#### Wonderful! 319: Gus Belt's Beef Barrel

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[theme music, "Money Won't Pay (feat. Augustus)" by Bo En plays]

**Rachel**: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

**Griffin**: Hi, this is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is Wonderful!

Griffin: I just ran up the stairs. This is-

Rachel: You got so many splats?

**Griffin**: I just got so many splats just running up the stairs.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: And this is Wonderful, a show where we talk about things we like that are good, that we are into. And I'm really out of—I'm genuinely pretty tuckered.

Rachel: Yeah, do you want me to start with my-

**Griffin**: Yeah, just throw it on your back—throw this—

Rachel: Small wonder?

**Griffin**: I mean, yeah! I would love to get just a running start into this bad boy.

Rachel: It's my birthday!

Griffin: Oh, yeah, it is!

Rachel: Say uh-oh.

Griffin: Uh-oh!

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Whoops. Just kidding.

**Rachel**: Now, it is very easy I think to remember my birthday, because now it is the day before Little Sons.

**Griffin**: How rude of him, by the way.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: To do that. I mean, it was-

Rachel: We did know.

**Griffin**: It was a scheduled sort of arrival, so there was a, I don't know, not foresight, it's just how things turned out, man.

Rachel: It's just how things worked out.

Griffin: Life finds a way sometimes.

Rachel: When we made love ...

Griffin: Wow!

**Rachel**: For the upcoming sun.

Griffin: For the second time. [titters]

**Rachel**: [chuckles] Anyway, I'm happy to be celebrating today. You know, one more year on this big Earth of ours. You know?

Griffin: This big, wonderful world.

Rachel: Just lucky to be here.

**Griffin**: Sure. I'm happy to have you. It's genuinely great that you were born.

Rachel: Thank you.

Griffin: Fantastic.

Rachel: What's your small wonder?

**Griffin**: I mean, Stardew Valley one.six. A new update came out. It's been very fun dipping back in. I haven't played it in a while.

**Rachel**: I made the mistake of watching your stream with Travis as my introduction.

Griffin: Don't do that, no, yeah.

Rachel: And it was very difficult to tell if any of it was actually new.

**Griffin**: No, very little of it was true. Travis and I did a stream for the MaxFunDrive. Which, by the way, thank you all so, so much.

Rachel: Yes, thank you guys! It was incredible for us.

**Griffin**: Incredible. Yes. We did a stream showing off Stardew Valley and said it was one.six. But really, Travis had downloaded like 50 mods and the game was unrecognizable. There were Pokémon everywhere. It was silly.

But I've been playing a more vanilla one.six Stardew experience, and it's cool. There's some new festivals and like stuff that is obviously like, whoa, that's big and new. But for the most part, it's just like little stuff here and there. Like I was playing last night and I woke up one morning and it was green. Everything was green, there was like a green fog everywhere. And you go outside and it's raining green rain. And it's causing like wild overgrowth everywhere.

And like, I don't know, I've played Stardew Valley so much that something like that is so like... such a seismic sort of like shift.

Rachel: Yeah!

**Griffin**: And so, it's exciting. I love that game so much. It is very cool to dive back in and see all this new stuff. I go first this week. [sings] I'm gonna talk about parrots!

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: I feel like I personally have come a long way on this subject, because I have never been like a huge bird guy.

**Rachel**: Yeah, I mean, let's face it. There are a lot of birds out there that aren't great.

Griffin: [laughs] Wow, okay. Wow.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: I wouldn't go that far.

**Rachel**: I mean, I would also say there's a lot of people out there that aren't great. So I'm not necessarily—

Griffin: So just a lot of sentient beings out there—

**Rachel**: That I don't enjoy personally.

Griffin: Yeah. Sure.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: Since I have become sort of more of an active user of like Instagram and TikTok—

Rachel: Oh, I thought you were gonna say of parrots. [laughs]

**Griffin**: Now that I've become an active parrot user, now that I use—how does one use a parrot?

Rachel: I mean...

**Griffin**: For hunting? Like a falcon, you send it off.

Rachel: Yeah. If you're going to a Margaritaville restaurant.

Griffin: Yes!

Rachel: You could use a parrot to get in.

**Griffin**: Parrots eat free at Margarita restaurants, not a lot of people know that.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: I have been getting a lot more pet bird content on these videobased social media channels.

