

## Still Buffering 111: How to Flirt

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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:**

Hi sisters.

**Raleigh:**

Hi.

**Taylor:**

Hi sisters.

**Sydnee:**

Just greeting you.

**Taylor:**

Greetings.

**Sydnee:**

I'm, I'm running on like three hours of sleep guys.

**Raleigh:**

Me too.

**Taylor:**

Same.

**Sydnee:**

My baby grunted all night because it doesn't know, she doesn't know how to poop yet. And so, she—

**Raleigh:**

That's so weird.

**Sydnee:**

Laid there grunting.

**Taylor:**

There's a point where you don't know how to do that?

**Sydnee:**

I guess it's, it's, I didn't even know about this. I had to look this up. It's commonly called baby grunting syndrome. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Very self-explanatory.

**Taylor:**

Who named that? Somebody should've tried harder.

**Sydnee:**

And your baby just, I mean, it's not constipation because when she poops, it's like normal baby poop, but she grunts for a long time because she can't get like, the muscles regulated to do it right.

**Raleigh:**

She forgot how to poop.

**Sydnee:**

She forgot how to poop. So, she's working, she's figuring it out. She's working on it. It's fine. It goes away on its own. They just figure it out and then they know how to poop, but. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Someday you can say, "Cooper, there was a time where you didn't know how to poop." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

She lays there half the night, like, while I'm trying, like next to the bed. She's not in bed with me. she's next to my bed. And she lays there in her little thing going, "Ugh, ugh," like half the night. It's like, "Work it out."

**Taylor:**

But how did you— I mean, I get why that would keep you awake initially, but at some point did that not just become white noise of poop grunting and you just fell asleep?

**Sydnee:**

I, it makes me nervous—

**Taylor:**

Okay.

**Sydnee:**

Because sometimes she grunts so hard she refluxes a little and then she spits up on herself, and I don't like her to lay in that.

**Taylor:**

I hate it when that happens. I feel so bad for future Cooper. Cooper in like 15 years, I am so sorry about this conversation because it's recorded.

**Raleigh:**

First we talked about—

**Taylor:**

It's on the internet forever. We've discussed the consistency of your poop and I'm sorry. As your cool aunt, I shouldn't allow this to happen. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

First we talk about how much boob you put in your mouth.

**Sydnee:**

Oh, man.

**Raleigh:**

Then we talk about your poop.

**Sydnee:**

That is unfortunate.

**Raleigh:**

And your inability to.

**Sydnee:**

She's going to figure it out though. And the other thing is just sometimes it escalates to her actually crying. Not always because she's like, asleep when she does it, so sometimes she'll just drift back off. But anyway, we're working it out.

**Taylor:**

Wow.

**Sydnee:**

Um, I saw a new cartoon. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Okay.

**Raleigh:**

Okay, adult Sydnee.

**Sydnee:**

I had, well, my three-year-old watched a new cartoon and I watched it with her, and I really appreciated it and I thought I would mention it to you all.

**Raleigh:**

Okay.

**Sydnee:**

It's called the, it's called The Loud House.

**Raleigh:**

Oh.

**Sydnee:**

And it's about— At first, I was not sure I would enjoy it because it's about a little boy who lives in a house with ten sisters, but it's focused on the boy it seemed, and I was like, "Well that figures."

**Taylor:**

That's typical.

**Sydnee:**

There's 10 girls and one boy and we got a show about the boy. But I underestimated it. It's about the whole family. And, uh, they had an episode where they were like getting up the courage to tell the person that they secretly admired, to confess their feelings to them. And you have all of them doing it except the one sister who's like the rocker sister, who's like really like, "I don't know if Sam will feel the same way I do. I don't know if I can do this. I—I'm just really nervous about it. I just, Sam is so great. I don't know if I can, you know, confess how I feel."

And then finally, at the end, she decides to, and she slips a note in a locker, and we see a guy walk towards the locker and then past it, and then a girl stops at the locker and opens it up.

**Taylor:**

Aw.

**Raleigh:**

Aw.

**Sydnee:**

And this is on Nickelodeon and a cartoon that's aimed at kids. And I just thought—

**Raleigh:**

Wow.

**Sydnee:**

That's amazing.

**Raleigh:**

How lovely.

**Sydnee:**

Never saw that represented in cartoons in our day.

**Taylor:**

Yeah. Unfortunately, completely not represented ever. Not allowed to be.

**Sydnee:**

Just casually, I mean, and it's just casually thrown in there that Sam is female. And I thought it was very cool.

**Raleigh:**

Wow.

**Sydnee:**

And now I watch The Loud House. [laughs] They had a megathon, which I guess is like a marathon but longer.

**Taylor:**

But mega.

**Raleigh:**

Mega.

**Sydnee:**

And so, I watch that with her, and I thought that was great. So, there's my plug for that cartoon.

**Raleigh:**

Well, all right.

**Sydnee:**

If you're looking for a new cartoon.

**Taylor:**

The Loud House, everybody.

**Sydnee:**

There's also a little boy on the show who has two dads.

**Raleigh:**

Wow.

**Sydnee:**

And again, it's just kind of like matter of fact.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Which is very cool, just very cool to see in cartoons that, um, that we didn't see in our day.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

So anyway. Um, what's new with you all? [laughs] That's new in my world. A new cartoon and my baby can't poop.

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Yeah. I don't have a baby. I feel like if I ran through the stuff that I was doing, I would feel bad because it's a lot of like social, like... I had a crazy week because I had, like, bar events and stuff. But I don't wanna, like, I don't know. It was all stressful for me, but then I was like, "Oh, your baby can't poop and you watched a new cartoon? I had to do all this bartending stuff and go to all these parties." Like I feel like a jerk.

**Sydnee:**

You don't wanna rub it in that I can't leave the house.

**Taylor:**

Yeah, yeah. No, I had a terrible week. Actually, I mean that's not far from the truth. But, but you know, the highlight of my week was actually TV also. So we're on the same page, sis. And you made a human, so you're still doing better. I watched Nailed It, that new show on Netflix.

**Raleigh:**

Such a good show.

**Taylor:**

It is great.

**Sydnee:**

As soon as Justin gets back in town, we're gonna watch it together.

**Raleigh:**

I mean, it's such an awful, great show.

**Taylor:**

I won't spoil anything for you, Syd, but I adore every moment of that show. It's just, I mean it's like a baking show, but I can't imagine that anybody that's ever worked on an actual baking show worked on this show.

**Raleigh:**

No.

**Taylor:**

Like.

**Raleigh:**

No, no.

**Sydnee:**

I'm waiting for Justin to get back so that I can watch that with him and so that the two of us can watch some of the Scientology network that now exists.

