like, I kind of get why these things go together. [laughs] I think that's the level you're dealing with.

Sydnee:

Do you know people who are using these, Raleigh?

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Yeah? Are they using them like they're supposed— Well I mean, you're— They're not supposed to.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But you know what I mean. Like, intended, or are they using them all at once?

Raleigh:

Oh, I mean like they use them all at once.

Sydnee:

And get this buzz.

Raleigh:

There's like— Yeah, there is like a pod selling black market in my school.

Sydnee:

Really?

Taylor:

Jesus.

Raleigh:

Because you can buy a pack of I think four pods, and they're different flavored ones, there's like, not as many as like, regular vapes where you can get like, crazy flavors at once. But there's like mint and tobacco and like mango or something like that and that's it.

Taylor:

And they all have nicotine, correct?

Raleigh:

Yeah, they're all the same—

Taylor:

Like this isn't like, vaping where you can just vape flavor, it's— Okay.

Raleigh:

Yeah. They're all the same strength nicotine, there are no nicotine—free ones. Um, and I guess you can get a pack of four for like, less than 20 bucks but people will sell one for \$5. Because if you ran out then it's like, you need another one because it's like, now you're addicted to your JUUL.

Taylor:

Uhh.

Sydnee:

Oh my gosh.

Raleigh:

But you have to be 18 to buy pods. And most of the people I know that are using them are not 18, so they can't buy them for themselves.

Sydnee:

And I would also add that, other than the inherent dangers of smoking and also nicotine itself, um, trying to ingest a large amount of nicotine or inhale a large amount of nicotine, I should say, that, all at once, not only makes you feel— It makes you feel bad, so I don't know why people are considering this a desirable high, because it usually makes you kind of sick to your stomach and your heart is racing and you feel very jittery and on edge.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

I don't know why those are desirable symptoms. But uh, it's dangerous because it's a stimulant and you're taking a large amount of it—

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

...that you know, that can make your heart beat too fast or abnormally or make you, and make you sick. So it's dangerous. Don't do that.

Raleigh:

The best part is, you have to charge them. Not the best part. Pretty funny. You need to charge them to get them to work. Um, and to charge them it comes with a little like, magnetic stand for them that goes into a USB, so like, you can put it in like your iPhone cube. But most people at my school will put them into the computers that we do work on during class.

Taylor:

Oh no.

Raleigh:

So just like, you'll look over and we'll be at a working class and there'll be a little JUUL standing up sticking out of their computer that they're charging.

Sydnee:

You can charge them in your computer?

Raleigh:

Yeah. Like they, like, the charger that comes on them is on a USB and you just like, it stands on top of it.

Taylor:

Well...

Sydnee:

The future has finally outpaced me. [laughs]

Taylor:

I think, Raleigh, you need to help out your fellow teens and spread the gospel of Jewel, not JUUL. Like—

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

Like, bring back Jewel the artist.

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

Um, and...

Raleigh:

Get rid of JUUL the vape.

Taylor:

Get rid of JUUL the vape, yes.

Sydnee:

She had to live in her car for a while, Raleigh, and then she made amazing music.

Taylor:

It's true.

Raleigh:

And now she is a namesake for vape.

Taylor:

But then she likes— No I think, at first she was a namesake for like, razor blades. Remember that? When she like—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

... did the whole, like, intuition thing.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

That was a weird time for us all.

Sydnee:

Yes. Yeah, she did a lot of razor commercials.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

She wasn't in them, her music.

Taylor:

Eh, it's not a very good razor blade. I tried it just because, I was like, well, I like Jewel because she...

Sydnee:

[laughing] Because Jewel told you to?

Taylor:

Just very influential, all right? She needs to watch her, what she endorses. 'Cause clearly, there is some repercussions happening.

Sydnee:

So there's your update. If you're a teenager, please don't do this.

Raleigh:

Yeah, there's— Did you see the rumors, the drama going around about them?

Sydnee:

What?

Raleigh:

That they put out some, I think ended up being fake, like a hoax that was created by people who wanted their kids to stop JUULing.

Taylor:

JUULing?

Raleigh:

But it was like a fake— It was a fake text, uh, in like a group message that was put online that was like, hey, everyone needs to stop JUULing, I have a friend who goes to this college or whatever and he's never smoked a day in his life but he JUULs frequently and he went to the hospital and he has like, really bad, like, lung cancer.

Sydnee:

Oh.

Raleigh:

And like, people were like retweeting just like, "Everyone needs to stop JUULing," but apparently, it's fake and like, moms made it.

Sydnee:

Well, I never endorse dissemination of fake information.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

But you should stop JUULing because it is bad for you.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, whether you use it as intended or not as intended, it's bad for you. Don't. And while I get hooked on another— You're all hooked on caffeine, I know you are.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Why put yourself on another substance? Why do that? So don't— So stay away. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Thanks Syd.

Sydnee:

There you go.

Taylor:

That covers the mom and the teen quotient and for all of you mid-30-something that don't have moms or teens in your life, don't worry about it, you're just behind on something. [laughs]

Sydnee:

So for everybody else, uh, one thing we can all connect on is binging on Netflix shows, right?

Raleigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

There we go.

Taylor:

Yeah. Ah, transition.

Sydnee:

Hey. And there's a recent Netflix show that I think is very applicable to our podcast.

Raleigh:

They made it for our podcast.