#### Rachel: Okay?

**Griffin**: And it has really turned me around on these little guys. I think they're just spectacular. It is kind of a touchy subject because parrots in particular have been like hunted to the point of putting like a lot of species of parrots on the endangered species list.

#### Rachel: Wow?

**Griffin**: Mostly hunted for like you know, breeding and sale. And you know, it is a real issue, because they're also one of the most abandoned pets. Because a lot of people get them expecting a fuckin' Furby. And what they actually get is a temperamental, pretty big bird with a pretty big-ass, sharp beak.

Rachel: And sometimes very loud. [chuckles]

**Griffin**: Always! I will say this. Always very loud. Even the good ones are extremely, extremely loud. So there are a lot of parrot and other sort of like pet bird rescue organizations that take a lot of these abandoned birds in. And a lot of the like you know, social media channels I feel like that I have seen usually work with those organizations.

Taking care of a parrot is, from what I have gathered, like, really, really hard work. And like most of the ones who are born and raised in captivity like can't take care of themselves you know, out in the wild. And so you know, they have their work cut out for them. But parrots, I will say objectively, all that aside, kind of rule. They look amazing. I feel like you forget about that.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: You see a parrot like IRL and it's like, whoa! Like there are so many colors sometimes.

Rachel: Uh-huh.

**Griffin**: The classic red and blue and white, I don't know what that is, a macaw? With like a little—maybe there's some green or orange mixed in there. Just a kaleidoscope of feathers and colors.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: It's always very, very exciting. I love seeing a colorful bird. And I mean, that's all I have to say about that!

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: But man, when they talk and they sound like just a creaky, old human being?

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: It's magnific.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: It's remarkable every time. Most parrot species can mimic talking, but there's a handful of them that seem to do it like a lot. One of the parrots that I feel like I've seen the most on Instagram is named Gizmo. Gizmo, the gray bird. He is an African grey parrot, which is a species that is one of a handful that is a real fuckin' chatterbox.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: And that is Gizmo to a tee. I'm gonna play a clip of some of some of Gizmo talking. Just so people can get a vibe for like what this bird's whole deal is.

[clip starts]

**Gizmo**: Who let the birds out? Chirp.

Lady: I let the birds out. Come on.

**Gizmo**: You want a stachio? No. [kissing sound] I'm Gizmo! Peek-a-boo.

Lady: I see you.

Gizmo: Peek-a-boo!

Lady: [chuckles] I see you.

**Gizmo**: Give us a kiss.

Lady: Mwa.

Gizmo: [kissing sound] Goodbye!

Lady: See you.

Gizmo: God damn it.

Lady: Sorry.

Gizmo: I don't care.

Lady: Whatcha doin'? Wanna stachio?

[clip ends]

**Griffin**: I only had a chance to show you a little bit of Gizmo before we started recording. I will send you some more Gizmo videos after this.

Rachel: Please.

**Griffin**: Because he says a lot of stuff and it's really, really very, very good every time. Watching videos like this, of Gizmo the gray bird and other similar parrots, I cannot help but wonder if parrots are getting better at talking. Or if I just like didn't know that they could do it as good as—

**Rachel**: [chuckles] Well, I mean, if you think about when we grew up, it wasn't like you could watch videos of parrots all the time.

**Griffin**: That's a really good point, babe.

**Rachel**: So maybe now it's just better access to the parrots that have always been there.

**Griffin**: Yeah. I remember there's like an old YouTube video from like 14 years ago of a cockatiel. You know, singing or whistling Final Fantasy music. And I remember being like, wow, that's so cool. I don't want one.

Rachel: Yeah, no.

**Griffin**: I would never—I would not—you would have to—the amount of time you have to dedicate to taking care of a bird like that is so far outside of the scope of what is capable in my life. And also I think is kind of tragic. I have engineered a whole career that is pretty strictly anti loud bird in my house.

Rachel: Yes. True.

**Griffin**: Can't have it. Just can't. Just simply can't have it. Which is heartbreaking.

Rachel: [titters] Uh-huh.

Griffin: So parrots... parents don't understand.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: But parrots are able to use human speech in correct ways sometimes. Like in context, able to respond to a question or some sort of external stimuli correctly. But not always, right? It is a very sort of like loose contextual association that birds are able to make, right?

