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Music: A short acoustic guitar melody.

It's time for Flavor Babies

(Song ends.)

Ross Blocher: Hey, welcome to another episode of *Flavor Babies!*

Carrie Poppy: The weekly podcast where we take one flavor and another flavor and combine them to get an unexpected third flavor!

Ross Blocher: We throw up, so you don't have to.

(Carrie laughs.)

I'm Ross Belcher.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, nice. I'm Carrie Pukey?

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: I like it.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, cool.

Ross Blocher: Oh, hold on. I got a cat here who wants to be on the mic.

Carrie Poppy: You have a cat. I have a dog. Okay, so this is a bit of a Bedlam episode. Obviously, every week we release an episode of *Flavor Babies*. We have since 2011.

Ross Blocher: And every time it's a Bedlam, but it's worth mentioning this time.

Carrie Poppy: But this time we have three animals in the room, Ross.

Ross Blocher: Woah! Wait a second. Last time I checked there were, if you're not including us, there were two!

Carrie Poppy: Touché.

Ross Blocher: Who's this new animal?

Carrie Poppy: This is Bly Poppy.

Ross Blocher: (*Gasps.*) Oh, Bly. Everybody say hi to Bly.

Carrie Poppy: Bly is my new puppy dog! She's four months old. I got her from the Pico shelter in LA. She's a Chihuahua Corgi mix, we think. And she's named after Nellie Bly.

Ross Blocher: Okay! Well, welcome to the family, Bly.

Carrie Poppy: She's so quiet! Can you believe it?

Ross Blocher: Very well behaved and gives very long, meaningful looks.

Carrie Poppy: So, everyone listen for Bly's first bark on the podcast. Bly's first clip clop across the hardwood floor. Those are good moments.

Ross Blocher: Alright. Well, and welcome to the *Flavor Babies* family, Bly, more importantly. Of course.

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. Exactly.

Ross Blocher: Well, this episode will be largely listener suggestions. We get so many, and after 13 years it's amazing that we haven't tried every single food combination.

Carrie Poppy: Flavor baby, absolutely.

Ross Blocher: But more babies need to be born.

Carrie Poppy: I'm so excited that our *Flavor Babies* podcast has become interactive. I didn't expect it.

(*Ross giggles.*)

But now that I see all of these flavor babies in front of me, I'm like, "Of course, this is what would happen."

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I thought I was being conservative, but I just spent 90 bucks at the grocery store.

(*They laugh.*)

But most of these things are stuff I will gladly be able to use later. So, nothing will go to waste here. Except what am I going to do with all of this tequila?

Carrie Poppy: I know. It's funny. You said a very specific kind of tequila. And I was like, "We have other tequila, but no. No. You said this!"

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I try to go by the recommendation as closely as possible.

Carrie Poppy: Totally. That's the right move. Once someone is that specific, you gotta be that specific.

Ross Blocher: I feel like there's a few themes that will emerge in this episode from the suggestions from listeners, and one of them is the pickle theme.

Carrie Poppy: Interesting! I love a dill pickle. Pickle. I hate a sweet pickle.

Ross Blocher: You'll be glad to know, A) I agree with you, and B) I bought Vlasic Kosher Dill Spears. And I know you like spears.

Carrie Poppy: Hey, that's right. I married one. Oh, my mouth watered looking at those.

Ross Blocher: Oh, really?

Carrie Poppy: Mm-hm. Yeah, sounds great.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, that's one I'm glad to have around. And I thought, oh, maybe I should branch out. But no, Vlasic is Classic.

Carrie Poppy: That's right.

Ross Blocher: And I assume I'm saying that right. I've never really heard anyone say the word Vlasic.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I don't know either.

Ross Blocher: It sounds kind of dirty now that I'm saying it, like it describes—

Carrie Poppy: Like flaccid or something, maybe?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, like a flaccid penis or something, or Vlasic. Whatever.

Carrie Poppy: A Vlasic vlenus. Oh, I had a bad lemonade recently that had pickles in it.

Ross Blocher: Oh no.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, that's not what you want to do.

Ross Blocher: Unless you're hosting a show called *Flavor Babies*, in which—

Carrie Poppy: That's right! And we are.

Ross Blocher: That is precisely the sort of thing you do.

Carrie Poppy: So, I also had a couple flavor babies in a document on my Google Drive for the next time.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Oh, you had a mystery years ago in our show that you've been trying to solve.

Carrie Poppy: Yes! Yes, that kind of started *Flavor Babies*.

Ross Blocher: It's a hallmark investigation.

Carrie Poppy: Yes, exactly. Oh, and before I forget, I want to warn everybody—as with every episode of *Flavor Babies*, we will be eating and drinking. That will—you're going to hear that. Sorry.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I'll do everything I can to cut out extraneous noises, but yeah. If you have misophonia, you don't like hearing people—

Carrie Poppy: Chew and swallow.

Ross Blocher: Yep. You might want to miss this episode.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, yeah, or pop through it. I don't know what you want to do, but there's your warning. So, several years ago, I went to our pal, Stacey Molski's, apartment. And her partner, Jacob—who probably has a last name—had bought lemon Oreos and root beer.

Ross Blocher: I ran into them at Café Nuovo not too long ago in Burbank.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, nice! Did you learn Jacob's last name? I want to say it's Schmitt.

Ross Blocher: I should have asked him what his last name was.

Carrie Poppy: I'm not sure. I'm not Schmerr.

(They chuckle.)

Anyway, so I go to this *Survivor* party at their apartment. And I just happened to combine these two things that were on their table. And their table had many, many things, but I put this lemon Oreo in my mouth. I put this root beer in my mouth, and I'm like, “That is marijuana. That is exactly the taste of marijuana. How did this chemically happen?”

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah. That we arrived at this flavor.

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Now, when we tried this before, you had thought maybe it was Pepsi.

Carrie Poppy: I think I thought it was Diet Coke or something like that? Ohhh, I was WRONG!

Ross Blocher: Diet Coke. Okay. Well, we tried it, and it was—it was fine. It just wasn't marijuana. Not that I would know. I've never had marijuana.

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. So, this time I have A&W Root Beer. Only kind available was zero sugar. So, we'll see how that does. And then I also have some edible droplets of THC marijuana that I'm hoping that they stink enough to give you a sense of—

Ross Blocher: Of whether we hit that flavor profile.

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. But I have also ordered a man to come to the door and deliver us edibles.

Ross Blocher: What? (*Laughs.*) What is happening?

Carrie Poppy: The stinkiest edibles I could find on the internet, because I opened up that bottle and I was like, “This won't tell Ross what marijuana smells like! It's not stinky enough!”

Ross Blocher: So, this evening you have someone on their way to deliver edibles.

Carrie Poppy: That's right. For this podcast.

Ross Blocher: That will reek of marijuana.

Carrie Poppy: Hopefully. I tried to pick like the worst sounding edibles, the ones that they were trying to like get rid of.

Ross Blocher: Fascinating. Okay. Well, for long time listeners, you know that Ross can only have drugs with dispensation from his wife, and Cara has agreed. I think her phrasing was something along the lines of, “Oh, I don't care if you have marijuana. I just don't want you to ding my car because you're high.”

(They laugh.)

Carrie Poppy: Oh! Okay, great. We can make that not happen.

Ross Blocher: So, I took my car. But I wasn't afraid of this. I wasn't afraid of this.

Carrie Poppy: No, no, no, no, no. We'll keep you safe. We'll keep you safe.

Ross Blocher: Carrie wouldn't do that.

Carrie Poppy: I would never, I would never. But also, here is my urging. I was trying to get them to come a little earlier, because you were already on your way when I ordered it. So, I sent them this follow up text that they have ignored.

Ross Blocher: “Thanks for the notice. It's for a very important purpose: podcast.” Okay!

Carrie Poppy: No reply! Ugh! So, I guess we have to wait the normal amount.

Ross Blocher: I see they appreciate your continued business.

Carrie Poppy: *(Laughs.)* Yeah, at least there's that. Oh, it is on its way! Okay, it's supposed to Arrive in 15 minutes, which will be 8:39. Okay.

Ross Blocher: Okay, 'cause I was going to ask about the ordering of these things. Because—

Carrie Poppy: We should get this THC in your belly pronto, because it takes a while.

Ross Blocher: Because it takes a while! Okay. That's what I was thinking.

Carrie Poppy: We don't want that sailing through your blood while you're midway on the 5.

Ross Blocher: And I know marijuana is famous for giving people the munchies.

Carrie Poppy: Yes, true!

Ross Blocher: *(Singing.)* Hey, hey, we're the munchies.

So, I assume that can only help with this podcast.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, that's a good point. That's a good point. Should we wait for the edibles? Now that you're saying all this, I'm like maybe the edibles should come first.

Ross Blocher: Maybe we can have like an aperitif. Crudit .

Carrie Poppy: Okay, well then how about my other flavor baby we can do first?

Ross Blocher: Yeah! Let's hear about it.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, wait! I've got another text about our marijuana.

Ross Blocher: This is exciting. *(Laughs.)*

Carrie Poppy: “Your order 15 minutes, happy face.” Okay, well, okay, you didn't even note that I have a podcast, but okay.

(They laugh.)

So—

Ross Blocher: Yeah, they should have said, “It 25 minutes if you didn't have a podcast.”

Carrie Poppy: “But now we realize you're media.”

(They giggle.)

So, I have discovered—or really, Drew has discovered that Diet Pepsi, which I love, is the same flavor as Saltines, which I love.

Ross Blocher: I'm sorry, what?

Carrie Poppy: Diet Pepsi is liquid saltine flavor.