Taylor:

They basically did, yes.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Pretty much. Um, it's called Everything Sucks.

Raleigh:

Yes.

Taylor:

And—

Raleigh:

And it does.

Sydnee:

[laughs] Well wait. Not everything.

Taylor:

All right.

Sydnee:

Uh, it's a— So let me say, first of all, we're gonna talk about the show.

Raleigh:

There may be some spoilers.

Taylor:

Lots of spoilers. Spoiler warning right now. Check out of the podcast, come back next week if you haven't watched it or you don't want to be spoiled.

Raleigh:

Now, I watched all in a day. The episodes are all like less than a half an hour each and there are only 10.

Taylor:

Same.

Raleigh:

So you could feasibly watch this all in a day.

Sydnee:

You could.

Taylor:

I did it as well.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Come back in e—eight hours. Not even that. Five hours. Maybe.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Come back in five hours. Um, I have questions for you all about some of the '90s—scene content of the show. We should preface. This show takes place in the '90s.

Sydnee:

Yeah. 1996.

Raleigh:

1996? Yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah. It likes to really hammer that home which I will say is good or bad depending on—

Sydnee:

It is, it is one of those shows, and it's funny because, uh, Justin and I were watching, uh, the movie *The Post* the other day, and we were talking— I was talking about like, was everything, like, when you see a movie that was set in the '70s, I feel like everything is so '70s. And what— were the '70s really like that? Like, everything was just super '70s all the time.

Raleigh:

That's my first question.

Sydnee:

And so that's what— this mo— This TV show, having lived through the '90s now I go, well, you know, I mean, I don't know that things were *that* '90s constantly. I don't know that we were constantly *so* '90s as the show would say. It's a bunch of teenagers in the '90s, let me say that.

Taylor:

Yeah. It definitely makes it clear, like, with lots of subtle details and not so subtle, like, hey, by the way, it's at the '90s. The Tamagotchi, it's set in the '90s.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And it's set in a town called Boring, Oregon. So I think it's supposed to be, your kind of prototypical small town.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Um, the opening sequence of this show features like, everyone like, has their Walkman and their headphones on.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

A lot of scrunchies.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

A lot of neon clothing.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm. A lot of flannel.

Taylor:

A lot of flannel, yeah.

Raleigh:

Flannel. Basically, every '90s activity, that they'd even show a clip of a girl just slapping on a slap bracelet and then pulling out her Tamagotchi.

Sydnee:

[laughs] I do appreciate. There is, there is some gratuitous Tamagotchi shot.

Taylor:

Yeah, yeah. Gratuitous Tamagotchi shot.

Raleigh:

Um—

Sydnee:

Well, like the— Somebody's, at one scene, the little alarm goes off on the Tamagotchi, like, you know—

Raleigh:

And she just pulls it out of the front pocket of her overalls.

Sydnee:

Yeah, to like, check on it. And it was like that sound, was like, oh it's so em—embedded in my memory, like, [gasps] Tamagotchi!

Taylor:

And then I wonder, because, I'm thinking about like a show like Stranger Things, which is set in an era that I didn't grow up in, but it feels very real to me, like it feels like, these characters are living in this world whereas this show like, and I'm complaining about it, I think it's a great show but like, there's a, like, this just feels so forced. But is this just what it feels like when you're aware of the culture? Is that what it is? Like, I don't know, that's why I'm curious how you felt about it, Rileigh, because I— To me, it was just like, it's not, it wasn't like that. I mean I guess it was, but it seems really dumb. [laughs]

Rileigh:

Yeah. My first question was literally, was the '90s this '90s? [laughs]

Sydnee:

I don't feel like we were constantly that '90s. But then at the same time, everything in the show feels like a wink nod towards me, like as I watch it.

Taylor:

Oh yeah.

Sydnee:

Because I'm like, yeah.

Rileigh:

I mean, there were sometimes where you forget, but then they remind you.

Taylor:

I mean, I do want to say, like, the music was so on point, that it's on point was almost too on point.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

For me.

Sydnee:

Yes, I had moments.

Taylor:

Like, playing, like Pink Triangle by Weezer as the, you know, the one character comes out of a closet to like, a friend, it's like, oh, wait, did you

make a Netflix TV show based around a Weezer song? Because I think you did and that's awesome but preface that.

Sydnee:

Or the— At the Tori Amos concert when she's playing Silent All These Years as the— Your main character who has realized that she's gay but is in a time and place where she doesn't know how to tell anyone or what to do about it, she's, you know, it's a very— She didn't have anybody that she can talk to about this. She's at a Tori Amos concert and she sees two women kind of like cuddling and being openly affectionate. And they're playing this song Silent All These Years, and it's just such a, like, it was just such a moment, it was such a, like, aw, that's perfect.

Taylor:

Oh. Yeah, it was too perfect. Like, I— To speak of that moment made me cry, like, just bawl. Like, I'm sitting at my computer and I'm just like, oh my God, like, this is just—

Sydnee:

I was singing along.

Taylor:

I was singing until I was crying, and then I was cry-singing.

Raleigh:

And then when one of the characters asks that main character to be his girlfriend, he creates a music video to Wonderwall, which is a '90s song I had heard before.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Okay. That's good.

Raleigh:

Is that, is that music video that he created supposed to be a replica of the actual music video?

Taylor:

Oh honey, oh, it's a whole bunch of '90s, classic 90's music videos.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Okay. I didn't know that.