**Taylor:**

Oh.

**Sydnee:**

Because you don't want to watch that by yourself, you never know.

**Taylor:**

I don't think you want to watch that at all.

**Raleigh:**

You never know what?

**Sydnee:**

Well, I'm sleep deprived and alone. What if it starts to make sense to me? [laughs] Yes, Scientology has its own channel now. How scary is that?

**Raleigh:**

Especially when you're sleep deprived and home alone apparently.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, I know. So, I'm waiting for Justin for that one. We are not Scientologists. I don't... do I need to explain that?

**Raleigh:**



I think we need to clarify maybe. None of us are Scientologists.

**Sydnee:**

No, none of us are Scientologists.

**Taylor:**

No.

**Raleigh:**

I don't think we actually need to clarify.

**Sydnee:**

No, I don't think so. Um, I think if you've listened to my other podcast, you have, uh, heard my feelings on that, on Scientology.

**Raleigh:**

Gosh, Sydnee, keep plugging your other podcast.

**Sydnee:**

I didn't even name it.

**Taylor:**

But—

**Raleigh:**

Everyone knows.

**Taylor:**

Syd, as somebody that believes in, like, empirical knowledge and science, don't you kind of hate that the term Scientology was swiped?

**Sydnee:**

Yes. It makes it sound like it has anything to do with science.

**Raleigh:**

Spoiler alert, it doesn't.

**Sydnee:**

Just if, if, just read Going Clear. I mean, yeah. Leah Remini can fill you in if you're curious as well. So, let's talk about flirting. [laughs] Is this not—

**Taylor:**

What happened to you? What we were doing with the audience the entire time? [laughs] This explains everything wrong, that I do wrong.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, when I flirt with people, I tell them about cartoons I watch with my toddler, about how my infant can't poop, and then I ask them if they've seen the new Scientology network. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

I mean, dude, that's par for the course for me, so I don't know. Same level of interest here.

**Raleigh:**

This is said by the person who right before we started recording this podcast said, "Oh, me? I'm great at flirting."

**Sydnee:**

Okay.

**Raleigh:**

Quote, Sydnee McElroy.

**Sydnee:**

Let me, okay. To be fair, Raleigh did call me out and say, "How long has it been since you flirted?" It's, I mean—

**Raleigh:**

1992.

**Sydnee:**

I don't know that I flirt with Justin anymore. [laughs] I don't know, after you've been married for, gosh, 12, going on 12 years now, I don't know that you flirt with each other as much. Maybe sometimes.

**Taylor:**

You don't like bring Justin a compact disc like, coyly sometimes like, "You know. I feel like we might have been talking about this the other day or something. I just, I feel like you might want to check it out but you know, just get it back to me whenever." Like you don't do that?

**Sydnee:**

No, I don't. I don't think, I don't think I flirt anymore, but I believe back in the day when I did flirt, I was quite good at it.

**Raleigh:**

Why do you say that? [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Because if I wanted someone to ask me on a date, I knew how to make that happen. And that, I mean that's the goal of flirting, right? Like what else are you trying to do?

**Raleigh:**

What Sydnee's trying to say, she got all the boys to like her.

**Sydnee:**

I'm not saying that. I'm just saying, like in my, if I directed my efforts towards being asked out, I got positive results, generally speaking.

**Raleigh:**

Well, not all of us can be as great at flirting as you, Syd.

**Sydnee:**

I'm just saying, I understood what that entailed and I was able to fulfill that.

**Taylor:**

Well, all right, I guess you're gonna have to tell us all your hot tips on flirting.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Well, I want to know, should we mention one of our listeners actually asked us specifically—

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

If we could talk about flirting. So um, Emma wrote us and asked us about how to flirt and how to know if somebody's flirting and I don't know that we're going to be able to help with that.

**Taylor:**

I mean, you've got an expert, clearly. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, Sydnee.

**Taylor:**

You've got a flirtsperter here, so.

**Raleigh:**

Of course we will be able to help with that.

**Sydnee:**

But we are going to talk about flirting, one way or the other.

**Raleigh:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

You two don't feel like you're good at flirting. [laughing] You have both said this. I'm not telling you're not good at it. You have both said you don't feel like you're good at it.

**Raleigh:**

I feel like I am moderate.

**Sydnee:**

Could I know why? See I have explained why I feel like I was good at flirting.

**Taylor:**

Is there a negative five on the scale?

**Sydnee:**

Why don't you each, take your, in turn, why do you each feel that you aren't good at flirting?

**Raleigh:**

I feel like I'm in therapy.

**Sydnee:**

I mean, what indicators do you have? Like what things have transpired where you're like, "Well, that was because I was bad at flirting?"

**Raleigh:**

I think I get too nervous that flirting is too obvious, so I try to make it less obvious and then I just end up having a conversation.

**Sydnee:**

Oh no, a terrible conversation with someone you're interested in. That wasn't the plan at all.

**Raleigh:**

And then it's over and you realize like, "Oh wait, nothing in this indicated anything besides that I genuinely like, had a question about homework."  
[laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Okay, so you don't flirt. You feel like you're bad at it because when you try to attempt it, you never actually succeed at the flirting.

**Raleigh:**

I have, I mean obviously, I have succeeded at some point before, but I feel like my losses outnumber my wins.. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Taylor, why do you think you're bad at flirting?

**Taylor:**

I think I have all losses. I don't like, I am oblivious if somebody is flirting with me, like I'll have my friends be like, "Hey, what about that?" And I'll be like, "What do you mean? That person was just asking me about my preference on white wine." And they're like, "No, that's not what that conversation was about at all." I'm oblivious when somebody is flirting with me but more importantly, I am so terrified of rejection that when I'm having a conversation with somebody I'm interested in, I like anti flirt.

Like I just pull back as far as possible like, "I'm not interested in you sexually whatsoever, no intimidation here, buddy, buddy, buddy." Like, case in point, I was talking to someone who like I've been into for a while and they were pretty recently, or no, for a while, they've been out of like a long

term relationship, and they're like, "Yeah, I kind of just get back there and like, you know, like get on the dating scene. But I don't know how to do it," and that's a great intro to say something like cool. I don't know what it is because clearly, me [laughs] but instead I say—

**Sydnee:**

We should go out together sometime. We should go out. I'll get you back out there.

**Raleigh:**

Oh, Sydnee, you're the expert.

**Taylor:**

I'd say, "Well, if you ever need a wing man to find some ladies, finger guns." [laughs] I don't say the word finger guns, I should say.

**Raleigh:**

She said the word finger guns.

**Taylor:**

I make them at my friend. So that's, I'm guessing that's not the right thing to do, like if they gave me this disgusted face like, "That's okay, thanks," and walked away.