Ross Blocher: No, I heard you. Okay.

Carrie Poppy: So, I want to see if you agree.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, okay, this is fun, because my immediate response is, “No, of course not.”

Carrie Poppy: So, here's your Diet Pepsi.

Ross Blocher: Alright, we've got a Diet Pepsi. Thank you.

Carrie Poppy: And before you—maybe go ahead and open it, but don't drink it, let's say.

(Cans popping.)

Ross Blocher: Okay. I'm just gonna bask in its presence.

Carrie Poppy: And I'll give you a saltine, 'cause I'm sure you've had these, but to remind you of the flavor.

Ross Blocher: In fact, I had them recently when we had communion with John Hodgman.

Carrie Poppy: God, it's so good!

Ross Blocher: Like a warm, homey feeling. Like, it reminds me of being a kid.

Carrie Poppy: I could have one of these boxes for dinner.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, there's like a little bit of butteriness to it as you chew it in your mouth. Oh, these are premium, too, from Nabisco.

Carrie Poppy: I've never combined them, so I'm excited to see.

Ross Blocher: One right after the other, chasing the memories of the saltines. Okay, here goes.

(Eating noises.)

I don't know if it's the power of suggestion, but I'm feeling it. I'm feeling it! These do go together. This is weird!

Carrie Poppy: Right? I think basically—okay, I will say this. The Diet Pepsi, of course, is sweet. It has a sweetness.

Ross Blocher: Whereas the cracker is salty.

Carrie Poppy: Is salty. But I feel like it's the same flavor profile in savory and sweet.

Ross Blocher: Well, and I have the ongoing bugaboo with colas, that cola just doesn't really taste like anything.

Carrie Poppy: *(Mouth full.)* Mm, oh, interesting!

Ross Blocher: Because most other sodas, I can say, “Oh, this—you know, it's Squirt. You know, oh, I'm drinking a grapefruit that's been turned into a soda.” Even Dr. Pepper is kind of like prunes made into soda.

[00:10:0]

Carrie Poppy: I think cola tastes a tiny bit like cinnamon or maybe like nutmeg allspice.

Ross Blocher: And I love root beer. At least I know there's a root behind it.

Carrie Poppy: Sure, sassafras.

Ross Blocher: But I don't know what the root of cola is. You know what? I'm going to sign on with this.

Carrie Poppy: Email Ross. Tell him about the root of cola. Yeah, right? And together, I wouldn't say anything new happens. I would say one just informs the other. This is a team effort.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, there's a through line. And one is dry and buttery and salty, but then you get the shock of the cold that is sweet, but related! Okay, I'm with you!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, right?! The sweet saltine cola.

Ross Blocher: I did not see that coming.

Carrie Poppy: Thank you. Okay, first flavor baby affirmed!

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, what do we give that on our scale of one to ten, where one we just really love it, it's perfectly fine, and ten is like ugh! Disgusting! This baby, why is it in the world?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, who's the—okay, the most famous baby who was ever born?

Ross Blocher: In like the real world? I think of the Lindbergh baby.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, yeah, that'll be when it's really good.

Ross Blocher: Or maybe Jesus. (*Laughing.*) Jesus was a well-known baby.

Carrie Poppy: That's true, that's true. I like Lindbergh baby. I like that. I like that. Okay, so—

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Just don't look into Charles Lindbergh's politics. Not great.

Carrie Poppy: Great, great. Don't steal babies! Don't steal babieees! It's mean!

Ross Blocher: But still, not good to steal someone's baby. Even if you disagree with their political ideology, don't steal their baby.

Carrie Poppy: Don't steal their family.

Ross Blocher: (*Singing.*) It's time for not stealing babies!

Carrie Poppy: Okay, top of the scale is Lindbergh baby. That's a really good flavor baby. Bottom is—what's the worst?

Ross Blocher: Well, you're confusing things, because—

Carrie Poppy: It's the strongest baby? The most vociferous baby?

Ross Blocher: The top of the scale, the biggest numbers are for the grossest flavor combinations.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, interesting. Okay. Okay. Okay. Okay. Okay. So, Lindbergh. Okay. Limberger Cheese, Lindbergh baby, Stinky Mad. Okay. Sure. Okay. (*Laughs.*)

Ross Blocher: You really saved that. Well done.

Carrie Poppy: I'm a team player. Okay. So, Lindbergh baby is top, real gross. Okay. So, bottom then is like maybe this was pleasant, but like nothing changed for me. What do we call that? What kind of baby is that? What's like the least interesting baby?

(They laugh.)

Oh, like Gwyneth Paltrow's baby or something? Apple?

Ross Blocher: The one Apple? Yeah. Alright.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, great. Apple Martin.

Ross Blocher: This was fun and surprising, but I'm going to put it low. I'm going to call this a two on the scale.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay. There's numbers. Okay. Out of ten? Okay. Oh, wow. Humiliating. Okay.

Ross Blocher: Pleasant. It's familiar, like Apple. I don't know what the last name is.

Carrie Poppy: Martin? Is it Martin?

Ross Blocher: Oh, Chris Martin.

Carrie Poppy: Her husband was Chris Martin. Oh my god, is it Apple Martin, like Apple Martini?

Ross Blocher: I guess it is.

Carrie Poppy: Wild, if so.

Ross Blocher: This is the world we find ourselves in.

Carrie Poppy: Well, okay, the pot's still not here, is it?

Ross Blocher: We got a really interesting suggestion from a listener, Valerie Phillips. She said, "Fritos and grapes go very well together."

Carrie Poppy: Go very well together. That's the whole claim. Okay.

Ross Blocher: So, you said you have grapes?

Carrie Poppy: Oh, I do! Okay, I'll grab them.

Ross Blocher: I brought Fritos. Took me some work to find original Fritos, because now they have like the chili ones, these other flavors, which are quite good. But—

Carrie Poppy: I love the classic though.

Ross Blocher: But I want apples to apples. I want to match the suggestion. So, I'll open the Fritos. Grab some grapes. Let's try them.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Okay. We have green grapes here.

Ross Blocher: She didn't specify green or purple. So.

Carrie Poppy: Green is so much better.

Ross Blocher: Green it is.

Carrie Poppy: Am I right?

Ross Blocher: I'm a fan of purple grapes, red grapes.

Carrie Poppy: Reeeally?

Ross Blocher: I like them both though. Alright, so we've got—

Carrie Poppy: Red grapes are too crunchy for me.

Ross Blocher: Okay, I have two grapes, and I have three Fritos, kind of forming a little pareidolia face looking back at me.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, get mine together.

Ross Blocher: As we always says, let's get these down the gullet at the same time.

Carrie Poppy: And again, the claim is just they taste good together.

Ross Blocher: They go well together, yeah.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, alright. Okay, so this has that salted watermelon effect.

Ross Blocher: Mm-hm. The savory and the sweet together.

Carrie Poppy: Uh-huh. Crunchy and soft.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I found it a pleasant experience.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I liked it. I liked it. I don't know if it's quite a baby.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I don't know if I'd go to the trouble to be like, "Ooh, let me get these together in front of me at the same time while I'm watching TV," or something.

Carrie Poppy: And they don't produce a third flavor for me. They are still separate experiences which are pleasant together. They don't coalesce the way—

Ross Blocher: Right, create some new, shocking, "What is this?" Okay. Yeah. I'm with you on that. Alright.

Carrie Poppy: So, in that way and that way alone, only because of the *Flavor Babies* brand, I'm going to give this a three. But as a snack, much higher.

Ross Blocher: I was waffling between two and three, so I'll join you at three.

Carrie Poppy: Perfect. Okay. I think the marijuana is arriving.

Ross Blocher: Oh, exciting!

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Smells like perfume. Interesting. Okay. We've got some dank shit, Ross.

Ross Blocher: Yeah?

Carrie Poppy: Chocolate—

Ross Blocher: They come flavored?

Carrie Poppy: They come flavored. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Oh, yeah, they come in all different kinds. Oh, this is a CBD gummy that I got Drew. Chocolate, chocolate, chocolate. Oh, a gummy sampler. They gave us a gummy sampler as well. Okay.

[00:15:00]

So, I'll try to find the smelliest thing, the thing that most reminds me of the classic smell of marijuana.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay. Yep. Yep. Yep, yep, yep. Found some crap marijuana, alright!

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, you got it? (*Chuckling.*) Crap marijuana?

Carrie Poppy: We've done it, alright!

Ross Blocher: Now wait, what do you mean when you say crap marijuana?

(*Carrie laughs.*)

Like normally you try to avoid the full force of marijuana, and here it is? Is this one of the chocolate ones?

Carrie Poppy: This is chocolate. Yep. So, edibles are real potent, and they take a long time to travel through your system. So, we'll give you a really small amount.

Ross Blocher: Should I have that first, or should I have the combo first?

Carrie Poppy: Great question! Well, the parents come before the baby.

Ross Blocher: Okay. Alright! I'll follow your lead.

Carrie Poppy: Mommy and daddy foods!

Ross Blocher: Okay. Carrie has handed me a lemon Oreo and an A&W root beer.

Carrie Poppy: An A&W zero sugar root beer.

(*Cans cracking.*)

Second time in ten years we've been trying to chase this baby.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I'm a big fan of root beer. And—

Carrie Poppy: Big fan of Stacey and Jacob.

Ross Blocher: Big fan of Oreos, so I like everything in this provenance.

Carrie Poppy: Have you had the lemon Oreo before?