Taylor:

Like, it's referencing like, uh, Nirvana's in there. I know that um, Alanis' Ironic is in there.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

They do have a whole conversation about the Alanis Morissette song Ironic.

Taylor:

Well and that—

Raleigh:

About how it is indeed not ironic. [laughs]

Sydnee:

That felt a little forced to me.

Taylor:

It felt forced. And you know what, I'm going to say this to anybody that hasn't watched it but is still listening to this, fine with spoilers, the first three episodes to me was like, okay, I get we're making a '90s nostalgia show. The show has a lot more heart than that. Like—

Sydnee:

Yeah, it does.

Taylor:

It's wrapped in a very like, clear, like, '90s nostalgia wrapper, but it is not— There's so much more heart to that. I mean, the main storyline, like, got to me so personally. It's— and even like the parent storyline. The two parents, like, it's actually, it's got a lot of heart to it.

Sydnee:

It really does, and I think what captured my attention was the '90s feel very close to me.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, they don't, it doesn't feel like that long ago. But when you take the juxtaposition of the, like, the culture of the '90s, you know all the, kind of the fluffy stuff.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Like, the clothes and the music and whatever, and then you take the main storyline where we have, it's a coming-of-age story of a young woman who is not straight. There aren't a lot of TV shows or movies about that, first of all.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That's not a coming-of-age story that we see very often. And it also, it made me realize how culturally, how remote the '90s really is because like, you feel her isolation, you feel how she has no role model. She has no mentor. She has no one to look at and say, how do I navigate the world as this person that I'm realizing I am and not the person that everyone thought I was. She has no touchdown for that.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And that, I would say, is not true today.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

No, and I would agree with that. Cause I mean, being a young person in the '90s who was very afraid of my own sexual identity, and you know, being honest with myself, like, the things that I clung to, the like, the— There was no like, person to me, like oh I'm like that, it's like— Well, Ellen came out, that's cool, Ellen.

But it's like, [laughs] that was kind of it. Like, you know, like when she pins up the picture of the girl with a nose ring, it just like, it felt like, so like, ah this is kind of like me, right? Like, those weird staples that you just cling to 'cause it's something close to... validating yourself. Like, I remember that. Like, I think I watched *The Craft* on repeat largely just because there was like Fairuza Balk's character. There's, there's no sexual identity that's not straight that's aligned to her but still like, she's different and that in some way validates me. Like, this— yeah.

So I... that hit home. And that... and like, oh my God, the moment that she talked about a song, like helping her survive. I feel like that's a— Like, there's all like the fluff, like the surface of the '90s stuff but I think that sentiment more than anything hit home to me because I think that's very much like, you know, like, clinging to music so deeply that it keeps you alive like that. Maybe it's not a '90s thing but I think it kind of is, like I think that's the first generation that is defined by, you know, like music as a survival option.

Sydnee:

Well, and it's also like, I think if you look at the technology, music becoming a more private thing as we move from, you know, records to cassettes—

Taylor:

Oh that's a great point.

Sydnee:

And you talk about Walkmans and things and then eventually CDs and discmans. Music becomes a private thing as opposed to something that is always shared.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

Inherently.

Raleigh:

Yeah. My next question actually did have to do with music, about something that is mentioned that confused me very much that I didn't wanna ask you beforehand because I—

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Raleigh:

I wanna hear your reactions to be authentic if this is something—

Sydnee:

Okay?

Raleigh:

...that I should know about. Um, in one of the very first episodes, the, one of the main male characters pulls up to his mailbox—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And he's like, "Oh sweet, Columbia House."

Taylor:

Yeah? [laughs]

Raleigh:

And then he realizes it's a CD that he already had and says, "I forgot to fill out the thing and mail it back," and she's like, "Oh, you can get store credit for that." This entire conversation I watched and went, "I don't know what's happening." [laughs]

Sydnee:

So you could subscribe to Columbia House Records and they would send you a CD per— like, monthly, I wanna say.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, Justin did this, I never did this. But like, Justin did 'cause when we watched that scene, Justin said, "I remember getting that Oasis CD in the

mail through Columbia House Records." He said, "I had this moment. This was my... I had this exact moment of getting this CD and going and listening to it."

Um, but you could do that and they would send you like, new releases, like the latest music. So if you just wanted to keep up to date with stuff. And then you could, um, if you got one, I guess that, which I don't know, I'm theorizing what they mean, you could go to one of the actual like, brick and mortar stores and take the CD you got, still in the packaging and exchange it for a different one.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

If you got a duplicate. But yeah, that's what that—

Raleigh:

Very confusing.

Sydnee:

Yeah. That's funny though, because I... That really marks like, the moment in time. 'Cause like, he held up that Oasis CD and I'm like, oh yeah. I remember when I got that Oasis CD. Like, everybody remembers. Like, yeah, I remember getting that Oasis CD. But then, Justin said that, like, "I got that. They're Columbia House. That's crazy."

Raleigh:

I figured it was something along those lines, but again, I was like, wh— what?

Sydnee:

Right. So, we used to have... [laughs] Music used to be physical, like a physical object.

Raleigh:

It's just so crazy to me to think like, if you knew of a band that you liked coming out with a new album of songs, you had to actually go buy a physical version or something that had these songs on it to listen to them. You could not just like, listen to them as soon as they came out. Like, there's no such thing as something dropping at midnight and you listening to it at midnight.