**Sydnee:**

That's, I think that defense mechanism is called reaction formation. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

What?

**Raleigh:**

What?

**Taylor:**

That sounds like something airplanes do. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Like because you feel one thing that you do not want to be evident, you go to the other extreme to try to hide the thing you're feeling. So like usually it's like if you see somebody who got a new haircut and it's really heinous, and you instantly go, "Oh my gosh, I love your hair." [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

I love your hair. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

That's reaction formation. You don't want them to know that inside you're going, "Oh my gosh, your hair," so you go to the other extreme instead of just being neutral. Like if you can't say anything nice don't say anything at all. No. You're going to say the nicest thing you possibly can.

**Taylor:**

I guess that's... I remember back in college being called out by one of my friends because like we were standing on the sidewalk and a kid in one of my classes came up to me and he was like, "Oh hey, how's it going?" And my response was, "Do you need something?" [laughs] I was like, well, surely you don't actually care how I'm doing, you must require some information from me, and he just went "God," and walked away. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Can I be of assistance?

**Taylor:**

Oh. Yeah, I don't know. That's even easier though if they start the conversation. The hardest thing is for the person to walk up and say, "Hi." Once they've opened the door it's easy to just, you know, walk in. [laughs] Like this isn't a swing and a miss. This is like, they give me a lob and I pull out a bazooka and obliterate the baseball. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Okay so you both, do you feel like there have been times where you have ever been successful flirting?

**Raleigh:**

I mean, [laughs] I have a boyfriend, so feel like I had to have been at some point, right?

**Sydnee:**

Well, but I, this begs the question, can you attain a relationship without actually flirting?

**Raleigh:**

Honestly if anyone can, I think I did.

**Sydnee:**

I think you can. I mean I don't think you necessarily have to flirt and because I also think flirting can exist well outside the bounds of a relationship. It can exist between two people who have no intention of ever becoming romantically entwined. They just enjoy—

**Raleigh:**

Romantically entwined.

**Sydnee:**

You know what I mean, they just enjoy the feeling of somebody flirting with you and flirting back. Because it's fun, because it's enjoyable. There's lots of room in your life for flirting that you don't plan on going anywhere. It's just the flirting is the goal.

**Raleigh:**

Coming from the flirting expert.

**Taylor:**

[laughs] Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Flexpert.

**Sydnee:**

It's nice because then you get like, if somebody flirts back that's like, it's attention, which everybody, well I don't say everybody likes attention but let's be honest, what we're talking about is positive attention. But it's not just positive attention, it's like special positive attention. It just feels good.

**Taylor:**

How do you tell the difference when somebody's flirting with you or when they're just like being pleasant?

**Sydnee:**

Well, I think, and I'm not an expert on this, I've pretended like I am. I didn't write any articles in Cosmo or anything [laughs] but I mean I think there are some clear indicators like if somebody is being just nice, that is not necessarily flirting. Someone who says "Hi, how are you?"

**Taylor:**



That's not always flirting.

**Sydnee:**

That's a pleasantry. We say that to everyone. Someone who smiles, that's not necessarily flirting. Now can you flirt without actually saying anything? Of course you can.

**Raleigh:**

Of course.

**Sydnee:**

But it's not just a smile, like a smile indicates, "This is an acceptable social signal that I will not attack you." [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Thank you for that.

**Sydnee:**

But if you give them like the smile and look out of the corner of the eye kind of thing, you know, like you turn your head slightly and you give them a smile and the—

**Raleigh:**

What was that Sydnee? [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

No, Teylor just gave me a look like, "What." She arched one eyebrow and was like... [laughs]

**Teylor:**

I tried to do it. I followed your instructions.

**Sydnee:**

Clearly that's what I've been doing wrong. I don't know how to smile. [laughs]

**Teylor:**

It's like a little tilted head and you look out of the corner of your eye. It's the, that smile Sydnee. I believe Tyra would say, "I'm smizing."

**Raleigh:**

That's different. That's smiling with your eyes.

**Taylor:**

I wish you all could see this. I wish you all could see the face Sydnee's making. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

You know, I'm just saying like sometimes, especially if, okay, let me, I'm thinking of real life examples. There was a guy I was into who I was in a class with that I sat across from and I wanted him to know that I was into him, so I would, in the context of like purely academic conversations, like us discussing the stuff in class, because we worked in groups, it was like a lab thing, I would occasionally when we were all quite, or the teacher was talking, like let him catch me looking at him, you know, intentionally.

**Raleigh:**

Wow.

**Taylor:**

And you're not terrified that he'll think that you're a giant creep show for that because that would be me. That's what I would do.

**Sydnee:**

Nah, because I wanted him to ask me out, so I was like—

**Raleigh:**

But now there's a difference between the stare you give someone you want to catch looking at you and a stare you give someone that like, is creepy.

**Sydnee:**

Right.

**Taylor:**

Like, if you stare at someone like... [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

And the key is what happens when they catch you. If they catch you and you like do it like a fake like, "Ha ha ha," and look away real fast, that's weird. But if they catch you and you give them like a little smile, like yeah—

**Raleigh:**

Oh, there's that smile again. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I was looking at you and then you look away, that's a clear sign, like, "Yeah, I was checking you out."

**Taylor:**

I would assume that person wanted me as a skin suit.

**Raleigh:**

That's what I would think.

**Sydnee:**

That is not what most people assume. Well, I apparently read things differently than you guys do, okay. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

I think the best example of me not knowing when someone was flirting with me, was the first time the guy I'm dating right now tried to ask me out, and we'd been talking like a week earlier about how I was playing the video game Tetris, and he was talking about how good I was at Tetris, and this guy and I had been friends for like four years so I was used to very friendly conversation and a week later he was like, "Hey, so when do I get to play you in Tetris and see how good you are?" and I've learned that meant, "Hey, when do I get to hang out with you because I want to hang out with you?" But I was like, "Oh, whenever I guess, like I'm not really doing anything like now," even though it was like 5:00 PM and it was during the summer and I was just like, in bed.

**Raleigh:**

I was like, "Yeah whenever man, I don't really care," and I started talking about something else and he was like, "Do you really not want to hang out with me?" I was like, "Wait, what?" [laughs] I didn't know this is what that meant.

**Sydnee:**

I think if someone is finding reasons to make conversation with you, that like don't have anything to do with common interests you already share or necessarily what you're doing together, like what activities you might be engaging in, like seeking out other things like to learn information about you and finding more reasons to talk with you, that doesn't necessarily mean they're flirting but I think you should at least consider the possibility that flirting may be happening.

**Taylor:**

Just ponder it.