Ross Blocher: Well, when we tried this before, absolutely.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, of course, right. Of course, of course, of course. I'm going to have a little lemon Oreo. Got the lemon Oreo. (*Mouth full.*) A hidden star of the cookie world.

Ross Blocher: Did we do it, Carrie? Carrie's sipping again.

Carrie Poppy: (*Mouth full.*) Goddammit.

Ross Blocher: Carrie's just trying to reclaim a moment from her past! A moment that should be well described!

Carrie Poppy: Goddammit. You can't go home again.

Ross Blocher: I've got them together in my mouth like a slurry.

Carrie Poppy: Nothing's happening. No.

Ross Blocher: Nope? It's not that magic that you experienced before.

Carrie Poppy: Well, at least you know that we are deeply honest people who are not pretending that this is happening in our mouths. Do you still want to try this marijuana? (*Laughs.*) Here we are!

Ross Blocher: I mean, yeah, sure. Okay. They've actually put it inside of chocolate.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. This is nutty blonde chocolate, and if you ate this entire bar it would be 800 milligrams of THC. So, okay. So, there's a hundred milligrams in there. I would start with eating like a quarter of it.

Ross Blocher: A quarter of the little block you gave me?

Carrie Poppy: Or maybe even—maybe half.

Ross Blocher: 'Cause it's a good thing my gut reaction when I have food in my hand is just to like chow down. I would have just eaten the whole thing.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, sure. I mean, you could, you could. It's just—I'm just saying the bad outcome here would be like you're high for three hours, and we didn't expect it.

Ross Blocher: Oh wow, if I ate the whole thing.

Carrie Poppy: If you ate the whole thing, and it was more than I expect.

Ross Blocher: Okay, so I should just eat half, you think?

Carrie Poppy: (*Mouth full.*) I just ate half!

Ross Blocher: Oh, I ate more than half, so here we go.

Carrie Poppy: You're in a safe environment with your friends.

Ross Blocher: Now, it has hallucinogenic properties?

Carrie Poppy: THC? Not hallucin—well, I guess probably for certain people, yes. For you, very unlikely. What you'll probably feel—

Ross Blocher: It's a little peanut buttery as well.

Carrie Poppy: This is. This has a little bit of that flavor.

Ross Blocher: I feel weird not eating the whole thing.

Carrie Poppy: You can eat the whole thing if you want. We'll take care of you here. We'll keep you safe.

Ross Blocher: Alright. Let's see what happens.

Carrie Poppy: I would never send Ross off in his car high. That is my service to you.

Ross Blocher: You'll never say bye when I'm high.

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. I'll say Bly!

(They giggle.)

Ross Blocher: Okay, but this'll take a while to set in.

Carrie Poppy: Probably. And I think probably what you'll feel is hungry, giggly. You'll think just—well, my experience is like, “Gosh, you know, the world's really interesting when you think about it!”

Ross Blocher: Okay! And would you say it affects your perception of other flavors?

Carrie Poppy: Oh, good question! I don't think so. Except for maybe really enjoying it.

Ross Blocher: And that little block that I just had, you said it's how many milligrams?

Carrie Poppy: 100.

Ross Blocher: Okay. Yeah. So, 1/10th of a gram. Okay. I was reading a story by Neil deGrasse Tyson recently, in *Cosmic Messenger*.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, I got that book at the airport!

Ross Blocher: Oh, very good. He was talking about a couple cases where he'd been called to be in a jury. And the prosecution in this one kept mentioning that this guy had been apprehended with 7,000 milligrams of cocaine. And finally—

Carrie Poppy: That's seven grams?

Ross Blocher: Exactly! And when Neil deGrasse Tyson said like, “You're saying 7,000 milligrams, but milli means thousand, so they cancel each other out. Why didn't you say seven grams? Is it because 7,000 sounds like a larger number?”

(They laugh.)

He wasn't on that jury for much longer.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, yeah, yeah. That checks out. That's called knowing too much.

Ross Blocher: Ah, that shouldn't be a penalty. Alright, we have so many more babies to flavor. So—

Carrie Poppy: I'm loving these Fritos. What a great addition to our show.

Ross Blocher: Okay, maybe we should do some of these drink combos.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, I'm liking it.

Ross Blocher: We got some really interesting ones. *(Laughs.)* Okay, this might be a bad one. I don't know. They're all probably bad ones to start with. But on the podcast *Leaving Eden*, they keep mentioning this phenomenon called Mountain Moo. And it's a combination of Mountain Dew, which you might have guessed, and milk.

Carrie Poppy: Ew!

Ross Blocher: Indeed. Now you have oat milk.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, this sounds awful.

Ross Blocher: It was presented as something you do on a dare.

Carrie Poppy: Ugh! Okay, I'll get oat milk. Ugh!

[00:20:00]

Okay, and you have Mountain Dew there?

Ross Blocher: It's in your fridge. It has appeared in your fridge. So, I think we can have a little amount, but let's do half milk, half Mountain Dew.

Carrie Poppy: (*Groans.*) Okay. This is an awful idea.

Ross Blocher: Yes, it is.

Carrie Poppy: Half, half. Oh yeah, okay, that doesn't mean I have to do half the glass. That just means—

Ross Blocher: Half of one, half of the other.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, one part, one part. Okay.

Ross Blocher: I'd say oat milk is my favorite substitute milk.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, you know, it's grown on me. I used to be a soymilk person, and now I'm pretty much converted.

Ross Blocher: Okay, I'm pouring a fair amount here. I'll take that Mountain Dew. Oh, yeah, sorry.

Carrie Poppy: This does not look good.

(*Ross laughs.*)

What are the flavors of Mountain Dew? Lemon lime?

Ross Blocher: I've gotta say—yeah, citrus. It's some citrus concoction. A lot of people were suggesting milk in a lot of other things.

Carrie Poppy: Are they just fucking with us? Are they like, "These are good things"?

Ross Blocher: Well, the Mountain Moo, I think, is just something that became sort of an online phenomenon. Whereas think people were genuinely recommending Pilk, which is Pepsi and milk.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, god! People! Okay. Alright.

Ross Blocher: I'm curious about how they combine. It doesn't really look like they're separating or anything.

Carrie Poppy: No, yeah. Actually, this might be the closest we've gotten to goat sperm.

(*They laugh.*)

Ross Blocher: You know what?

Carrie Poppy: Am I wrong or am I wrong?

Ross Blocher: Now that you say that, this is a dead ringer for goat sperm.

Carrie Poppy: As we picture it.

Huh!

Ross Blocher: Oh, not what I expected.

Carrie Poppy: Me neither.

Ross Blocher: It's better than I expected.

Carrie Poppy: It mostly just like—they cancel each other out in a surprising way.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, maybe I needed more Mountain Dew. I feel like the milk has a slight advantage.

Carrie Poppy: The Mountain Dew close to disappears, but it has a—I see what's—it's got like an Orange Julius kind of effect, where you're recreating that citrus and cream thing. Okay! Okay!

Ross Blocher: Okay, I added some more Mountain Dew to mine, and now it's showing its flavors more. And you know what? This is okay!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah! This is good! This is just good!

Ross Blocher: I feel like it's—

Carrie Poppy: I love our show.

Ross Blocher: It's the unintended leftover of some other—someone made a cocktail for me, and it sat in the ice a little too long, and now I'm drinking it like, “Oh, what is this weird slurry?”

Carrie Poppy: I bet the Mormons drink this, because there's no caffeine in Mountain Dew, right?

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, there's caffeine in Mountain Dew.

(Carrie makes a surprised noise through a mouthful of food.)

But they're actually okay with it. I've seen them drink soda, and they're like, "Oh yeah, we're fine. We don't count that as a hot drink." You know what? I wouldn't want to drink a large glass of this, but a small glass. Okay.

Carrie Poppy: I wish I had less. But I'm not sorry I have some.

Ross Blocher: (*Chuckles.*) Yeah, you know what? I mixed a little bit too much of this Mountain Moo, given all the other things we're about to be drinking.

Carrie Poppy: I would say, some things grow on you. This does the opposite of that.

(*They giggle.*)

This shrinks on you.

Ross Blocher: Okay, I've downed all of it.

(*Laughs.*)

Shrinks on you! Alright, yeah, maybe you started it out as like a three, and it went up to like a five?

Carrie Poppy: Oh right, it gets grosser as the scale goes up. Yeah, I'd say I'm approaching nausea. I'll give that a six!

(*They laugh.*)

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah, think if I had too much of it—but it's not a flat-out failure like I was fearing.

Carrie Poppy: This is a great way—like, if you want to vomit on someone as a form of protest, this could get you going! This could get you—yeah!

Ross Blocher: Oh, how you bring about the vomit. What's the fastest path to throwing up?

Carrie Poppy: Okay, I'm gonna dump the rest of this.

Ross Blocher: Okay, so you reminded me of this one when you mentioned the flavors cancelling each other out. This was a very intriguing post that was shared by Sheila O'Neill, and it was a conversation. Looks like it was maybe on Threads or something, where someone who goes by Hedra said, "I've mixed Cranberry Mike's Harder and Cucumber Lime Gatorade into a drink I like to call The Flavor. Because you drink this shit, and your tongue is like, 'There's a taste here. You're experiencing a flavor.' But when you go to open the door, there's no flavor there."

(Carrie laughs.)

“It comes back with an undefined error in the flavor column. It's the MissingNo of flavors.” And I had to look this up. MissingNo is apparently a Pokémon reference to a game where there was an error. And it would show up as, “You have found the MissingNo!” Okay. It's the missing no of flavors.

Carrie Poppy: It's the cake that never appears or whatever.