Sydnee:

No, no.

Raleigh:

Like, as soon as it came out, you're gonna go and buy a CD or a record or a cassette or whatever.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

And listen to it that way.

Sydnee:

But you don't know how exciting that was like, I had heard the song Ironic by Alanis Morissette. And so I went and got the CD Jagged Little Pill that it is on. And then I listened to everything else.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And that discovery of like, [gasps] there's so much more than Ironic here. Like, this music is my music. This is the music I've been waiting for and now I've found it and it's on this CD and I didn't know it existed and that's there. That's... It's very exciting.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I'm sure.

Taylor:

Just the other day, it's funny 'cause it was right before I watched this show to do this podcast and I was cleaning my house and I found my binder of... I still have like a, like, four CD per page binder of CDs. They're like, thick, like— And it's all like, it's, legit. It's Oasis, it's Rancid and Green Day and like, Tori Amos. Like it's the '90s. It's got Space Ghost Coast to Coast, like the CD.

Like, it's so '90s and so like my childhood I'm like, I don't ever have a need for this. Should I burn it all to my computer? Should I, like, no, I can't. I just can't throw it away. Who knows, like, maybe technology will like, we will go into like some weird Armageddon of technology, it'll just roll back for some

reason for 10 years and I'll be happy I have these. I should keep these.
[laughs]

Sydnee:

Justin and I still each have ours.

Taylor:

Oh.

Sydnee:

I don't know why. We just keep not throwing it out.

Taylor:

It just feels, it just feels so wrong because like, childhood me built this. Like putting the CD fronts behind every CD, like organizing it by genre, like, that's something I did. Like, oh, here's where we transition from pop punk to hardcore. Like, this was important to me. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Or the, or the mixes. That's the other thing.

Taylor:

Oh yeah.

Sydnee:

Like, our binders have our mixes in them.

Taylor:

Yep. Uh-huh.

Sydnee:

And you can't get rid of your mixes.

Taylor:

No. No. And the thing about those mixes is I don't really... They don't even play anymore. Like, they—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah, like, none of mine play anymore but I can't throw them out. Like, like I have one that's like, Angry Girls, and it's just like, L7 and like, Bikini Kill and stuff, like I can't throw this away, like even though it doesn't play anymore. This was my first like, Angry Girl CD mix that I made, I can't throw it away. [laughs]

Sydnee:

Um, I wanna find out more of your '90s questions here, Rileigh, uh, because I'm sure you have many.

Rileigh:

I do.

Sydnee:

But before we do that—

Rileigh:

Let's check the group message.

Sydnee:

So we have a couple of sponsors to tell you about this week. Uh, first of all, I'll start off, if that's okay.

Rileigh:

Go ahead.

Taylor:

Go for it.

Sydnee:

First of all, we want to tell you again about Square Space. Now we have asked you before, do you wanna make a beautiful website?

Rileigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

Maybe you do. Yes?

Rileigh:

Yes.

Sydnee:

So, hopefully that's your answer. Um, maybe you need to turn a cool new idea into a website. Maybe you've got a blog or some kind of other content that you wanna publish. Maybe you have some sort of event or project to announce. Whatever your reasoning, you need to create a new website and that can be difficult but Square Space makes it easy by giving you beautiful customizable templates created by world-class designers.

Raleigh:

Wow.

Sydnee:

Uh, they— It's a new way to buy domains. They have over 200 extensions, powerful E-commerce functionality. So it's endless what you can do with Square Space. They make it super easy, um, if you are like me and you would have nowhere, no idea where to start creating a website, Square Space has got you covered. So all you have to do is go to squarespace.com for a free trial and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "buffering" to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain. That's squarespace.com enter code "buffering."

Taylor:

Sweet.

Sydnee:

Who's our next sponsor?

Raleigh:

Uh, our next sponsor this week is Texture. We've told you about Texture before but we're gonna tell you about them again because they're just so great. Um, the Texture app gives you unlimited access to over 200 premium magazines. Texture has leading titles like Time, The Atlantic, The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Wired. They have teen titles like Teen Vogue and Seventeen Magazine if you're into teen stuff. And right now, you can try Texture for free on us. Taylor, will you tell everyone how they can do that?

Taylor:

Yes. Uh, so you can actually just go to texture.com/stillbuffering. And you can start a free trial today. So that's it, if you choose to continue, it's podcast listeners would get Texture for just 9.99 a month but you can start a free trial right now using the code "stillbuffering" at texture.com.

Sydnee:

So go check that out. You can have all your favorite magazines and their back issues anytime anywhere with this easy app. texture.com/stillbuffering. All right so, Raleigh, I'm sure you had other questions about this show.

Raleigh:

Yeah, I have four questions in a row all about the clothing.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Um, I'll start out with, the first outfit we see one of our main characters Kate wear is a white shirt that has a giant picture of Tori Amos on the front.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

And just says Tori Amos on the bottom.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Did people actually wear shirts with just giant pictures of their favorite artists?

Sydnee:

Had them.

Raleigh:

You had them.

Sydnee:

I had them, yes.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

I had a Tori Amos shirt. I had, yeah. I had lots of those shirts.

Raleigh:

Okay. 'Cause I saw that, I was like, no way.

Sydnee:

Yeah. No, totally a thing. Um, I mean band shirts in general were very cool.