So a lot of birds are—Gizmo does a really good thing where he simulates the sound of water like pouring to tell he wants water, right? Because that's like an easy association for a bird of like, well, when I make this sound, the water can happen. Or when a parrot sees its owner, they will you know, sometimes say like, [in a bird voice] hello! Like if they are trained to say that word, then they have this association of like, that's what I say when the person enters the room.

Rachel: Or when I sing Who Let the Dogs Out, the party gets started.

**Griffin**: When I sing Who Let the Birds Out, chirp, chirp, chirp, chirp. Yeah, that means that it's time to—that means it's time to fuckin' party.

Rachel: Oh, was he saying birds?

Griffin: Yeah, who let the birds out.

Rachel: Oh, I didn't even notice that, wow.

Griffin: Yeah. It's really nice.

Rachel: Incredible.

**Griffin**: It's wild to me that they are able to kind of like associate this stuff and then say human speech to like get the thing they want or respond in some way to something they see or hear. In my mind, it's kind of better when they don't get it right. Like it's kind of better when they just sort of just do some free association, just word jazz. Gizmo in particular, I saw a lot of clips where someone would ask him a question and he would just respond with, "Wanna stachio?"

# Rachel: [laughs]

**Griffin**: This bird loves pistachios so much. And it's really good when he's like, "Hello." And they're like, "Hello. How's your day?" "Wanna stachio?"

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: It's so right every single time. So I was curious, like why does this happen? How does this happen? Why do they talk? How is it possible?

**Rachel**: And then you found out nobody knows. And that's the end of this segment. [titters]

**Griffin**: Kind of! I mean, so like... birds in the wild communicate through vocal you know, sounds. Right? Like most birds do this who are vocal because they—you know, a bird who is alone in the wild is not going to survive. They use speech to communicate when there is danger or predators about, or you know where food is, or to find a partner or whatever.

So, this is an excerpt from the National Audubon Society. "Any bird that's a vocal learner has a part of the brain devoted to this called the song system. But in parrots, the song system has two layers. An inner core, common to all avian vocal learners and an outer shell which is unique to parrots."

They think that this recently discovered shell is what allows parrots to be such expert mimickers, although they haven't figured out exactly how it works yet. So there's just like a different sort of physiology to parrot brains that allows them to like mimic human wordsRachel: That's wild.

**Griffin**: A like expertly as they do. So when a parrot is in a home, like it just kind of mimics human speech in an attempt to like fit in. Like it is just trying to mesh with its surroundings. And in the case of like a home where there are humans talking all the time, like that's the sound they hear and so that's what they are able to mimic.

This Audubon Society article went on to say that parrots appear to be like particularly adept at picking up sort of associated speech around excitement and commotion. So if they see like something startling happen and hear a human sound, they will begin to like pick that up really, really fast.

**Rachel**: Oh, that's why some parrots swear.

**Griffin**: That's why most parrots who can mimic vocal speech and do it like a lot, do cuss like sailors.

Rachel: [laughs]

**Griffin**: Including, I'm sorry to say, Gizmo, the great bird.

Rachel: Oh, no!

**Griffin**: Gizmo the grey bird has got a real potty beak.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: But yeah, that's really all I got to say about parrots. You know, it is a touchy subject, right? Because it is like a type of animal that is endangered in the wild, and has this whole sort of like pet industry around it that has been not great, right?

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: Because they will be marketed as like, you're gonna love these guys!

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: And not like these guys are loud and you need to really put a lot of effort into taking care of them.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: But there are a lot of people who kind of like step up to do that. And sometimes they put up TikToks of their birds singing Who Let the Dogs Out. And that's pretty good.

Rachel: Yes.

**Griffin**: Can I steal you away?

[theme music plays]

[ad read]

Griffin: [in a silly voice] What are you selling?

Rachel: Who's this guy?

Griffin: He's the... it's from... it's from Resident Evil. There's like a guy who-

Rachel: Oh, geez.

Griffin: Sells stuff to you sometimes.

Rachel: Oh, geez ...

**Griffin**: And he's like, [in a silly voice] "What are you selling?" He's pretty cool.

Rachel: Yeah... So that really wasn't for me then, I guess?

Griffin: I guess not, no.

**Rachel**: As much as our listeners maybe who share your proclivities. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, sure. I guess so.