Ross Blocher: Right. The cake that is a lie. It so absolutely and definitely tastes like something, and that thing is nothing. So, I was really excited when I went to the grocery store, and I found both—

Carrie Poppy: I do like the cucumber Gatorade, which I think is still in my fridge. Shall I get it?

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah. I think I put both of them in your fridge, so they should be front and center. I'm really interested in this one.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, yeah, I love cucumber. I like cranberry quite a bit. Mike's Hard Lemonade is notoriously bad.

Ross Blocher: Oh, really? Okay.

Carrie Poppy: Yes. You know, I mean in the cheap alcohol frat kids drink (*inaudible*).

Ross Blocher: When everybody was jumping in to be like, “Ooh, ooh, what can we turn into alcohol?!” Lime cucumber.

[00:25:00]

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I've had a lot of that. That stuff's good.

Ross Blocher: I'm sure I have, because I've tried every Gatorade flavor at some point.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, that's right. Your family is under the delusion that Gatorade is like a luxury drink.

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: I was using it to reward myself for a few years. Like, when I would go running, I would get a Gatorade! It was so exciting. And I have since stopped doing that. Oh, I poured quite a bit. Okay, well, here you go. Here's some for you. And we've got Mike's Harder Cranberry. I don't think I've had this one.

Carrie Poppy: So, I'm gonna, as always, drink one flavor first.

Ross Blocher: And there's no problem with mixing marijuana and alcohol?

Carrie Poppy: Nah.

Ross Blocher: Carrie shakes her head. 8% alcohol by volume. Oh yeah, let me try just the Gatorade by itself.

Carrie Poppy: Gosh, it's good.

Ross Blocher: Maybe I haven't had this flavor!

Carrie Poppy: It's good, right?

Ross Blocher: That feels new. I'm not a big cucumber fan.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, that's right. That's right. I forgot about that.

Ross Blocher: Maybe that's why I haven't had it.

(Cans cracking and drinks pouring.)

Carrie Poppy: But have you ever hated someone's dad and then loved the kid? Because that's what could happen here.

Ross Blocher: Totally could happen here. Here's some Mike's Harder Cranberry for you.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, I'm gonna drink that separately.

Ross Blocher: I feel like Mike's Harder Cranberry is missing a word.

Carrie Poppy: God, that's awful.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, no good? Okay.

Carrie Poppy: Oh my god! The Gatorade is going to have to make up for something here.

Ross Blocher: So, these should be equal portions.

Carrie Poppy: Ew, it looks like urine! It REALLY looks like urine.

Ross Blocher: Dark, cloudy urine too. Like, you need to hydrate now.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah! I was just going to say that. Like, I've been drinking too much all weekend urine.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, it is like a color that, if this was what they were going to market, they'd be like, "Oh, we need to add some additional food coloring to push this into a firm color realm." Right now it's some weird in between. No one wants that. Okay, here goes the flavor.

Carrie Poppy: Okay! Um.

Ross Blocher: I'm getting the...

Carrie Poppy: It's a punch effect.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, a little bit of the cucumber note is making its way through. That's a very strong flavor.

Carrie Poppy: It's a serviceable, cheap, alcoholic punch.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, this is something you might find in the punch bowl at the party, where people just thrown in a bit of like, "Oh, I brought some alcohol! Here, let me put some of that in this punch for you." And you're like what is in this punch?

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. This is where I would definitely tell all of the women in the room what is in this punch!? Let's all keep our eye on the punch.

Ross Blocher: Nobody walks out unobserved.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, pretty much. That's the flavor of this punch.

Ross Blocher: (*Laughs.*) Oh no! That gives it a really dark umbra.

Carrie Poppy: This is frat guy punch. No, I mean it's—yeah. It's fine, it's fine.

Ross Blocher: I see what they're saying. If someone just handed me this, and I drank it, I would be like, "Where did this come from? What is this?"

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, tell me about the provenance of this punch before I drink it. I will pour my own, thank you. But you know, it's drinkable. It's drinkable.

Ross Blocher: It is. Yeah, absolutely.

Carrie Poppy: You could definitely sell this. You know where you could really sell this is a theme park. You could sell this as like a \$17 cocktail at a theme park.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, totally. The only thing I would be able to hold on to if someone gave me this and asked what the flavor was, I'd be like, "There's cucumber in there somewhere!" And maybe I'm especially sensitive to it.

Carrie Poppy: Together, they form a flavor that's similar to lychee.

Ross Blocher: Oh, uh-huh. Okay. Which I like. But it's very subtle and soft. Well, you know, I keep drinking it, so.

Carrie Poppy: It's good. It's certainly better than the last one, I tell you what. And it definitely elevates a terrible item, which is, apparently, Mike's Harder Cranberry. And yes, agree, why don't they say lemonade?

Ross Blocher: I know! Mike's Harder what? Mike's Harder Cranberry what?!

Carrie Poppy: Mike's Harder what? Yeah, I'm waiting for you to finish—

Ross Blocher: You've given me a bunch of modifiers, what are they modifying?!

Carrie Poppy: Thank you! I'm waiting for you to finish a sentence; you already made a can!

Ross Blocher: Your participle's dangling.

Carrie Poppy: I hate you!

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: Alright, I guess I will take the rest of that home with me.

Carrie Poppy: The open Mike's Hard Lemonade?

Ross Blocher: You know, I didn't think this out. Alright, well, I'll put it over here for now. Should we eat some more solid food?

Carrie Poppy: *(Mouth full.)* Yeah, I want a pickle.

Ross Blocher: Okay, so we've got a few pickle recommendations.

Carrie Poppy: How's your cognition?

Ross Blocher: So far, I feel unaffected. You as well?

Carrie Poppy: I think mostly, yeah. I walked into this recording pretty tired, and I remain pretty tired.

Ross Blocher: Okay. I feel like I am, uh, alive, alert, awake, enthusiastic.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. Nice. Yeah. Good.

Ross Blocher: So, yeah, I would ask you what the onset feels like, but I guess I'm just gonna find out.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. Loopy, giggly, far off, daydreaming.

Ross Blocher: You may sense that I'm doing it before I do. Who knows?

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Maybe! Ross, what's your favorite podcast besides ours?

Ross Blocher: *Reading Glasses* on Maximum Fun. Great show.

Carrie Poppy: Aw! That was an immediate and sincere answer. I could see it in your eyes.

Ross Blocher: About all things reading culture. Yeah.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, they're great.

Ross Blocher: Inspires you to read and gives you no guilt for various hangups people have on reading. How about you? What's your favorite podcast?

Carrie Poppy: My favorite podcast right now is *Too Far*.

Ross Blocher: What is it?

Carrie Poppy: It's a podcast with two comedians, Robby Hoffman and Rachel Kaly. And... it's very hard to describe, but they're very funny, and I just love it. I've listened to every episode multiple times.

[00:30:00]

(*Ross "wow"s.*)

It's one of those things.

Ross Blocher: That's a strong recommendation!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. I don't know if our listeners will like it or not.

Ross Blocher: Some will.

Carrie Poppy: Some will! Exactly.

Ross Blocher: Okay. So, we have a few pickle combinations here. I'll just tell you what they are. Our old friend, Trevor Heasley, former Scientologist, recommends dill pickles and vanilla ice cream. And Carrie scrunches her face.

Carrie Poppy: What the fuck?

Ross Blocher: He wasn't the only one. A few people have suggested this as a great combo.

Carrie Poppy: You're sweetening pickles though, and I don't like sweet pickles.

Ross Blocher: I'm—yeah, I'm skeptical as heck about this, and I also seriously dislike sweet pickles. Those are wasted pickles.

Carrie Poppy: Mee too. Thank you!

Ross Blocher: Pickles to put in the garbage can.

Carrie Poppy: So, I have to tell you about this lemonade.

Ross Blocher: Yes.

Carrie Poppy: I was at an animal sanctuary, and there was a lemonade stand, and the lady was like, “I have fancy lemonades.” And one of them was pickle. And I was like, well, I love pickles, but that doesn't sound great. Will I be surprised? And she was like, “Oh, you'll be surprised. I love pickles, blah-blah-blah-blah.” I was like, okay. Then she spent seven/eight minutes chopping up an entire pickle and taking forever making me this sample.

Ross Blocher: Oh, and you did not relish this.

Carrie Poppy: *(Laughs.)* And then she hands it to me. And I'm like, “Oh, it tastes like sweet pickle, what the fuck do I do now?! I fucking hate sweet pickles!”

Ross Blocher: Now I've got this person expectantly watching me while I hate gulp this drink.

Carrie Poppy: So, I said, “You know, I don't like sweet pickles.”

And she said, “Well, me neither!” I don't believe you!

Ross Blocher: *(Laughs.)* Yeah. Alright. Well, we have a similar challenge here. Okay. These are related. We had recommendations of pickles with peanut butter.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, I've heard of that.

Ross Blocher: And pickles with Nutella.

Carrie Poppy: Interesting! Okay. Did you gather those?

Ross Blocher: Maybe we should try those first.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, you brought both. Okay, sweet!

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I brought both.

(Bag rustling sounds.)

I don't know. What do you say we start with—

Carrie Poppy: Nutella?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, let's start with Nutella.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, alright! You've got a spoon in your—*(chuckles)*.

Ross Blocher: New flavor, Nutella. Oh yeah, I guess you can't really like dip your pickle in the Nutella. That's just not going to—that's not going to fly, is it?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I feel like the Nutella is not going to be good, but the peanut butter might be good.

Ross Blocher: You know, I almost texted you to ask if you are a crunchy peanut butter or a smooth peanut butter kind of person.