**Sydnee:**

Just wonder. I certainly think if somebody is looking for opportunities for you to do something together like that, like, "Well we should do that together."

**Raleigh:**

I realize this now.

**Sydnee:**

"When do I get to go with you to that cool place you keep talking about?" or whatever, I don't know.

**Raleigh:**

Took me a few weeks.

**Sydnee:**

That in that context flirting may be happening?

**Raleigh:**

It was. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Certainly any reason to like, like, the playful little shoulder tap.

**Raleigh:**

What was that?

**Sydnee:**

You know, the playful shoulder tap?

**Taylor:**

What?

**Raleigh:**

That movement you use, like your flicking water off your hand, like—

**Taylor:**

Don't touch people without their consent.

**Sydnee:**

Well no, I'm not advocating touching people without their consent but like, or the little elbow, like, "Hey," the little elbow, you know?

**Sydnee:**

Like you walked up saying like, "Hey," you know what I mean? Like, "Hey."

**Sydnee:**

"Hey, what's going on?" a little elbow nudge. But that's—

**Rileigh:**

Or like when you're like fake fighting and you like lightly like slap, quote unquote, slap them on the arm, and you're like, "Hey."

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

Is this not all buddy stuff?

**Sydnee:**

Well, those are things you do with your buddies but what I'm saying is like these are little ways that you are, if you are not buddies with someone and they're trying to get a foothold in your life, these are things that may indicate that and I'm certainly not advocating touching someone without their consent but—

**Taylor:**

Oh, I was joking. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to call you—

**Sydnee:**

No, no, I know. Well, but I mean, it's a fair point to bring up because obviously that is not flirting. That is sexual assault, so don't do that.

**Taylor:**

That is not flirting.

**Sydnee:**

I mean like the little like, you know, the elbow nudge, the little elbow nudge. Everybody does that sometimes, the, "Hey, hey," and nudges them with their elbow, you know.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. "Hey, hey, hey."

**Sydnee:**

That's like a flirty move.

**Raleigh:**

The way Sydnee, by the way, for everyone listening from home, is signifying her difference between a buddy move and a flirty move, is the smile. She gives that smile like, "Hey, hey," even though no one can see her.

**Sydnee:**

Well, I mean there are lots of other... the tone of your voice is different when you're flirting. I mean it is, like scientifically, the tone of your voice is different.

**Taylor:**

Oh wow. You know I think, and this is interesting, something to do this, there's maybe different ways that I think that there are different ways that people flirt because I think maybe just because I was always very much a nerd and like would only ever be flirting with other nerds, there's never any of that. It's kind of more like, "You told me about this esoteric anime and I'm going to let you know that I watched it." Like, "You told me to check out pavement and then I've got their sticker on my binder the next, or the week later," like you know like, it's way safer, like it's just those really super back seat ways of saying like, "I am listening to you and paying attention to your interests, because it's so much more like, I don't know, like interest face flirtations.

**Sydnee:**

Well I think that's, I think those are good moves. I don't think there's anything wrong with that. I just think they're so subtle that not everyone will pick up on them.

**Taylor:**

Well socially inept people and I'm talking about myself, not inditing anybody else, you always want to play it so you can always say "Bababababa, I was just talking to you about cartoons."

**Sydnee:**

See that's problematic because if all you ever do is just barely dip your toes in the little end, I mean. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Yeah. I mean to be fair, I say this is like the bit of flirtation I've done, that's what it was. I think that there's a reason that the only relationships I've ever ended up in are times where someone has come up to me and been point blank, "I like you," and I'm like, "Great, we're together now." [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

It's like in kindergarten when someone comes up to you and is like, "Hey I want you to be my girlfriend."

**Taylor:**

Oh, I never moved past that point.

**Raleigh:**

And you're like, "Okay." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Well, I mean I guess it'd be nice if we all did that but then we would lose all the flirting which I've already established I think is very fun.

**Taylor:**

I hate it. So there's difference of opinions there.

**Sydnee:**

Raleigh, neutral?

**Raleigh:**

It's okay.

**Sydnee:**

Neutral?

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, I'm neutral.

**Sydnee:**

Okay. We need to talk about more of the ways, we've just barely scratched the surface, but before we talk about more flirting—

**Raleigh:**

Let's check the group message.

**Sydnee:**

Sisters, I am very excited about our first sponsor today.

**Raleigh:**

Who is it?

**Sydnee:**

It's a new sponsor for our show but not new to us. It's ModCloth. So we are all big fans of the site ModCloth and we're going to tell you all about it.

Taylor, I know you have, you have utilized ModCloth many times before?

**Taylor:**

Yeah I've been shopping on ModCloth for like I don't know, like five, six years now I feel like. I just kind of discovered it like by looking for online lists of cool places to shop and it's like, just kind of a go to for, I don't know, like the pieces I've gotten off of there, it's like, "Yeah, why do I have a dress that has kittens in a theater, like watching a movie?" like because of ModCloth. [laughs] It has a weird, quirky like adorable style, like affordable but really, really unique.

**Sydnee:**

Like nothing feels generic on there. It's really great. I love ModCloth. I have, I am not a big shopper so to say that I have like a tab in my task bar for a website, for a clothing website, like that's a huge deal for me and that the only one I've ever had is ModCloth so that I can quickly click on ModCloth. It's literally the only one I've ever had.

Their clothes are so, they are so cute, they're great. They've got accessories and they've got like stuff for like your home and your room and stuff too. Like I bought a pillow for Justin on ModCloth that was shaped like a whale, but then it transformed into one of those neck pillows for the plane so it's both a little pillow and neck pillow. Anyway, they have all kinds of great stuff.

**Raleigh:**

Very nice.

**Taylor:**

I feel like we also emphasize dresses with pockets and that's—

**Sydnee:**

Yes.



**Raleigh:**

Cute.

**Taylor:**

That's the best thing about any dress ever.

**Sydnee:**

So we are, so ModCloth is the fun, friendly spot for style that's as expressive and unique as you and something to consider, summers on the horizon, so pack your bags and hit the road in ModCloth's newest collection. Discover every dress under the sun, whether it's a chic shift or a must have maxi. Their signature label comes in a full size range from extra extra small to 4XL and I can't just, I can't say enough nice things about— I love it. I have so many clothes from ModCloth, long before they were a sponsor, we were all fans.

**Raleigh:**

I have them all the way from fancy dresses to comfy sweaters. I got all those things.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah, everything. I even found clothes on there that weren't maternity clothes but they were like kind of like, like meant to be longer, looser, flowy clothes that I was able to wear through pregnancy.

**Raleigh:**

That's great.