**Rachel**: Okay, so what I'm going to talk about, and I apologize in advance, it is food related and that may make you hungry. And I am sorry about that.

Griffin: Uh-oh.

**Rachel**: I wanted to ask you though, because I don't think I know the answer to this. When you were a teen and you and your friends went to an eating establishment to just kind of hang out and be teens, where would you go?

Griffin: Applebee's?

Rachel: Oh, yeah?

**Griffin**: Yeah, is that okay? I've talked about Applebee's before so I hope that's not the heat you're about to bring.

Rachel: No. No, no, no.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Rachel: No, can you tell me like ... it was just the place? Like what was it-

**Griffin**: We didn't have a lot. [titters]

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Like there weren't a lot of restaurants in Huntington that were-

Rachel: I guess Bob Evans wasn't open in the evening?

Griffin: I mean, it was, but Bob Evans is a breakfast—

Rachel: Not a cool place for teens?

Griffin: No, not fucking even a little bit at all.

Rachel: [giggles]

Griffin: I mean, Applebee's wasn't also.

Rachel: But Applebee's had license plates on the wall. [chuckles]

**Griffin**: Yeah, but also like mad apps and zerts for like pretty cheap.

Rachel: Very true.

Griffin: So, yeah. So what were you thinking?

**Rachel**: I'm going to talk about Steak 'n Shake.

**Griffin**: Oh, shit, yes! We didn't have a Steak 'n Shake until like a couple of years before I left Huntington.

**Rachel**: Yeah. it's a Midwestern thing first and foremost. Although now it has spread all around the world, actually. And there are actually more in other locations than there are in the Midwest now.

#### Griffin: Okay.

**Rachel**: Which I will get to. Okay, so before Steak 'n Shake was opened, it was a combination gas station/chicken restaurant. Owned by a person named Gus Belt and his wife, Edith.

Griffin: Gus Belt?

Rachel: I know. How great is that?

Griffin: It's fucking good!

**Rachel**: Gus would take care of the cars while Edith gave out the food. All you can eat fried chicken with fries and coleslaw, it was only 45 cents. And you could add a beer for nine cents.

Griffin: [guffaws] That's such a ridiculous price for a beer!

Rachel: And also at a gas station. [laughs]

Griffin: A nine cent beer.

**Rachel**: Like come in, get boozed up and then go on your merry way in your vehicle. [titters]

**Griffin**: For \$one you could drink an outrageous, a profoundly dangerous amount of beer.

**Rachel**: I will say though, this was very early on in American history, or at least modern American history, because Steak 'n Shake was born shortly after in 1934.

**Griffin**: Holy shit!

Rachel: Isn't that wild?

**Griffin**: Did we have like a lot of steaks and/or shakes floating around during that era?

**Rachel**: So what happened, the whole reason Steak 'n Shake came about was during Prohibition. You know, you couldn't get the beer at the gas station. [titters]

**Griffin**: You couldn't get your nine cent beer anymore.

**Rachel**: So there were a lot of chicken joints in central Illinois, but there were not a lot of good hamburger stands. And so, Gus shifted his model to the Steak 'n Shake with the hamburgers.

Griffin: Okay, a wise choice.

**Rachel**: So here's something I didn't know, I should say like, Steak 'n Shake for me, that was like our go-to place.

Griffin: That's so interesting.

**Rachel**: Like post football games, if we didn't have anywhere to go, like that was the spot. If it was late at night, a lot of Steak 'n Shakes were open until midnight or 24 hours.

Griffin: That was your Alamo Freeze.

Rachel: For sure.

Griffin: Is that what it was called?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: In Friday Night Lights?

**Rachel**: Yeah. I mean, they also had Applebee's in Friday Night Lights. [laughs]

**Griffin**: That's true.

**Rachel**: But yeah. And I mean, obviously, hamburgers, shakes, good. The cheese fries?

Griffin: The cheese fries!

Rachel: [chuckles] All of this, perfect teen food.

Griffin: Their hamburgers are like squashed, right?

Rachel: Yes, yes.

Griffin: They're wafer thin and pretty crispy.

**Rachel**: Yeah, they get real crispy because they're so skinny.

**Griffin**: I love that shit.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: And I have like the potato buns styles that are like soft, chewy buns.