Carrie Poppy: Do you want to guess?

Ross Blocher: Uuuh you're probably gonna say crunchy, but I'm going with smooth.

Carrie Poppy: The answer is indifferent.

Ross Blocher: Woo-hoo! Okay, well very good!

Carrie Poppy: But I guess if I had to pick, I'd probably pick smooth.

Ross Blocher: I got Creamy Jif. Or is it gif? Oh, I have to open a pickle jar! I wasn't aware feats of strength we're involved in this podcast! Okay. There we go.

Carrie Poppy: Can I actually request that we do the peanut butter first? 'Cause I suspect the Nutella will ruin the pickle for me.

Ross Blocher: Sure. Okay.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Sweet.

Ross Blocher: But not too sweet.

(Carrie chuckles.)

Alright. So, how do you want me to do this? I'm going to grab you a spear and just like dollop some peanut butter on the end of it.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I think so.

(Paper peeling off the top of the peanut butter jar.)

Ross Blocher: Hear the sound of that. And look, there's no new life in the peanut butter jar. That was a creationist argument for a long time. Like, why don't you ever open up a peanut butter jar and find like brand new life has evolved in there?

Carrie Poppy: Oh, because of good pasteurization methods?

(They laugh.)

What do you think you're asking?

Ross Blocher: Regulation? Yeah, Kent Hovind.

Carrie Poppy: Oh man.

Ross Blocher: That's the kind of argument he would use.

Carrie Poppy: What an embarrassing own.

Ross Blocher: Grabbing a pickle.

Carrie Poppy: A major thing I've learned on this episode of *Flavor Babies* is that Fritos are still great.

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, after everything. They're the great neutralizer.

Carrie Poppy: Good chaser, yeah.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Oh yeah, that could be our new *Flavor Babies* palette cleanser.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, the official baby chaser of *Flavor Babies*. Ross is preparing me a pickle with peanut butter on it, which is not wanting to stay on there at all.

Ross Blocher: (*Laughs.*) This is messy.

Carrie Poppy: Thank you. Okay.

Ross Blocher: I made a real mess of that.

Carrie Poppy: Shall I just go for it?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah, go for it. Because it's like—you know, it's smooth. It wants to slide off the pickle spear.

Carrie Poppy: Oh! Oh, that's good!

Ross Blocher: Really?! Okay! That had no right to be good, but it's actually pretty good. You know what?

Carrie Poppy: I wouldn't say I'd go out of my way for it, but if someone handed this to me, I'd be like, "Alright, I'll finish that up, sure."

Ross Blocher: Perfectly pleasant. And it surprised me. I was not expecting that pleasant of a combination. But boy, getting it on the pickle, not easy.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, what would you give this? One to ten, where ten is very disgusting?

Ross Blocher: I'm giving it a 2!

Carrie Poppy: I don't remember what the scale is for exactly, so I'm gonna give it an 18, but—

(They laugh.)

It's definitely serviceable snack.

Ross Blocher: Do you still have any of your pickle left, or—?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, no, it's in my belly.

Ross Blocher: Alright, well, it's time for Nutella. I'm sorry, I'm making a mess of your table.

Carrie Poppy: No, it's alright.

Ross Blocher: Okay, peanut butter, you sit here and think about what you've done. This also has a seal.

Carrie Poppy: Really skeptical of this.

Ross Blocher: Again, I really don't know what to expect.

Carrie Poppy: Now, Nutella is hazelnut spread, correct?

Ross Blocher: Mm-hm. I'm a big fan of hazelnut spread, though do I ever think to order it? I guess I'm a fan of hazelnut in candy.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I like hazelnut.

[00:35:00]

I feel like Nutella is not default vegan, if I recall correctly. I'll certainly try this, but I think that's why I don't regularly buy it, if I remember correctly.

Ross Blocher: Sugar, palm oil, hazelnuts, skim milk.

Carrie Poppy: Ah, there you go.

Ross Blocher: And then cocoa. So, there is like chocolate built into it as well.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, well, chocolate, love that.

Ross Blocher: Fresh pickle for Carrie.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. I love pickle. I love chocolate. I love hazelnut. But this sounds bad.

Ross Blocher: Never the twain shall meet. Okay, Carrie is not excited about the prospect of this.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, it looks like it's gonna ruin both things. Okay. Ugh.

Ross Blocher: Here it comes your way. Alright, I've saved the rest of my pickle.

Carrie Poppy: Uh, it looks like a turd.

Ross Blocher: I will say Nutella goes on the pickle more easily. Or I've just gotten more experienced.

Carrie Poppy: It looks like a turd.

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, it looks gross, yeah, for sure.

Carrie Poppy: Disgust-o.

Ross Blocher: Well, you know, just by coincidence. Weird, we love coffee and chocolate so much, but both of them are just, you know, poop color.

Carrie Poppy: No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

Ross Blocher: Hmm.

Carrie Poppy: Oh! It happened! It happened! It happened!

Ross Blocher: Oh no! Abort!

Carrie Poppy: That sweet pickle effect! But I do want this hazelnut.

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: Carrie has removed the hazelnut from the pickle, enjoyed that all on its own.

Carrie Poppy: Mmm. But no, fuck you, whoever sent this in. Fuck you! This is not good.

Ross Blocher: I'd love to disagree with you, but I'm with you on this one too. For a moment, you taste just one, and your brain is kind of thinking about that one. You're like, mmm, yeah. Sweet. Super sweet.

Carrie Poppy: You're like yeah, I like that.

Ross Blocher: Hazelnut, yum. But then you get like, oh, there's the pickle flavor. Also yum, but, oh, now I'm getting them together. And I would say it's a new and worse flavor.

Carrie Poppy: Uh-huh. A disgusting baby. That's a Lindbergh baby.

Ross Blocher: You might go higher than me on this, but I'm going to say six.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, awful. I'm going to say—again, I don't remember what the—anything is happening with the numbers, but I'm going to say like 84.

Ross Blocher: *(Laughs.)* Okay. You've gone into—

Carrie Poppy: It's really disgusting and shouldn't have happened.

Ross Blocher: If you could just rewind time. *(Singing.)* If you could turn back time.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, one of the worst decisions we've made on a podcast founded on making poor decisions together was eating this pickle covered in hazelnut.

Ross Blocher: I'm all pickle handed. I really need to wash this off before I can touch my phone again.

Carrie Poppy: Oh yeah, should we wash? Okay, I will too.

(Water sounds.)

(Whispering.) Listeners, Ross is off washing his hands, and I think this is a really good time for you guys and I to get together, you know, really get on the same page about our big plot.

(Loudly.) Oh, hey, Ross!

Ross Blocher: *(Off mic.)* What are you saying about me?

Carrie Poppy: I wasn't—I don't know what you mean. I wasn't doing anything.

Ross Blocher: I'm going to have access to this audio later.

Carrie Poppy: I was just hanging out. Just thinking, just thinking out loud.

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah? Okay, okay. Alright, two pickles remain.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Okay. Wow. So, four people submitted things with pickles. Wow.

Ross Blocher: You're going to hate this.

Carrie Poppy: *(Laughing.)* Great intro.

Ross Blocher: But McKenna Warner tells us the combination of an iced Dr. Pepper and dill pickle is currently trending on TikTok.

Carrie Poppy: No! Oh no! For what? Why? Because they like it?

Ross Blocher: Well, people just do awkward, weird challenges on TikTok.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. But is this one supposed to be good or bad?

Ross Blocher: That's a good question. Let me see if I can find a TikTok video about it. Would you try pickle Dr. Pepper?

Clip:

Speaker: So, this right here is a pickle Dr. Pepper. So, it's Dr. Pepper with dill pickle slices in it. And don't knock it until you try it. If you like pickles and you like Dr. Pepper and you're probably like, "Ew, gross! I would never, ever drink that." But there's a lot of people that do drink this. Did you hear the way she took my order? I'm not the only person that's ever ordered this, babe. It's really good. Y'all should try it. If y'all try it, let me know in the comments! Bye! Mee-maw loves y'all!

Ross Blocher: Okay. That's what the youth are doing these days.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. I don't like Dr. Pepper at all. Let's—here we go.

Ross Blocher: Right. I know you don't. So, I guess, and it sounds like we have to like stew it for a bit. So, maybe we stew a pickle in some Dr. Pepper while we maybe have pickles. And—

Carrie Poppy: Here's my reject pickle.

Ross Blocher: Okay. And you're going to put it in a cup.

Carrie Poppy: Uh, yes. Ice. Pickle.

(Ross giggles.)

Awful.

(Soda opening.)

Ross Blocher: Carrie now has a pickle spear stewing in a glass. Maybe we'll just share the glass on that one?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, okay, and we're gonna leave it for a little bit?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, let's leave it. Okay, now let's try to see if we can get some of this pickle in some of the vegan vanilla ice cream that's in your freezer.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, huh! So, this one reminds me of *I Love Lucy*.

Ross Blocher: Oh, why is that?

Carrie Poppy: When Lucy is pregnant, she craves ice cream and pickles. And I think this is basically what Ricky makes her, but I've always thought, well, it sounds horrible! Because I hate sweet pickles, *(through gritted teeth)* and you're going to ruin perfectly good ice cream and a perfectly good pickle.

Ross Blocher: Okay. It's cashew based. Yeah, it's credible.

Carrie Poppy: It's fine. It's waiting for something.

Ross Blocher: Guffman.

[00:40:00]

Are you a Christopher Guest fan?

Carrie Poppy: I am. I also like Samuel Beckett.

Ross Blocher: For whatever reason, most of the Christopher Guest humor just does nothing for me.