Raleigh:

I mean I've seen band shirts before that had like a logo on them or like for a concert or something or song lyrics but that was just like, her entire torso is taken up by a picture of Tori Amos' face.

Sydnee:

No that's—

Taylor:

I swear, it's like that. Like, I'm wearing one right now. I'm wearing one.
[laughs]

Sydnee:

Yeah. Those were very cool. Definitely wore those.

Raleigh:

Um, so one of the other main girl character is Emaline. Is that her name, Emaline? Emaline?

Sydnee:

Emaline. Emaline.

Taylor:

Yeah. Yeah.

Raleigh:

Emaline, um, goes with Kate to try on dresses.

Taylor:

Yes.

Raleigh:

And the dress that she tries on that she proclaims, quote, "Her boobs are too big for," she gives to Kate because she tells Kate, "You have no boobs." Um, and it looks like a metallic night gown.

Sydnee:

That, that dress, if you're asking was that like a typical '90s look?

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

No, I mean, definitely shiny metallic fabrics were cool in the '90s.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, but—

Taylor:

Well and that— Go ahead.

Sydnee:

I think that was at like a secondhand store, wasn't it?

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

I think it was more of a disco thing.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Taylor:

Yeah. But I will say that was like, I don't know I think that that cut is very '90s. Like, 'cause it was also the age of like the, you know, underfed models. Like, it was the, sort of—

Sydnee:

That's true. That's true.

Taylor:

Like, that was sort of a look, like you're just wearing something that drapes off of you and collarbones for days. Like, that's not a good part of the '90s but that was part of what I think influenced that scene. [laughs]

Sydnee:

There was. It was a moment where a lot of models were extremely thin.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And that was kind of the cornerstone. Not just the— It wasn't just that they were thin, that was the look.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

The— How thin they were was all of the look.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

And so clothes that would accentuate like, your thinness, your whatever bones were protruding, those were—

Taylor:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

That was a popular look for a moment.

Raleigh:

Because at another point, Emaline wears a dress that looks like a nightgown. Like, it's like, beige colored, I think. It has spaghetti straps. She's wearing it to school. It goes straight down—

Sydnee:

Is it like when she's dressed like Courtney Love?

Taylor:

That's what I was gonna say.

Raleigh:

Is that how it's supposed to be?

Taylor:

That's my favorite look. Because that is the bride, that is Courtney Love and that's—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

That was— Well, she was kind of like, I didn't w—wanna like her character 'cause honestly, she does something that I think is super wrong.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

But, fashionalized, like, her style was so much like that was very Courtney Love. That was the baby doll dress, like—

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Taylor:

They would all dress like combat boots, like, messed up, like, curly blonde hair like that, it's Courtney Love. Like, and then she also does Gwen Stefani.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Taylor:

She does a little bun, she does a Jewel, you know like the plaid pants. Yeah, like, she was so like hitting all of my like favorite female crushes in the '90s. Like, aw, my god.

Sydnee:

She goes goth.

Taylor:

Yeah. I think they actually went, "Oh, somebody saw The Craft," and I'm like, oh God. [laughs] Just read me.

Raleigh:

Sydnee was telling me this and naming all the different people she was dressing as. I was like, oh I have no idea. I do not know that.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Those were all referential to very popular people at the time.

Raleigh:

Okay.

Sydnee:

They were all looks. I would say not everybody went for all the looks the way she does.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

Um, I think that's supposed to be part of like her dramatic character or like—

Raleigh:

She is a drama nerd.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yes.

Raleigh:

Theater nerd.

Sydnee:

Which is one— that is one thing I will take issue with real quick. [laughs] So like, the, they set up like your protagonist are these little—

Raleigh:

AV Club nerds.

Sydnee:

Yes. These little kids like the freshmen and then the Kate who's a sophomore who are the AV Club nerds. And then your antagonist are the Drama Club [laughs] who are so cool that they not only bully the AV Club but they like actually kind of physically harass the AV Club. Like, force them to drink alcohol and put on make up and stuff against their will.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I was in drama in the '90s in high school. Um, we were not that cool. [laughs] we were certainly not cool enough to bully anybody.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, that, I found that a little confusing.

Raleigh:

I agree.

Sydnee:

Like, they're the— They're still the Drama Club.

Raleigh:

I mean, one of the first scenes, Emaline and Oliver, was that his name?

Sydnee:

Uh-huh.

Raleigh:

Like, the two like, male and female leads of the Drama Club stand up in the middle of lunch and perform a scene out of, was that Romeo and Juliet?

Sydnee:

No, I don't remember what they were.

Raleigh:

Some Shakespeare.

Taylor:

Uh, I think they were—

Raleigh:

It seemed like.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And like, I was like, there's no way, people are going to start throwing food at them, like, she grabs a corn dog and pretends it's a dagger that she's slitting her throat with [laughs] and everyone applauds for them at the end of it. I'm like, what?

Sydnee:

Now let me say, I don't know that there was ever a time where the school was unanimously like, would've applauded like, oh the Drama Club is so cool. I don't know that that would've happened, but that, like that happening, I can totally see, I knew people sort of like that. Definitely I knew an Emaline. Oh, I knew an Emaline, for sure. And I will say that akin to that, I did want to perform uh, from Rent, when Maureen does over the moon.

Taylor:

Yeah you did.