**Sydnee:**

So, and I can still wear them, which is cool. So anyway if you want to check out ModCloth, Raleigh, can you tell our listeners what to do?

**Raleigh:**

If you want 15% off your purchase of \$100 or more, which is a great deal, go to [modcloth.com](http://modcloth.com), that's MODCLOTH.COM and enter the code 'stillbuffering' at checkout, and you better hurry because this offer expires on April 21st, which is in just about a month. So use the code 'stillbuffering' at checkout for 15% off your purchase of \$100 or more and that's it. [Modcloth.com](http://Modcloth.com)

**Sydnee:**

All right, and our second sponsor we want to tell you about this week, we've mentioned before, is Hello Fresh. Hello Fresh is the meal kit delivery service that delivers your favorite recipes and pre measured ingredients so you can just cook, eat and enjoy and it really is a great service. We've all checked out Hello Fresh. Raleigh, are you finally learning how to cook now?

**Raleigh:**

Finally. I was at a point in my life for a long time where I could only cook mac and cheese and ramen and only somewhat, and now I know how to be a professional chef basically because of Hello Fresh.

**Sydnee:**

Ah, maybe not amateur.

**Raleigh:**

Basically, basically.

**Sydnee:**

All the ingredients come premeasured in handy labeled meal kits so you know which ingredients go with which recipe and there are three plans to choose from, classic, veggie and family and Teylor can vouch for the veggie plan.

**Taylor:**

So good, so many veggies.

**Sydnee:**

Beautiful avacadoes. Hello Fresh makes it easy to cook delicious balanced dinners for less than \$10 a meal and recipes only take around thirty minutes. Try things you never think to cook on your own and enjoy eating outside of your comfort zone. So, if our listeners want to check out this product, what should they do, Tey?

**Taylor:**

Well, you can get \$30 off your first week of Hello Fresh. Just go to [hellofresh.com](https://hellofresh.com) and enter the promo code 'still buffering 30'. So still buffering three zero, gets you \$30 off your first week and you can get cooking, like literally.

**Sydnee:**

Speaking of that, that would be a great way to flirt with somebody, cook for them, or bake for them because if you're not, like cooking for them like, they're coming to your house or something and you're on a date, like you've

obviously flirted to success but if you like bake something that you can bring to them. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

You don't just bring them a meatloaf at school. Is that not flirting?

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] "Hello. I have brought you a processed hunk of meat. I have interest in you physically." [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Well, I mean, if meatloaf is something that you really love and you have shared that love with this person, perhaps.

**Sydnee:**

See what, I don't know, like I'm clueless on this. How much of a part does meat play in flirting because there was this kid, I would give him my health class homework to copy and in return he'd give be deer jerky back in high school. Was he flirting or was he just paying me for my homework job? He was paying me for my homework job, wasn't he?

**Taylor:**

I think so. I think that was just an exchange of goods and services. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Okay.

**Taylor:**

That was just bartering. [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I think so.

**Taylor:**

That wasn't flirting.

**Sydnee:**

I just didn't know, like maybe I missed the signal. The signal was meat. I don't know.

**Taylor:**

No, I don't think it has to be meat. I think, I was watching, because I watch a lot of reruns these days, I was watching a re run of Parks and Rec, and the first, when Leslie's sick and Ben brings her chicken soup, and they're not dating or anything yet, but he brings her chicken noodle soup and he also brings her waffles from JJ's Diner because he knows that she loves waffles, and that's a good example of food based flirting.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. That is good.

**Taylor:**

Because it's like one thing is home made, and that comes from the heart and the other thing indicates that he listened and paid attention to things that she loved.

**Raleigh:**

So okay, I have another example of something I didn't think was flirting. Now thinking back, it fits this mold very well that I completely missed. I was at a tech rehearsal over the summer and as you all know who have done theater, and any of you know who have done theater, tech rehearsals can be very long and very exhausting and you can end up at a theater for like eight hours, until like 11:30 and you can go without eating because you can't eat in costume of course. So it was like 11 o'clock at night and we were outside and it was hot and I hadn't eaten dinner and I was texting my friend who I ended up dating and I was like, "Man, I haven't eaten dinner. It's so hot out here, I'm exhausted. I can't wait to go home and like eat and go to sleep."

He was like, "Oh, do you want food?" and I was like, "No, I'm okay, don't worry about it." I thought he was just like, kidding, and then I had to go on stage and do my last scene, and then I go back to my phone and he's like, "Hey, I didn't know what you wanted but I remembered you liked Wendy's so I got you something I think you'll like. I left it at the top of the gate." It was very nice and he left me food which was good because you know, foods the way to any persons' heart.

**Taylor:**

[laughs] See, that's definitely flirting.

**Raleigh:**

I realize that now. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

But I don't know, and I mean, you know, I realize like I don't really pursue a lot of relationships, like that's not my game. I feel like a lot of this stuff is also chalked up as just being a good friend. Like when I'm out and if I see like that weird Japanese candy that my buddy likes, like I pick it up, be like, "Hey I got this for you." That's definitely not flirting.

**Raleigh:**

That's true.

**Taylor:**

So I don't know. Like, you know, I think yes, it can be, but I also think like a lot of this stuff overlaps with like being a good friend, paying attention to each other's needs, like yada yada.

**Sydnee:**

No, I think you're absolutely right because I think these are, I mean I think a friendship is a foundation of a good relationship in that regard.

**Taylor:**

True.

**Sydnee:**

So, but what I would say is like, if this example was somebody that you had met more recently, that you didn't know very well, that you had not established a friendship with, this would be a lot more likely to be flirtatious.

**Raleigh:**

That's what I was thinking. It's a lot harder to tell when it's someone like, for me, who I've been friends with for four years and you've like done stuff with them before and gotten stuff for them before and you know them very well as if, not like if it were someone who you'd just met, or you had only been friends with for a few weeks.

**Sydnee:**

And I think other things like wanting to share things with another person like, like we've talked about like music that you really like, or movies that you really like, like you know, I think one of the earliest things that Justin and I knew about each other, way back when we dated, quote unquote dated, when we were kids, was he knew my favorite movie was The Princess Bride and I knew his was Wayne's World and we both expressed an interest in watching them together. That kind of like, and that was even before we were dating, so like wanting to like share experiences that are meaningful to

you, extending that really quickly, is a good flirt, that's a good flirt sign.  
[laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. I think—

**Sydnee:**

That's something you do when you're flirting.

**Raleigh:**

I think another good kind of similar example of that, is with music because I know that like, I'm really into musicals and show tunes and my boyfriend is not. Originally, he was not. He's very into like, popular music but I was like, "Hey, you should watch this movie with me," not telling him that *The Last Five Years* was entirely a musical. [laughs] So we watched it and now I've gotten him to listen to *Hamilton* and then *The Heights* and *The Last Five Years* and he loves all of them, but I've also listened to his music in return so it's like we swapped musics back and forth and share those with each other.