Carrie Poppy: Really?! Oh, I would think that would be your shit. Okay. Oh, interesting. So, you didn't like *Guffman*?

Ross Blocher: Mm-mm.

Carrie Poppy: Woah! But I also grew up in a theatre department.

Ross Blocher: Oh no.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, it's terrible, right? Terrible. Thumbs down. 99 out of 1000 or whatever. Whatever's bad.

Ross Blocher: Worse than the films of Christopher Guest.

Carrie Poppy: AH! You're that anti Christopher Guest?

Ross Blocher: Well, I said it's worse. It's also worse than *Jurassic Park*.

Carrie Poppy: That's wild. No, I know, I know. But you're—you know, you're blind.
(Laughs.)

Ross Blocher: I could care less. (Laughs.)

Carrie Poppy: Okay, so you've seen *Guffman*. Have you seen *Best in Show*?

(He confirms.)

Okay, have you seen *A Mighty Wind*?

Ross Blocher: No, that's the only major one I'm still waiting on.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, yeah, I mean, *Guff*—if you don't like *Guffman*, I feel like there's not a lot of hope.

Ross Blocher: I like *Spinal Tap*, but just for a few moments of *Spinal Tap*.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. This is a wild take. Okay.

Ross Blocher: I think *This is Spinal Tap* just got by on sentimental points. Normally I would not like it.

Carrie Poppy: Yes. I think—yeah, that's at least fair. Yeah. Not into *This is Spinal Tap*.

Ross Blocher: Oh, my favorite film with Christopher Guest? *The Princess Bride*.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, is he in that?

Ross Blocher: He's the six fingered man.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. See, that's probably my least favorite movie with Christopher Guest.

Ross Blocher: He's a real chameleon, I'll give him that. Like, I'll watch the movie and at the end I'll be like, "Wait, who did he play?!"

Carrie Poppy: Oh yeah, yeah. His (*uncertainly*) daughter—? Niece? His relative is doing a show at the Elysian Theater nearby. Her last name is also Guest.

Ross Blocher: She's a special Guest.

Carrie Poppy: This is awful. I hate it.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, not good. Why am I still eating it?

Carrie Poppy: I'm not sure. Science?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, we're doing this for science.

Carrie Poppy: Belief in the unknown?

(*They giggle.*)

Ross Blocher: Okay, do you think we're ready to drink this? Pickle pepper. Oh! You might call it a peck of pickled peppers!

(Carrie agrees with a groan.)

Okay, well, that's clearly the name of the drink, people! You missed an opportunity!

Carrie Poppy: It should be called the Peter Piper! Yeah, there we go.

Ross Blocher: Yeah! I would accept that as well. TikTok, do your thing. Fix it.

Carrie Poppy: Dr. Piper? Dr. Piper!

Ross Blocher: Fix it, TikTok!

Carrie Poppy: Dr. Piper! There it is.

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: Alright, that's good. Ooh, that's good.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Thank you! *(Coughs.)* I guess it slightly improves Dr. Pepper, a bad drink.

Ross Blocher: Okay. Adds some saltiness and brininess.

Carrie Poppy: It like slightly distracts from the awful taste that is Dr. Pepper.

Ross Blocher: I'm trying to think if someone handed me this. Dr. Pepper. And said like, "Here's your Dr. Pepper." What would I think?

Carrie Poppy: Probably not much.

Ross Blocher: It's subtle. Yeah. It didn't really do too much to the Dr. Pepper. I would be neutral on that. I think it's maybe a waste of time, but it's not worse.

Carrie Poppy: But it's bad because it was Dr. Pepper. I feel a little nauseous.

Ross Blocher: I like Dr. Pepper.

Carrie Poppy: Bye. I hate Dr. Pepper. Drew likes it. How's your Drew?

Ross Blocher: He's Drawing well. He—*(laughs)*.

Carrie Poppy: Did you do that? Did you say he's Drawing well?

(Ross confirms with a laugh.)

Good, good, good, good, good, good.

Ross Blocher: Got a very satisfied smile.

Carrie Poppy: I do that to Drew, that sort of stuff all the time.

Ross Blocher: (*Laughs.*) He just enrolled at my alma mater, Woodbury University.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, congratulations!

Ross Blocher: Yeah, to study game design. So, he's doing quite well. Yeah.

Carrie Poppy: He's been talking about doing that since he was like nine. That's great.

Ross Blocher: The video games are a passion. Oh, by the way, if you want to put away your grapes, I think we're all done with those. And the ice cream probably should go in the freezer.

You know, a good test of this, I was just trying to legitimately clear my throat, and I went for the nearest drink to me, which happened to be this pickle Dr. Pepper. And in that moment of not expecting it, still perfectly pleasant. So, if someone drops a pickle in your Dr. Pepper, none the worse.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, sure. You had a bad drink to begin with.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. I'm going to give this—I'll give it a two.

Carrie Poppy: 49. Bad. I think I'm starting to feel the pot.

Ross Blocher: And what does that feel like?

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Like a little like lightheaded, takes the edge off the way alcohol does a little, so a little like easy going, flow state, chill. (*Laughs.*) You want to go surfing?

Ross Blocher: This is weird. 'Cause I was like, "Is it just that Carrie was saying those words, and I was starting to follow along with them, or am I also feeling it at this moment?" And then it's like oh no. Am I like just being swayed by the thought that I might be feeling the effect of the pot that I am now? And I think I definitely am now.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, really? Okay. (*Laughs.*) What's happening?

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Things are getting a little softer. Like kind of like in a haze, and I'm a little more like removed from myself, kind of observing myself being myself right now.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, similar to your ayahuasca experience, but I'm sure much subtler. But you—I remember you feeling like an observer.

Ross Blocher: Okay. But it's so weird that you said that and then immediately I'm feeling the effects of this.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Interesting.

Ross Blocher: Okay. Hopefully this doesn't get in the way of podcasting.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. Well, if it does, the listeners knew what they were in for.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Oh, it's like even hearing us through my headphones feels a little different already. Okay.

Carrie Poppy: Oh yeah, you may find that there's a difference in your cognitive tempo.

[00:45:00]

Ross Blocher: Tempooo?

Carrie Poppy: So, for example, it may feel more comfortable if I speak to you very slightly more slowly than you're used to.

Ross Blocher: Okay, well. Hopefully this still works out to usable podca—I didn't think about that beforehand.

Carrie Poppy: No, they'll love it. They're gonna love it. Everyone loves people doing drugs for the first time.

Ross Blocher: Here goes, okay.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughs.*) Here goes! We're 78 minutes in. Here we go! Well, here we start. Here we go. Taking off.

Ross Blocher: It's just the experience of the effects of pot. This is—yeah.

Carrie Poppy: Fair enough.

Ross Blocher: That's what's going. Okay. So, I think we've gotten all of our pickle duties out of the way. Thank you, pickles. You have served well.

Carrie Poppy: Thank you, pickles!

Ross Blocher: Don't worry, we'll come back for more of you later.

Carrie Poppy: Also the name of Buddy Sorrell's wife on the *Dick Van Dyke Show*.

Ross Blocher: Pickles?

Carrie Poppy: Pickles. Isn't that a great name? Pickles Sorrell.

Ross Blocher: That is a good name! Stop saying so many things I agree with. I feel like I'm just a yes man.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughs.*) Donald Trump 2024.

Ross Blocher: No, Carrie!

(*They laugh.*)

Now you've gone too far! I vehemently disagree.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, great. We did it. We did it.

Ross Blocher: Wow, you got there real fast. Nicely done. Alright, sooo—

Carrie Poppy: Oh yeah! How's his trial going?

Ross Blocher: So, now it's up to the jurors. Both sides have rested, and the defense called two witnesses. And of course, none of them were Donald Trump. He does this thing where he keeps telling people, “Oh yeah, I'll totally speak.” And then he lied and said like, “The judge gagged me and put me in a gag order. Now I can't. I can't even testify.”

And the judge the next day was like, “That was false.”

Carrie Poppy: Wow. This is crazy, you guys. I used to know about these kinds of things, but I've just divested.

Ross Blocher: So, that's the—everyone calls it the hush money trial, but it was really like the illegal tax filing crime. But it just involved the salacious story with Stormy Daniels.

Carrie Poppy: Well, I'd like him not to be the president again.

(*Barking.*)

Oh, there's my dog. Oh, that was it! That was the first Bly bark on the podcast!

Ross Blocher: Hey! Bly bark! (*Claps.*) Oh, oh, and yeah, I'm feeling you down here now. Hello! Hello!

Carrie Poppy: Welcome everybody to a very special episode of *Flavor Babies*. Ross is a little bit high. Bly is here for the first time.

Ross Blocher: Bly, I think, is excited because of one of the many flavors on my hands right now.

Carrie Poppy: Oh yeah, peanut butter?

Ross Blocher: I got licked a few times there. Yeah, or pickle. Who knows?

Carrie Poppy: Come here! I mean, dogs famously love peanut butter.

Ross Blocher: How did we get off on this? I think because you were mentioning someone had the name Pickles on a show.

Carrie Poppy: Pickles Sorrell.

Ross Blocher: Okay. What's going on?

Carrie Poppy: I see ketchup on the table.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. I thought if we needed a real gross out one, someone suggested that when they were young, they really liked eating brownies with ketchup.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, god! Okay.

Ross Blocher: Yep! That was the response I had, and I thought, well, we gotta do it. Because every episode, you know, you gotta have something that puts you on the edge.

Carrie Poppy: It's true. That's a *Flavor Babies* classic move.