Raleigh:

Oh you did.

Taylor:

In the cafeteria.

Sydnee:

I did. Yes. In the high school cafeteria during the pancake breakfast. I did in fact perform that song. [laughs] So—

Raleigh:

You did. Sydnee.

Taylor:

Nothing wrong with that. That's a bucket list right there.

Sydnee:

So maybe not show off base. Just saying.

Raleigh:

Oh my God.

Sydnee:

But I don't remember ever the drama kids being like, the cool ones who were bullying people.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, no, they, they would like, it was how a lot of us defined ourselves so we would do the things to like, stand out and like, this is who I am. You know, I dare to be different, I'm special, whatever. But I don't, I mean we never would've taken out any of that on other people 'cause we were also like, uncomfortable with ourselves.

Raleigh:

Right.

Taylor:

Right.

Sydnee:

At least that was my experience.

Taylor:

Well, and I think you know like, I think that that touches on a bigger point which is how much, realizing just how much fashion has changed. Or more importantly like, fashion has become just fashion. Like, I— like, back in the

day, like, to you know, to declare yourself a drama nerd, it came with sort of a wardrobe. Like the styles that we see like, happening in the show, like, it's very much like, you're aligning yourself with this section because high school is a war.

Sydnee:

Right.

Taylor:

And I don't see that as much now. Like, I feel like kids, like kids and like you know, I mean, I say kids, like, teenagers, like, you guys wear like, you can have like a goth influence and a punk influence and like you dress more mainstream and it's just a style choice. Like, it's not—

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

It's not aligned to your identity as much as it really was.

Sydnee:

Yeah. No, I think that's definitely true. And you definitely like, I think you can see that in some of like the Drama Club, the way that Emaline dresses very dramatically, and like, Oliver wears that trench coat that he wears with all the buttons on it.

Taylor:

You dated so many boys that had that trench coat, Sydnee. [laughs] That's all I can think.

Sydnee:

I dated Olivers. I dated... I definitely dated Olivers.

Taylor:

I know. A trench coat with patches. And like the irreverent— The Clash, like, the anarchy pass, like you don't even listen to The Clash, you don't understand the concept of anarchy—

Sydnee:

I don't know what those are.

Taylor:

It's just cool.

Sydnee:

Where was the beret? That was the only thing that's missing.

Taylor:

Yeah, that was missing but...

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, we also, I thought, I think we should make a note of this to Raleigh. I don't, I feel like that they used the nasal piercing as like a like, this is how she's declaring that she's gay.

Raleigh:

I did have some issue with this, because she— There's a scene where Kate goes into her bedroom, rips down the pictures on her wall of Rider Strong and JTT and—

Sydnee:

Which I real— I did appreciate that.

Raleigh:

Whatever male celebrity in the '90s. And replaced them with like, a Tori Amos poster.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And then the poster with the picture of the girl with the nose piercing. And then she decides to pierce her nose. And then a few episodes later, and this is a spoiler again if you're still listening to this even after we told you there would be spoilers, um, Emaline realizes she is gay as well and has feelings for Kate and comes back to school with a nose piercing. Like, hey look.

Taylor:

Well, but I think—

Sydnee:

And we should say too when we say, I don't know what their... I don't know how you would define their sexualities.

Raleigh:

Right. They realized—

Sydnee:

I guess I should realized they're not straight.

Raleigh:

They're not straight.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

That's a good way to say that.

Sydnee:

But I don't know what they would define themselves as.

Raleigh:

Emaline realized she had feelings for a girl.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

But I think, Raleigh like, and this is another thing where fashion has changed like signaling was a very im— it's a, I mean it's a very important part of gay culture. Having things that say, hey guys, by the way. Because it was, w— we're dealing with like, set in the '90s, like, it's still in on the cusp of, I mean, being gay is still dangerous.

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

But this is at the point where you still couldn't be out and not be thought of as, by some people as in some way wrong.

Raleigh:

Right.

Taylor:

And so you— There was, there's always been a code of saying like, hey look, I'm a girl with short hair, I've got a nose ring. Like, wink wink, hint hint, like letting other lesbians know or non-straight people know.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

And so, I think that that's lost more these days. I mean, I think nowadays, because fashion is just fashion, it's like, you know, like, for me it's like, you see a girl with like, her keys on a like carabiner and like a flannel and like short haircut and like a side shave and a nose ring, it's like, I don't know if she's straight or not. I don't know anymore. It's just fashion, like— [laughs]

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Yeah. No, and I— But I think it was all— It was a lot about declaring yourself as different.

Taylor:

Right. That too.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

Yeah, like stepping outside of the mainstream.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, so, I don't know. I just, I found that interesting.

Raleigh:

Hearing the conversations they had about gay people, and they weren't a ton that were derogatory but there were a few that I was like, whoa. You never hear someone say that today. Like, one of the girls goes up to Kate because there was rumor going around that she is gay.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

And asks her if she is quote, "a homo" and then says like, "Oh good," when Kate says, "No, of course not." She was like, "Oh good. I didn't think you would be. That's good." And then there's a conversation between two girls in the bathroom who says, "Did you hear Kate is gay?" And they're like, "Does that mean she has the AIDS?"

Sydnee:

Yeah. The—

Raleigh:

It was all very like, stereotypical derogatory—

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

I don't know. It caught me off guard.