**Sydnee:**

No, Raleigh, now your generation lives in the future.

**Raleigh:**

Right.

**Sydnee:**

For us exchanging like a mix CD was a pretty solid like, "I'm probably flirting with you," kind of move. Are there modern equivalents to that?

**Raleigh:**

I feel like now, because that's so like, I mean I'm not saying people don't make mix tapes for each other anymore, or make CD's, because you definitely could but I feel like it's a thing you'd only do if you were actually dating someone because it would take so much more effort now.

**Taylor:**

[laughs]. You'd have to go buy a disc drive, buying the CD.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, like it would take a lot more work now that it would probably only be for somebody you were already like, dating or in a relationship with. I mean

you can make like, a playlist for someone on like Spotify or Apple music and share it with them.

**Taylor:**

Do people do that?

**Raleigh:**

Um, I mean, there, there was that meme going around for a while that was like, when you tell your crush you like them through a Spotify playlist and like they made songs in order that like made out a sentence, like the song titles did—

**Taylor:**

[laughs]. That's a very literal use. So it's not like the music tells, sends the message. It's like, look at the first letter of these song titles.

**Raleigh:**

You could do that as well, I guess.

**Sydnee:**

You kind of need to make sure both bases are covered.

**Raleigh:**

I mean there also is like the less preferable modern day equivalent where you're like, "Hey, here's my sound cloud name. Check out my original beat. I'm a rapper."

**Sydnee:**

[laughs]. Wait, see I don't think that's as meaningful as the, as all the work you'd have to put in to like, a mix tape.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah, oh I agree.

**Sydnee:**

I would, I remember making a mix tape that also included, because like we had a karaoke machine, and I recorded myself talking.

**Taylor:**

No.

**Raleigh:**

No, you didn't.

**Sydnee:**

Not singing, but like, talking on it like, interlude like, I don't want to say his name. This is so long ago [laughs], "Hey it's me. I just wanted to say that ah, I care about you so much and I'm thinking about you and this next song really expresses how I feel." [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Can you imagine if like they put it on in the car with like their friend, they're like, just like, "I'm just going to pop in some music really quick," like not saying who it's from, and then the song ends and they're sitting there in silence like, "Man, that was a good song," and then it's Sydnee's voice, like, "Hey, hey baby. Just wanted to let you know that this song really reminds me of you and whenever I hear it, I just can't help but smile. I hope you're having a good day."

**Sydnee:**

No, I totally did that. Totally did that.

**Raleigh:**

And their friends just like, "Aw." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Well that was very exciting to not only be able to like put together all the songs you like on a tape to give to somebody but to also record your voice on there. It was very exciting at the time. [laughs] But that, yeah, that was a, that was a dead giveaway, making, I think, I mean making somebody for someone, making something for somebody that you're not, I mean it's not a holiday, it's not their birthday, and you're not already good friends with. That's like a dead give away, right?

**Raleigh:**

No, yes, but I also do think that if you're friends with someone already and like their birthday rolls around or Christmas rolls around or another holiday where like you would get them a gift, and like you go out of your way to get them something very like, special or something that you made, or something like, it's Valentine's day and you get them like an extra cute like card or something—

**Sydnee:**



That's, that's, I was going to say, you're talking about like the Valentine's day move, where you give the Valentine that's the most suggestive to the kid you like.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah. Like in Elementary school when you give them an extra sticker.

**Sydnee:**

Right. You know I think I'm actually learning something from all of this.  
[laughs]

**Taylor:**

What's that?

**Sydnee:**

I told you I was good at this. No, but it's a little late in life to learn but I think anything that I've ever done to mildly show affection is always so safe that it can easily, a hundred percent be written off as a friend thing, a normal thing, a helpful thing, and I guess what everything that you're saying, flirtation involves a little bit of showing your hand. You have to, you have to put something out there that is clearly a risk, like you know you're not just, just like, "Oh, I'm a friend," like why would you think that. You've got to do something that maybe can clearly be construed as "I'm interested in you."

**Taylor:**

Yeah, you do. I mean you don't have to go like full Samantha from Sex and the City on people, like.

**Raleigh:**

What does that mean?

**Taylor:**

Have you ever seen Sex and the City?

**Sydnee:**

Oh we, no, I was due to say oh we should watch that as a re watch but no, it's, it's garbage TV.

**Taylor:**

[laughs].

**Sydnee:**

It really doesn't age well.

**Taylor:**

Have you all, have you seen the, have you seen the movie? [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

I mean no but like even the content of the episodes—

**Raleigh:**

Have you?

**Taylor:**

The second one.

**Sydnee:**

Like, like, what, like four outdated ladies with terrible views. I would love for it— I remember it being so revolutionary but now it's like, "Nah, you're terrible people."

**Taylor:**

We've definitely evolved past that.

**Raleigh:**

But have you heard the conspiracy theory?

**Taylor:**

Oh no, here we go. I didn't know there was a conspiracy theory.

**Sydnee:**

Raleigh's conspiracy quarter. Here we go.. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Oh I like that theme song.

**Taylor:**

That's what teens, teens are all about conspiracy theories now.

**Raleigh:**

They're very interesting. Um, have you heard of the Mandela effect?

**Taylor:**

Yes.

**Sydnee:**

What?

**Raleigh:**

It's basically, long story short, it's like an overarching conspiracy theory that covers many specific things, where you remember something from a long time ago as one way, and then you look at it now and realize it was completely different.

**Taylor:**

That's like the Berenstain bear thing.

**Sydnee:**

Yes, yes, I see what you're saying.

**Raleigh:**

Like the Berenstain bears where they actually Berenstain bears. Is Sex and the City sex 'in' the city, or sex 'and' the city?

**Taylor:**

Sex and the City.

**Sydnee:**

Yes, Sex and the City.

**Raleigh:**

Because hold on. I don't remember which one it actually is but there is merchandise, like for example Sydnee, we were on a cruise a year ago and while I was in the room with Charlie one night I was looking through the TV guide of TV shows you can purchase and movies you can purchase and it is, I took a picture of it because I just watched this conspiracy theory video, it is listed as Sex 'in' the City, and not 'and' the city.

**Sydnee:**

Ha, well that's probably because a lot of people pronounce it as 'n', like Sex 'n' the City.

**Taylor:**

Sex 'n' the City, yeah, but it's got to be 'and'.

**Raleigh:**

It is actually 'and'.

**Taylor:**

Okay.