**Rachel**: I don't even remember the buns, if I'm honest.

**Griffin**: I'm having memory of Steak 'n Shake right now.

**Rachel**: [chuckles] Steak 'n Shake's slogan used to be, it may still be in some places, In sight, it must be right?

Griffin: In sight, it must be right?

**Rachel**: Yes. So what Gus used to do to make very clear that these were in fact steak burgers is he would wheel in a barrel of assorted steaks and start grinding them in house. Just on display.

**Griffin**: Now that's interesting.

**Rachel**: So just imagine a man coming in with a barrel full of meats. And just setting up shot and just showing you like, hey, this is what you're about to eat. This barrel of meat.

Griffin: This is Gus Belt's beef barrel.

Rachel: [laughs]

**Griffin**: And I'm about to grind it up! That would not be good for me. I don't think I would like that very much.

Rachel: Yes...

**Griffin**: I think ground meat is some of the gnarliest looking stuff ever. Until you cook it. And then it becomes amazing for me. For my senses.

**Rachel**: I will also say part of the motto suggested a kind of way to make customers certain that the food they were getting was being handled safely.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Rachel**: I don't know if you've noticed, but a lot of Steak 'n Shakes I've been to, and maybe all of them, have like the open kitchen.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Rachel**: And you can like see in there while they're cooking, that was apparently pretty brand new.

**Griffin**: I guess in the 1940s or whatever, that kind of quality control was more important than it is maybe now, when there's a lot of sort of oversight into many parts of the process.

**Rachel**: Well, yeah. And that's the suggestion in this. It was like a Mental Floss article I was reading. It was saying like before there were uniform health codes, they were pretty much low quality, like the hamburgers you would get. And so this was kind of ahead of its time in some way.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Rachel**: And I will say that, so there was a book written by a Steak 'n Shake CEO called Selling Steakburgers, that suggested that Gus Belt used to go through the restaurant's trash and return plates to see what the customers weren't eating. And he would use this to further hone the menu. [chuckles]

Griffin: I mean...

**Rachel**: Like, "People aren't eating this coleslaw, Edith. We should probably take it out of the menu."

Griffin: I mean, no one eats coleslaw.

Rachel: I think people eat coleslaw. But not by choice. [chuckles]

Griffin: No.

**Rachel**: So, Gus Belt died in 1954, he left Edith to run the company. Until 1969 when she sold her stake, ha-ha, in the restaurant.

Griffin: [titters]

**Rachel**: Which by then numbered 51 locations, for a cool 17 million. Way to go, Edith.

**Griffin**: That's pretty good for 1969 money.

**Rachel**: Yeah. So Steak 'n Shake... there are some places that don't have them, I don't know if this website I'm looking at is up to date, but Maryland, Oregon, Arizona, Wyoming, Guam, American Samoa, New Jersey, Washington State, Wisconsin and New York.

Griffin: Okay?

**Rachel**: As of this thing I'm looking at, did not have Steak 'n Shakes. Washington DC does have one steak and sake—Steak 'n Shake. [chuckles]

**Griffin**: Where?!

**Rachel**: It is in the Rayburn House Office Building. Which is where 169<sup>th</sup> House Representative's office. So it is in that building.

Griffin: That sucks. They get everything!

Rachel: [titters] I know!

Griffin: They get everything and we get nothing!

Rachel: And it just opened in 2019.

Griffin: Okay.

**Rachel**: And there's also one in like Fairfax, Virginia, but they aren't very popular around here. Do you know what state has the largest number of Steak 'n Shakes?

Griffin: I'm gonna guess Missouri?

Rachel: No.

Griffin: Oh, okay. No then.

**Rachel**: No, Missouri is actually fifth on the list. The number one location is Florida.

Griffin: Okay. Yes.

**Rachel**: Yeah. And then Illinois, where it started, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri. Yeah.

**Griffin**: There is a saying in our house, which we would use when dad would get like way too focused on a thing. And I think you've heard me talk about it before, where we would say like, dad's on the case.

Rachel: Yeah.

**Griffin**: If you said dad's on the case, it meant like don't—like just let him do—let him accomplish his mission.

Rachel: Yes.

**Griffin**: And this originated from a vacation we had where we were in Florida once. And mom really wanted to go to Steak 'n Shake because mom fucking loved Steak 'n Shake. Mom loved the milkshakes so much. And so dad was like, I'm going to make this dream come true for my wife and kids. I'm going to be impossible to be around in this automobile until we get there. **Rachel**: [laughs] Did you get there?