Ross Blocher: Okay, so when I was first talking earlier about the effects coming on, I felt like almost a flush. And I was like, oh no, I feel something coming on real strong. And now it's still there. Like the vision's a little separated, but I guess I lost the flush feeling, which had me a little more worried. Like, oh no, what's happening to me?

Okay. So, I have brought these petite brownie bites. I expect to eat them later without ketchup, unless this is like surprisingly good. I don't think it will. I think this is going to be just as bad as we would expect.

Carrie Poppy: When I was a kid, apparently, I would put ketchup on pancakes.

Ross Blocher: Oh, I just smelled the ketchup, and it like made me feel nauseated, because I'm looking at a brownie at the same time. I'm sorry, continue.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, wow. Uh, what was I saying? When I was a kid, apparently I would put ketchup on pancakes.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, that is weird.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, apparently I was into this. I don't remember it, but my mom says it's true.

Ross Blocher: Okay. My story is we were ordering hot dogs on a road trip, and I asked the guy to put ketchup on mine. And my mom said, "Wait, wait, hold on. Don't do that. I've never heard of this before."

And I said, "No, that's how I usually eat my hot dogs with ketchup."

She's like, "I've never heard of that before. No, we're not going to do that."

And like, she wouldn't let me order the hot dog with ketchup.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughs.*) What?! What a strange thing to control.

Ross Blocher: Because she hasn't heard of it. Like, well, what if I want it, and I'll eat it? It doesn't matter. It's not toxic.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, yeah. (*Laughs.*) That's so weird.

Ross Blocher: My mom gets like fixated on this is how something should go.

Carrie Poppy: That's not how it's done.

Ross Blocher: You'll keep hearing about it until it happens that way. Anyways. Okay. So, I apologize in advance. This is gross.

Carrie Poppy: It doesn't feel right.

Ross Blocher: I'm sorry. And this one is—

Carrie Poppy: It does not look good! Oh no.

Ross Blocher: Oh no! God, it grosses me out!

Carrie Poppy: And it's a little, tiny brownie. So, it looks like I'm at like a wedding, and the bride and groom are off taking their photos, and I've been handed this bullshit while they wait for dinner. Ugh! (*Laughing.*) This is so bad looking.

Ross Blocher: I have to make sure I give myself as much as I gave you. Oh no, I'm really dreading this! I don't want—

Carrie Poppy: Should we take a pic?

[00:50:00]

Ross Blocher: Oh, totally. I got it.

Carrie Poppy: You've got it, you've got it. It doesn't smell good. It doesn't smell good together. And I love ketchup, and I love chocolaaate! Okay, here I go.

Ross Blocher: Oh, Carrie! Oh no!

Carrie Poppy: Oh no. Oh, it's awful! Of course it is!

Ross Blocher: Oh no! Oh, I should have done it at the same time as you. Now I have even more dread, okay. Oh my god!

Carrie Poppy: Oh, it's terrible!

Ross Blocher: Why does this intimidate me so much?

Carrie Poppy: Oh, it's awful! Oh no! Bad!

Ross Blocher: (*Yelping.*) Oh no! Oh! Oh! Ten! Bad!

Carrie Poppy: BAAAD! FUCK YOU, TOO!

Ross Blocher: Ten! That's a ten! Oh!

Carrie Poppy: Awful!

Ross Blocher: Bad baby! That's a bad baby!

(They laugh.)

Oh no, I don't want to eat the other part of it.

Carrie Poppy: Fuck! It's so bad!

Ross Blocher: Oh man! It's a mini bite, it's even not that big of a brownie.

Carrie Poppy: Can I drink your pee again?

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: Why is this so bad?!

(*Carrie wails.*)

It combines the worst parts of the sweet and the chocolatey. Ugh.

Carrie Poppy: I'm just gonna eat the bottom of this chocolate.

Ross Blocher: Alright. I'm gonna do it. I'm gonna eat the whole rest of it at once. Mmm—
NOOO!

Carrie Poppy: Awful. (*Mouth full.*) Oh, it's terrible, you guys. Are we Steve-O?

Ross Blocher: Steve-O? Is that the guy from *Jackass*?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, is this *Jackass*?

Ross Blocher: I got to meet the main guy from that once.

Carrie Poppy: Steve-O? There are other ones.

Ross Blocher: He has a unique name. He's like a big deal. Oh, Johnny Knoxville.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah. That guy.

Ross Blocher: He came to give a talk at our work, and actually it was very insightful and measured and like, “Well, you've grown up, haven't you?”

Carrie Poppy: Well, you know, my dear friend, Natalie Palamides is in the *Jackass* movie.

Ross Blocher: Really?! Oh, wow! Okay.

Carrie Poppy: I make a weekly show with her as well.

Ross Blocher: Pickle Dr. Pepper. Let's see how I feel about it right now. Oh, the pickle has been busy while I've been gone, and it's taking over the drink more. I like it a little less.

Carrie Poppy: Oh shit. Definitely feeling the THC.

Ross Blocher: Oh, really? See, now I have this thought like, “Oh, Carrie just felt it. I'm about to.”

It reminds me of my first time on *Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance*. It's this new fancy ride in the Batuu region, Galaxy's Edge of Disneyland. So—well, where was I going with that? It reminded me of that. Okay. This is the pot.

Carrie Poppy: Potcast. Gotta be a common one. Gotta be a common one.

Ross Blocher: Oh, you can't be the first person to have said that, but first time I've heard it, and I like it. Okay. So. I was telling you about this new Rise of the Resistance ride, because it is analogous to what you said in that there is this a moment of anticipation in the ride when you get into this little escape pod. And through the video screen, you see other escape pods drop, and you have just enough time to put together, "Oh, that looks like the thing that I'm in. That one just dropped and that one just—(*gasps*) I'm about to drop." And oh, I just cracked up. 'Cause the timing of it was perfect. Just the moment I realized, "Oh, that means we're going to—!" And I started flying. Oh, so great.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughs.*) Cute! That's cute.

Ross Blocher: So, now that you're saying you're really feeling the effects, I'm like, "Oh, here it comes!" And yeah, I had a hard time finishing that last sentence.

Carrie Poppy: My dog and my cat are chasing each other. Can you hear it?

Ross Blocher: Yeah. You know what? I feel like normally I would, and I'd be like we should stop talking for the podcast right now. Wait for these animals to stop chasing each other around the floor.

Carrie Poppy: Totally. Totally. This is a very special episode of *Flavor Babies*.

Ross Blocher: We've got a new pet.

Carrie Poppy: Exactly. It's Bly Poppy's first episode. I went to Disneyland kind of recently.

Ross Blocher: Did you? Good!

Carrie Poppy: With my friends, Claire and Jude. I only stayed a little time; they stayed a lot longer.

Ross Blocher: Two Beatles references.

Carrie Poppy: Jude, I get, where's Claire?

Ross Blocher: In "my friends".

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay, okay!

Ross Blocher: You know, I think what happened was you started saying that, and I started thinking (*singing*) I get by with a little help from my friends.

And then you said Jude, and I was like oh!

Carrie Poppy: We gotta find a Beatles song for Claire.

Ross Blocher: (*Parodying "Michelle" by the Beatles.*) Mich-Claire, ma belle.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, great, good.

(*They laugh.*)

Okay, but I went there, and I also went through that *Star Wars* land. And boy, they gotta make it more colorful in there.

Ross Blocher: Oh, it stands out. And yeah.

Carrie Poppy: Drab!

Ross Blocher: It feels like you're in an outpost planet. Very good theming.

Carrie Poppy: Drab.

Ross Blocher: I had a great time there. I took my mom there for the first time this last week to the *Star Wars* portion.

Carrie Poppy: Well, those stormtroopers follow you around and say funny stuff. That's fun.

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah.

Carrie Poppy: One of them came up to me and said, (*menacingly*) "Oh, you think you're very clever, don't you?" Wasn't doing anything, so not really.

Ross Blocher: I feel like they use the opportunity to flirt where they can.

Carrie Poppy: Ohhh, okay!

Ross Blocher: You might have had a little flirt-by there.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay. And I was just blind to it. I was like, "What are you talking about? I wasn't doing anything strange at all!"

Ross Blocher: This is not the droid you're looking for. Move on! Move on.

Carrie Poppy: Good to know.

Ross Blocher: Oh! Let's do one that was kind of exciting. This was posted in the form of a shared internet graphic. It made for a cool picture, because these visually separated a Monster energy drink and a Guinness.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, interesting. Okay. I don't want to drink too much of that, 'cause the—we're talking about—

Ross Blocher: A lot of caffeine.

Carrie Poppy: Well, we're talking about an upper and a downer. So, you're starting to really challenge your nervous system at that point.

Ross Blocher: Oh, good point!

[00:55:00]

Carrie Poppy: But I'll have a little sip of it.

Ross Blocher: These are the things people think about. Things to think about.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, remember those Four Loko deaths in like the early 2000s?

Ross Blocher: Oh! No.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, it's like some energy drink that killed people, because they were combining with alcohol.

Ross Blocher: Oh no!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, a sip will be fine.

Ross Blocher: Well, we'll give it a moment just to separate out, 'cause that's fun.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, cool. Our friend, Victor Figueroa, also often time editor of this pod.

Ross Blocher: Hi, Victor!

Carrie Poppy: He and I went to graduate school together, and he would drink like two to four Monster energy drinks a day. And he's such a chill guy. And I was always like how are you doing this?

Ross Blocher: Who are we talking about?

Carrie Poppy: Victor!

Ross Blocher: What?! Really?!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. In grad school, he'd drink like four of those in a day.