**Raleigh:**

It is actually, 'and', but there is merchandise that people have like, official merchandise from Forever Good that says, 'in'. There are things like that, that say 'in'. People are like, "We're in an alternate universe where a long time ago it was 'in', and now it is 'and'." So yeah.

**Taylor:**

Well, I don't, I mean, I cannot say I watched a lot of —

**Sydnee:**

There's that.

**Raleigh:**

So, there's that. [laughing]

**Taylor:**

I cannot say I watched a lot of Sex and the City.

**Raleigh:**

But what, what does Samantha do?

**Taylor:**

She's the one that like, dates lots of guys. Actually, lots of people, I should say.

**Raleigh:**

I see.

**Taylor:**

And is a lot more sexually outgoing, than the other. Like her flirting is the, it's, it's beyond flirting.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I think you just kind of walk up to somebody and say like, "I'm going to make out with you now," and then they go "Okay," and then you make out with somebody and that's, that's what Samantha would do.

**Raleigh:**

I feel like there's always that one character in every TV show, like not every TV show, but every like comedy or like romance TV show, that like is just like always flirting and very good at flirting.

**Sydnee:**

Right, and how, well, and I mean she took it to the level of like lots of innuendo and you know—

**Raleigh:**

Yeah but I even mean like—

**Sydnee:**

I don't necessarily think that, that's the goal for all flirting.

**Raleigh:**

I mean like high school, middle school TV shows where there's always like the one girl or the one guy that like is always flirting with every other person somehow subtly but also like obviously. I don't know.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

And I also, just you know, as an aside to all this I do want to say, and this is not in my defense, this is just being realistic, a big reason why I was never very good at it, and never very receptive to it, is because most of the time it wasn't a priority. I think that we're taught that you know, flirting is, you should always want a partner and so like anybody interested you should have this down with, like I don't know, I feel like I sort of speak up for the people that maybe like, I never was good at it because I never cared about it so maybe there is that too where it's like I don't, you know, I was always against the notion that I had to be seeking a romantic partner at all times through my teenage and adult years. So to me like, even if I did pick up on it, I would kind of ignore it because like, "Well, but I don't want that so, finger guns." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

But I think that's fine. I think it gets to the core of like what we talked about. I think flirting is fun, or at least I have in the past.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I found it enjoyable. Like I'm sure my brain chemistry was happy in response. Like the feelings I was getting from the attention I got from flirting and from flirting with someone and feeling that they were reciprocated or that they were appreciating that attention, that gave me good feelings and I enjoyed it and so I engaged in it more often. If you don't receive that, obviously you shouldn't because as we talked about, I don't think you have to, first of all, you don't have to do anything. You don't have to flirt and you don't have to be in a relationship and even if you want a relationship, you don't have to flirt to get there.

**Raleigh:**

Right, you definitely don't. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

Just walk up and be like, "I like you. Would you like to like me too?" and then if you're me, you'll go "Yes, yeah, I think so."

**Raleigh:**

I think I have decided I am neutral in the sense that I only enjoy flirting when I am already dating the person [laughs] because then there's no worry of like—

**Sydnee:**

Exactly.

**Raleigh:**

Oh they were just being nice.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah. One hundred percent secure.

**Raleigh:**

Oh they didn't understand what I was saying. Like I enjoy it when I'm already with someone because like, "Oh this is fun," and it's like, you know like we're being like cute and we're in public, and we're not being like gross.

**Sydnee:**

I think though that one thing to keep in mind if you're ever like in a situation where you want to kind of like put yourself out there, or indicate subtly or maybe not so subtly kind of how you feel and see like, show your hand a little bit, see if somebody reciprocates those feelings, one, I don't think you should, I think you should go for it if you want to, two, I think that you shouldn't always assume they're going to take your flirting as like, "Oh my gosh. They're trying to date me."

**Raleigh:**

Right.

**Sydnee:**

Like there's a lot of flirting that takes place that's just that. So I think that if you're confident about whatever you say or do and then move forward and don't sit there like waiting like, "Now what do you say?" [laughs] "Where's my mix tape?"

**Raleigh:**

"What do you say? What do you think?"

**Sydnee:**

Then I, I, sometimes it's just like oh well, that was a playful social interaction that we both enjoyed and then you move on and nobody's sitting there thinking like, "I can't believe you said that," within reason. Obviously like there are probably limits to the—

**Taylor:**

No, that's one direction and I think in the opposite direction if you are the person doing the flirting and you know you are not getting reciprocation, sure maybe the person is shy or coy or oblivious, also always be respectful of the person. If you care enough to flirt with them you should care enough to read their signals and see if they're very clearly saying like, "Ah, not, please don't do this to me," because you know when you're being flirted with and your super not interested, for some people it can be really uncomfortable.

**Sydnee:**

Yeah if you, I mean, if you are flirting with somebody as a way to demonstrate that you're interested and you have, you see like message received, not reciprocated [laughs], what could you possibly gain from flirting more? Why would you continue that? Obviously you should not.

**Raleigh:**

Right.

**Sydnee:**

And I think it goes without, we've touched on a couple of things, I think it goes without saying like, that maybe we should say it anyway, every time somebody smiles at you, they're not flirting with you.. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

That's true.

**Sydnee:**

I feel like sometimes as a woman, I need to say that. I smiled and was polite to you because that's, that's normal social behavior, you know.

**Taylor:**

I work in the service industry where smiling is part of my job. Being overly friendly is part of my job and I've had so many people take it the wrong way, like assume that they can then take it to, like say things or, or suggest things and I'm like, "No, no, no. I am like, asking you if you want more coca cola. That is not a come on." [laughs]

**Sydnee:**

Yes. Yeah and I think, I think that um, it would not be honest to say that people who take advantage of those situations, or who abuse that situation in order to try to like, hit on you or make you feel uncomfortable, I do not feel that they are misreading signals as they may claim.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

You know what I mean? I think if the waitress smiles at you like a normal human thinks, "What a polite human," not, "Ah, she digs me." [laughs] You know, I mean like that's not, that's in your head. That's a thing you've got to deal with. If that's your route every time somebody smiles at you, if you automatically think that they are you know, trying to get with you, you need to re—evaluate some things.. [laughs]



**Taylor:**

Fair point. Fair point.

**Raleigh:**

That's true.

**Sydnee:**

Does that make sense?

**Taylor:**

All aspects of flirting covered here, like [laughs], how to accept when your flirting has failed horribly and you need to pull back.

**Sydnee:**

And I think that if somebody is flirting with you and you're not into them on the flip side you can just like be polite and not flirt back and that should end that.