Sydnee:

Yeah. And I mean I would love to say that's not a true depiction of the '90s but I think there was still that much ignorance and you know, um, that kind of prejudice in the '90s, definitely. And I think it's funny because I, now that I'm not working, because I'm on maternity leave, uh, a lot of shows that I used to really like are like, I realized they play them all day—

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

... while I'm at work usually. So like, there are Scrubs marathons and there are How I Met Your Mother marathons, and I have checked in on both of those periodically.

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

And both of those shows not that long ago—

Raleigh:

Yeah. I mean, How I Met Your Mother ended what, like, four, five years ago?

Sydnee:

And, as what I'm saying, they're not that old, there are moments that I'm just, I'm shocked that I watched it and now I look back and go, I don't remember this being this offensive. I can't believe they just said that. I can't believe that was so homophobic.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

That was so, you know everything you just said right now, I can't believe that but it wasn't that long ago this was just commonplace on television and in media and just you know, this kind of discriminatory speech, this kind of hate speech that just... And it wasn't meant that way, but it was just casually thrown about that way. You watch a Friends marathon and oh buddy.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Taylor:

Oh, yeah, no. Well, and that— I don't know, like, I... The one, and it was sort of double-edged sword for me 'cause the one hurtful rumor that was started about me, this really hit home when I was in high school was that I was a lesbian and you know, that like some cool girls started the rumor 'cause she's like, I don't like it when she's the photography assistant in the dark room because, you know, she'll try to hit on you. I was like, I don't talk to people, let alone hit on them. But that was, you know, like, that was still like, it was okay but then also like, don't let it be me. Don't let me be the gay one. I'm fine with the gay people but don't let it be me.

Raleigh:

Right.

Taylor:

And as somebody that was also like, I don't think I'm straight anyway like that whole, that whole part of the storyline hit a little too close to home because it was just like, yeah that's what that felt like. Like, you are so okay with it but you're also terrified of yourself. [laughs]

Raleigh:

Right.

Sydnee:

Is that— Do you think that's changed now, Raleigh, like, 'cause that very much is how like storylines like that in kind of even TV shows that would've considered themselves progressive would still have like a character adamantly denying that they're gay as if it was a bad thing, you know. Or it being played for laughs.

Raleigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

That kind of, that was the way that even in shows where it wasn't actively a target of discrimination it was still, you know, totally inappropriately. If— Would those kind of rumors be spread to be mean about kids today? Like—

Raleigh:

I don't think—

Sydnee:

So—and—so is not straight.

Raleigh:

Right. I don't think to be mean. I don't think that that's something that people like, wonder about someone like, out of maliciousness—

Sydnee:

I mean that's a good thing.

Raleigh:

...or hurtful.

Sydnee:

That's what I'm hoping you'll say.

Raleigh:

Yeah. I don't, I mean, especially people I associate with or conversations I have had, there have definitely been like questions I have heard people ask, like, are they dating someone of the same sex? Like, are they gay? I didn't know that about them, but never like, oh that's gross. Like, I don't like that.

Sydnee:

Like, inherently, that is a bad thing.

Raleigh:

Yeah. Right.

Sydnee:

Okay.

Raleigh:

Um—

Sydnee:

I mean that's reassuring considering where we live.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

You would expect it to be worse here.

Taylor:

Yeah, absolutely.

Raleigh:

Uh, I have one last question for you all on a lighter note that is about not fashion.

Sydnee:

Mm-hmm.

Raleigh:

It is about a conversation that takes place between two parents, and they're discussing the, uh, slang that their children are using that they don't understand.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And three of these slang terms include "da bomb," "oh snap" and "all that and a bag of chips."

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

And I was like, these are the slang terms that parents don't understand? These seem pretty self-explanatory to me compared to some of the slang terms that exist today.

Sydnee:

Well, I think... Okay. I— you have grown up with these existing.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I mean, even though you don't use them I assume you know what all those things mean.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Um, but it probably did sound odd the first time someone said, "She's all that and a bag of chips." [laughs] Like, you hear a parent like, what?

Raleigh:

She's what?

Sydnee:

She's what now? I don't know. I think it's just everybody, every generation has their slang terms and people use that for sure.

Rileigh:

Right. Well it's just very funny to me.

Taylor:

Well, I think— Do you know, that there— There was something that happened I think in popular culture and it— Like, late '80s, early '90s going on, and started in the '90s, for sure, like, where you had self-referential like culture being presented. So you had these, like— Like, nowadays, you watch TV and y—you can kind of get caught up on the current slang because it's part of it. But it didn't use to be a thing. Like, I felt like—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Taylor:

...entertainment was like, 10 years behind what culture was doing. Now it's very up to date. The '90s was the first time that it started to catch up with itself. And you had like, you know, you had movies being set in high schools in the '90s that were pretty on point with what was going on with like, the slang culture, like, the dressing styles, stuff like that.

Sydnee:

But yeah, no you're absolutely right. I think as people started making TV shows and music and movies that were targeting teenagers, then you started to see that more well-represented in media, but prior to that, you're right. It all did lack.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Because entertainment was being made for adults by adults and if kids happen to like it, that was fine.

Rileigh:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

But then that was— I mean, and it really has to do with buying power. They realized teenagers have money.

Taylor:

Yep.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

And let's get them to spend it on Columbia House Records subscriptions.
[laughs]

Taylor:

Oasis [laughs]

Sydnee:

On Oasis. Um—

Taylor:

Oh, Wonderwall.