Griffin: I don't even remember, babe. I don't even remember.

**Rachel**: [chuckles] That's a really good lesson, that he was like, "I'm gonna make a wonderful memory." And new you don't even remember.

**Griffin**: He was usually pretty good about not doing stuff like that. But this was pre-MapQuest. So it was just like, you know, stopping on street corners and being like, "Hey, do you know... have you heard legend of the Steak 'n Shake here in Vero Beach?"

Rachel: [laughs] Just smelling the wind.

Griffin: [chuckles] Smelling wind for steak smells!

**Rachel**: I will say, one other St. Louis teen that really enjoyed Steak 'n Shake was Shake Shack founder, Danny Meyer.

Griffin: You sneaky little man.

**Rachel**: Who told the New York Times that he was inspired by Steak 'n Shake. I will also say that there is a Steak 'n Shake in Springfield, Missouri that is in the National Register of Historic Places.

## Griffin: Cool!

**Rachel**: It is still there and it's still in the style of the early '60s and has curb service window and a bright neon sign. I don't know, I think everybody has one of these places like growing up. That's why I asked you about yours. Like where the teens would go.

Griffin: We had a Frisch's Big Boy, which was-

Rachel: Whoa?

Griffin: You know Frisch's Big Boy?

Rachel: I mean, I've heard of it.

**Griffin**: It was great. It's like a Steak 'n Shake, but there is a huge plaster man standing outside, which I always enjoyed.

**Rachel**: I'll just finish off by saying, one thing I didn't know about when I was researching this, apparently... oh, gosh, maybe almost a decade ago now, they entered a seven by seven burger into their menu. Which was seven patties and sold for \$7.77. And it was 1330 calories.

Griffin: Cool.

Rachel: So that's ...

Griffin: I mean, sure.

Rachel: Impressive.

**Griffin**: I really wanted a steak burger until you said that last part. And now I'm actually pretty good.

Rachel: I know, right? [chuckles] There you go.

**Griffin**: I'm glad you did that. I was like, damn, I want some like Shake Shack or something for lunch today. But we're doing a pizza party stream for the MaxFunDrive today, and so that dream will have to wait. But man, yeah, no, I do want to eat some Steak 'n Shake pretty bad.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Let's go down to where our congressional representatives chill.

**Rachel**: I checked the hours and they close at like three:30 in the afternoon. [laughs]

**Griffin**: Sure. I mean, that's when everyone stops working in that neck of the woods. Hey, here's what our friends at home are talking about. Eileen says, "I'm the oldest of a group of about 20 cousins. Lately, the babiest of

the cousins have been reaching major life milestones, like getting married and having kids. It warms my heart remembering them being so little and now being whole-ass grownups." I love this too.

# Rachel: Yeah!

**Griffin**: I have some younger cousins, and when they started to have kids, it was like really buck wild to me. Stephanie says, "One of my small wonders is when the bread, cheese and turkey all run out at the same time. The last two slices of cheese meet the last few slices of meat, meet the last two slices of bread. It doesn't always work out, but when it does, magical symmetry."

## Rachel: I love that!

**Griffin**: Me too! I hate when you finish up like two of those things and one's only halfway through and you know you're not gonna be able to sync that up.

#### Rachel: Mm-hm.

**Griffin**: Sync up those grocery purchases again anytime soon. I love that. Thank you so much for listening. Thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, Money Won't Pay. You can find a link to that in the episode description.

**Rachel**: And thank you to everybody who was able to donate or spread the word about MaxFunDrive.

## Griffin: Yes.

**Rachel**: It was a very great time for us.

**Griffin**: Yes, we are humbled and honored and we will do our best to keep making the stuff that you like and making it better. And yeah, that's gonna do it for us. Oh, I believe it's April now.

Rachel: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: When you hear this. So there'll be new merch up in the McElroy merch store. It's mcelroymerch.com. So go check that out too. And we've got some live shows coming up, if you're in Chicago. Going to be around during C2-V2. We're doing MBMBaM and TAZ up there later this month. So all that's over at mcelroy.family. Go check it out. Thank you so much for listening.

Rachel: Thank you!

**Griffin**: So long! Farewell. Auf wiedersehen. Goodbye.

[theme music plays]

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