**Taylor:**

You'd think. You wouldn't think you'd have to say anything further but—

**Sydnee:**

No, if it does not end it then you have every right to remove yourself from the situation however you know, blatantly that requires.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

I think we covered all sides of that.

**Taylor:**

But, oh I think so. Let's say like on a goofy note, like if you could send, what is the, what is the most flirtatious emoji that you could send?

**Sydnee:**

The wink. The winky.

**Taylor:**

The winky face?

**Sydnee:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

What do you think Raleigh?

**Raleigh:**

The peach.

**Sydnee:**

Oh, the peach.

**Raleigh:**

It's a butt.

**Sydnee:**

That's how you flirt with people, you send them a picture of your butt?

**Raleigh:**

[laughing] No, it's a peach. It's not a picture of your butt.

**Sydnee:**

But it is, it represents your butt.

**Raleigh:**

Maybe you're saying you like their butt.

**Sydnee:**

It's, but it's metaphorically your butt.

**Raleigh:**

But also it's shaped like a heart.

**Sydnee:**

But it's, it's also a butt. Yeah, it's a butt. What's your vote Tey?

**Taylor:**

I mean, I don't think I have a good answer. I think I like the cat faces because I feel like they're slightly more flirtatious than the regular faces. I realize that this is once again my problem here [laughing].

**Sydnee:**

This is what, this is why no one ever knows you're flirting Teylor. No one knows—

**Taylor:**

I send a, I send a picture of a cat, oh God. [laughing] No wonder I'm alone. [laughing]

**Sydnee:**

No one is looking at that cat and thinking, "Yeah, she's into me."

**Taylor:**

Oh, she really likes cats. I mean, don't be wrong, she talked about them the whole time we were interacting [laughing].

**Sydnee:**

Um, does the, is the ellipses flirting? This is my last question.

**Raleigh:**

In what context?

**Sydnee:**

If you, I mean—

**Raleigh:**

Because sometimes it's like passive aggressive and sometimes it's sad and mad.

**Sydnee:**

Oh gosh.

**Raleigh:**

Sometimes you use it in a paper when you're trying to cite something and you want to take a break in between phrases.

**Sydnee:**

Okay. Well that's more complicated.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Taylor:**

I still don't fully understand the concept of the upside-down smiley face.

**Sydnee:**

I don't know what that means at all.

**Raleigh:**

I do, but it's explained with a facial expression, not words.

**Taylor:**

What?

**Sydnee:**

[laughs] So, it's a facial expression—

**Taylor:**

You're beyond—

**Sydnee:**

That can only be explained by another facial expression?

**Raleigh:**

Yes, but obviously you kind of literally turn your face upside down.

**Sydnee:**

This is, so we've got, we've moved beyond verbal communication on this podcast, so I guess we've binned it. [laughing] Good luck figuring that one out guys.

**Raleigh:**

We communicate on a plane purely of facial expression.

**Sydnee:**

[laughing] So that's the next, that's the future of flirting in case you're interested.

**Taylor:**

But, but—

**Sydnee:**

That's where it lies.

**Taylor:**

But not actual facial expressions. Facial expressions assumed from emoji facial expressions, right?

**Sydnee:**

That are different.

**Taylor:**

Right. Aw man. [laughing]

**Raleigh:**

You're welcome everybody.

**Sydnee:**

Good luck teens.

**Taylor:**

What [laughing].

**Sydnee:**

Take my advice. Make a mix tape [laughing] and do the, and the flirt and the smile with the eyes, the flick the side and then look through the eyes and then the smile.

**Raleigh:**

Look through your eyes? [laughing]

**Sydnee:**

Well look through like the side of them and then that's what—

**Raleigh:**

[Laughing] I didn't know that's where you're supposed to look.

**Sydnee:**

I've got to go to bed. [laughing] Offer to be their wing man. It's a great move. Trust me.

**Raleigh:**

Use finger guns.

**Sydnee:**

Talk about cats a lot. [laughing]

**Taylor:**

Oh no. No. Ah, thank you sisters for your expertise on human interaction. Once again. [laughs]

**Raleigh:**

Well we're best at it.

**Sydnee:**

Boy, I hope we answered your question. But we did it. [laughs] What we want you to know is that um, if you're in the dark about flirting, most of us are too.

**Taylor:**

There you go.

**Sydnee:**

Make any, literally make anything up that you know, anything and you can get away with it because no one knows.

**Taylor:**

Yeah.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Just don't like scream in their face, that's all I know, I think. I don't know. [laughs]

**Taylor:**

If you do it with confidence they'll stay.

**Sydnee:**

Just do it like, do it like Samantha from Sex and the City, and scream in their face.

**Taylor:**

Well, that's not true, put the, pump the brakes on that one.

**Raleigh:**

Yeah.

**Sydnee:**

Thank you to our listeners. Thank you to the Maximum Fun network for hosting us. You can check out a lot of other great shows at [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org). You can email us. If you have, uh this was great, a show suggestion, like a topic or a question or thoughts or anything, you can do so at [stillbuffering@maximumfun.org](mailto:stillbuffering@maximumfun.org) and we will talk about it if we can and uh, you can tweet it us at still buff and that's, thank you to the Novellas. [laughs] I'm going through all the things, I got to say thank you to the Novellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

**Raleigh:**

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

**Sydnee:**

I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:**

And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Raleigh:**

I am a teenager.

**Sydnee:**

[laughing] This kid changed the tagline.

**Raleigh:**

[laughing]

**Sydnee:**

What? Excuse me. Try that again.

**Raleigh:**

I am a teenager... [laughing]

**Sydnee:**

And I was too.

**Taylor:**

And I was too.

**Raleigh:**

I don't know what happened there, guys.

**Sydney:**

You forgot, there are literally like two lines that we have to say on this.

[theme music plays]

**Allie:**

Hi, I'm Allie Goertz.

**Julia:**

And I'm Julia Prescott. And we're the hosts of Everything's Coming Up Simpson's. Every episode we cover a different episode of the Simpsons, um, that is a favorite of our special guest.

**Allie:**

We've had guests that are showrunners and writers and voice actors, like Nancy Cartright.

**Nancy:**

I got a D minus, I passed!

**Allie:**

And we've also had people that are on the Max Fun network already.

**Speaker 1:**

Homer wearing that golf outfit is so funny. And there's— when he gets super into golf, he's wearing the golf hat in bed [laughs]

**Julia:**

We've had Weird Al Yankovich on the show.

**Weird Al:**

I was just, uh, struck by how sharp the writing is. I mean that's no surprise because it's the Simpsons, but I mean, like, you can't say that about a lot of TV shows. Particularly ones that, at that point, had been on the air for 14 years.

**Allie:**



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