Sydnee:

Yeah. I don't, I mean I guess, I don't, I would like to look back and ask mom and dad back then like, did we say things that you were like, "What in the world?"

Raleigh:

'Cause I know I do now. Like, either they'll hear things like on TV or hear my friends say things, or hear me say things, they're like, "Wait what? What does that mean?"

Taylor:

[laughs]

Sydnee:

I think I said, "Da bomb."

Taylor:

I definitely never did. [laughs]

Raleigh:

I would— I could see this.

Sydnee:

I don't think I used the other two.

Taylor:

No.

Sydnee:

I don't think I ever felt like I was cool enough to say, "Oh snap."

Taylor:

I was ad—

Raleigh:

You never felt like you were cool enough?

Sydnee:

[laughs]

Taylor:

I was adamantly out of my way not cool enough to say those words, like...

Sydnee:

I said "groovy" a lot.

Taylor:

Oh my gosh. I remember when you tried to make "hella" happen for a while.

Sydnee:

I did.

Raleigh:

Well, that's good now.

Taylor:

Now it's okay— it's good now.

Raleigh:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I did try to make that happen. [laughs]

Taylor:

Yeah. Hella good. [laughs] Like, okay.

Sydnee:

I did. And I— like, I obstinately stuck with "groovy" 'cause I was like, well, I know this is not right.

Taylor:

Mm-hmm.

Sydnee:

So, I'll just keep going with it 'cause then it's my thing.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Then I met a girl who says that thing.

Raleigh:

Groovy. She's a girl who says groovy.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

I was in drama, what do you expect?

Taylor:

See, I liked "rad." "Rad" was okay for me, 'cause that's—

Sydnee:

Yeah.

Raleigh:

It's not as bad.

Taylor:

That was my go-to.

Sydnee:

I latched on to "rad" for a while.

Rileigh:

She's the girl who says "groovy" and the girl who stands up on the lunch table and sings songs from Rent about guys. [laughs]

Sydnee:

At a pancake breakfast.

Taylor:

Ah geez.

Rileigh:

Ahh.

Sydnee:

There were parents there. [laughs]

Taylor:

You achieved the, like the '90s like, moment there.

Sydnee:

I really did.

Taylor:

Like that was good for you.

Rileigh:

Were you wearing like a choker and a Tori Amos shirt and your hair in like a messy bun with pencils through it at the time?

Sydnee:

No. Unfortunately I was wearing my show choir dress. [laughs] So, I don't—is that worse?

Rileigh:

It's better.

Taylor:

It's better. It's definitely better.

Sydnee:

Um, I would— let me— let's end with this. I would recommend this show.

Taylor:

I would too.

Sydnee:

I think that it's very, um, yes, the '90s stuff sometimes feels a little artificial.

Taylor:

It's, it's a BuzzFeed article in action. It's what I would describe some parts of the show.

Sydnee:

Yeah. Yes.

Raleigh:

I will say for a non-'90s person though, there is a lot of stuff I missed that I do not understand as '90s references.

Taylor:

Well—

Sydnee:

Like the— even the snack machine when they raid the snack machine at one point, and it's got the pizza—

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

Do you remember those pizza chips, uh, pizzarios or pizza—

Taylor:

Oh God, yes.

Sydnee:

Oh man, those were so good. I looked at that and was like, "Oh, where did those go?"

Taylor:

And I love it—

Raleigh:

It was at some point.

Taylor:

Oh god.

Raleigh:

They talk about Surge.

Taylor:

I should say, they are constantly drinking Gatorade and Surge and Mountain Dew and like yep, that's the trash stuff that we rotted our faces off with in the '90s. You know.

I would also give it a solid recommendation and more like to the point of like, it was funny to me, 'cause like the main storyline revolves around like, uh, you know, like the main, the young people and then the older people, like, and they're finding, stumbling their way to like, finding acceptance and happiness and as somebody that both like, I'm the age of like this old dude who's kind of given up on love and then finding it again, so that touches me, but then I also remember what it was like to be like a teenager who was afraid of their own sexuality, so that gets to my core.

The whole thing just was like endless feels of just, you know. And it is a pretty good representation of a queer storyline that I don't think we've like—that is needed. It's always needed. More and more and more. Always needed.

Sydnee:

Sure. All right. Well, thank you sisters.

Raleigh:

Thank you for answering all my '90s questions.

Taylor:

Yeah.

Sydnee:

There you go. [laughs] Um, it is a study in the '90s. If uh, if you're interested as to what it looked like and felt like and sounded like, I would

say it's nailed that squarely. Thank you for listening to our show. Uh, you can tweet at us at Still Buff. You can email us at stillbuffering@maximumfun.org. Uh, if you like our show, you should check out maximumfun.org for a lot of other wonderful uh, shows on our podcasting network, and thank you to the Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

Raleigh:

This had 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.

Taylor:

And I was too.

Sydnee:

And I was too.

[theme music plays]

Jesse:

Going into a Bullseye interview, I know it's somebody who does amazing work, but it's an actual conversation. I don't know where it's headed.

Speaker 1:

[laughs] Hey, this is the straight talk that you're gonna get on this show.

Jesse:

That makes sense. I feel like I'm in therapy.

Speaker 2:

I think I got more out of you than the therapist I went to twice. [laughs]

Jesse:

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