Ross Blocher: Well, so you had to think, well, how sedate can he be without him? Or this is the body adapting to a stimulant.

Carrie Poppy: I think the first time I ever had Guinness was at your tasting party at the book club.

Ross Blocher: Oh, really?

Carrie Poppy: Because someone had said that—

Ross Blocher: It tastes like chocolate.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, it tastes like chocolate when eaten with that berry.

Ross Blocher: Under the influence of the miracle berry. A very memorable book club. Well, geez.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, it's not separating much, is it?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, and you know what, now that I think about it, the picture that I was looking at was a brighter green, and standard Monster isn't the green I thought it was. So, I'm wondering if for the photo they did use Mountain Dew. Well, I guess maybe we'll let this one sit for a bit. See if it does separate. We do have the Jose Cuervo.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Which is a tequila.

Ross Blocher: Jose Cuervo Especial! And this one gets special notice, because it's my friend, Frank Copeland. What up, Frank? Who says, "Mountain Dew and Cuervo Especial Tequila makes a weirdly good drink. My friends and I call it Trailer Park Mayhem Fuel or the Elixir of Terrible Decisions."

Carrie Poppy: Okay, alright! (*Laughs.*)

Ross Blocher: Terrible Decisions. Seems apropos for tonight.

Carrie Poppy: It sounds a bit like a Midori Sour kind of a drink, and I enjoy a Midori Sour, so I'm willing to give this a go.

Ross Blocher: How much of each do you think—it seems like a little tequila goes a long way, right?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, definitely.

Ross Blocher: Okay, so I'm definitely putting in more Mountain Dew. I'd say like 3:1 ratio.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, okay, you're doing it in the—okay, cool.

Ross Blocher: I guess I don't need to like, stir this up or wait for it or anything, okay. Jose Cuervo Especial and Mountain Dew.

Carrie Poppy: A little specialty cocktail. Okay.

Ross Blocher: Woah! Woah! Okay. You know what? I'm going to say better than Mike's Harder Cranberry. Cranberry what?!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. God. Tequila, it just like—it shoots straight through you, like oof.

Ross Blocher: And this was the smallest unit of Jose Cuervo I could get without getting these like tiny little shot glasses that were a horrible deal. So, now I have got this large thing of Jose Cuervo.

Carrie Poppy: I mean, tequila is bad. (*Laughs.*) It tastes bad, it does something weird to you. It shoots through your body like so much electricity.

Ross Blocher: I liked it! I would definitely go back for more.

Carrie Poppy: No, I still like it. It's just a bad experience.

Ross Blocher: (*Laughs.*) Okay, okay.

Carrie Poppy: You know what I mean?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah. No, I feel like I'm overall positive on this one though.

Carrie Poppy: Remember when we had to wait in line for Amma, and it was like hour nine. And then we were like, "I'm just glad to still be here and upset."

(Ross agrees with a laugh.)

That's kind of how I feel with that drink. I'll still drink that, but is it good? No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

Ross Blocher: You just have to recalibrate your expectations. Okay. I'd drink through this.

Carrie Poppy: I'm going to give that a 33 out of 500.

Ross Blocher: No, I'm for it. I think it's a decent baby that feels—

Carrie Poppy: (*Chuckling.*) It is a decent baby.

Ross Blocher: —distinct from its parents. But yet combines the strengths of them both!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, totally. It's the *Moana* of cocktails.

(*They laugh and Ross agrees.*)

You know, you're honoring grandma, but you still honor your dad and mom.

Ross Blocher: I'm giving it a two.

Carrie Poppy: I like it fine for a cocktail, but you know.

Ross Blocher: And yet you say 35.

Carrie Poppy: Tequila, it's just—it's a wild. My scale makes! No! Sense! I think I've been consistent about that!

Ross Blocher: Oh, I thought you were going to like defend it. Like, “I expanded the scale though! So, proportionately, actually, it was a very concomitant with yours!”

Carrie Poppy: No, my defense is I have consistently said, “This makes no sense.”

Ross Blocher: You know what bullet you dodged today?

Carrie Poppy: What?

Ross Blocher: Poptarts and ravioli.

Carrie Poppy: (*Snorts.*) Any flavor?!

Ross Blocher: Someone shared a graphic of that, and there was like a social media post where someone had posted a picture of Poptarts in ravioli, and then the Poptart company had responded on Twitter or whatever it was and said, “Delete your account.”

Carrie Poppy: (*Cackles.*) Good for them.

Ross Blocher: So, there was nobody recommending it as something that actually tasted good or provided an interesting combo. It was just a funny internet meme. So, I almost bought us Poptarts and ravioli. But we can't eat and drink everything.

Carrie Poppy: We can't, people! You're always writing in with all your babies.

Ross Blocher: Also, we were saved from Vegemite by the fact that you have to go to a different store for that.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, interesting. I still can't remember if I've had Vegemite. I have this idea in my head of something very, very salty.

[01:00:00]

Is that right? Vegemite? Super salty?

Ross Blocher: Yes, that is correct. Sorry, my brain was doing some marijuana thing right then and there.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughing.*) Okay, fair. Right then and there.

Ross Blocher: The character of your voice in my ears amplified and changed.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, wow!

Ross Blocher: So, then I proceeded to stare at you and then try to separate the mention of Vegemite from the mention of very salty. But I was—

Carrie Poppy: It's really impressive that you can narrate this though!

Ross Blocher: I was thinking about the change of the perception of your voice though.

Carrie Poppy: Wow! Is it more dynamic, more loud, more soft?

Ross Blocher: Yeah. It's like more surround, more just like into my head. Yeah. Like, it feels like you're now talking directly to Ross's brain!

Carrie Poppy: (*In a demonic whisper.*) Heeeeey, what's up, Ross?

Ross Blocher: Oh no!

Carrie Poppy: Ross has headphones on.

Ross Blocher: Who are you?

You know, I think other than our drink, that's not separating like it's supposed to—so, maybe we use the wrong drinks, or maybe it was a fake graphic to begin with—I guess we might as well just drink it. That's the Guinness and the Monster energy drink.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, it smells bad!

Ross Blocher: Does it?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. Okay, here we go.

Ross Blocher: Okay. Carrie's drinking. Oh!

Carrie Poppy: OH! What the fuck?! Oh, it tastes like Ipecac. Oh, that's horrible!

Ross Blocher: Ipecac? I've heard of that, but—

Carrie Poppy: Oh my god! Horrible!

Ross Blocher: OH! Wow!

Carrie Poppy: Oh my godddd!

Ross Blocher: This is a horrendous flavor baby!

Carrie Poppy: Who did that?! Who did that to ussss?!

Ross Blocher: Yeah, I can't remember who shared the graphic, but yeah, it's just, "Hey, look what I found online. Maybe you should do this as well."

Carrie Poppy: Awful! Six out of zebra.

Ross Blocher: It's a new and bad flavor that combines the worst of everything and constitutes a greater gestalt of horribleness.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah.

Ross Blocher: Unexplainable by its constituent parts.

Carrie Poppy: We don't want it. We don't wish for it. We're not glad it's here.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Gross. There's the me that wants to complete things I've started. And there's the me who realizes we can just wash that down the drain.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah.

Ross Blocher: Bad! Okay. Do not mix Monster energy drink...

Carrie Poppy: And Guinness.

Ross Blocher: And Guinness. You will have ruined the Guinness. You will have ruined the Guinness. You will have ruined the energy drink.

Carrie Poppy: That's very bad.

Ross Blocher: Neither is improved.

Carrie Poppy: Okay, is that all the babies?

Ross Blocher: I think we've had all the babies!

Carrie Poppy: Wow. (*Teasing.*) Oh shoot, we haven't been recording the whole time. (*Laughs.*)

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, wouldn't that be great?

Carrie Poppy: Can you imagine?

Ross Blocher: I was going to say, another one that I kind of had on my list, but you had both the ingredients for, was Beerios. One person had said, "Beerios, please," which would be Cheerios floating in beer.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, beer and Cheerios? Should we do it? I mean, I have Honey Nut Cheerios.

Ross Blocher: Sure! Okay.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Here, we have these little bowls.

Ross Blocher: You even gave me that detail, and I said, "You know, I think those will qualify."

Carrie Poppy: Here you go. There's a little tiny bowl.

Ross Blocher: This particular commenter was excited for us to do Beerios, but without really expressing whether that was something that they actually enjoyed. They just wanted to have us try it.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Fair enough. We show up, so they don't have to.

Ross Blocher: And we throw up, so they don't have to.

(*Carrie chuckles.*)

Oh, oh, Bly's getting so excited. "This sounds like my kind of foood!" Thank you. I guess alcohol is another theme. We've had quite a bit of alcohol in this episode.

Carrie Poppy: That's true. People love it.

Ross Blocher: For our usual *Flavor Babies*. Well, and marijuana!

Carrie Poppy: Oh, yeah, if you want to give me some beer.

Ross Blocher: Oh, oh, yeah. Oh, Guinness will do for that. Yeah, this looks fun, like I'm kind of happy just seeing these floating—well, they're even kind of—some of them are heart shaped.

Carrie Poppy: Oh!

Ross Blocher: What's going on? What did you try?

Carrie Poppy: I licked off my spoon which had—

Ross Blocher: Ketchup?

Carrie Poppy: Ketchup, vanilla, and brownie, and pickle on it.

(They giggle.)

Horrible.

Ross Blocher: Gross.

Carrie Poppy: Horrible. Okay, I need water.

Ross Blocher: Poor Carrie's got a lot of cleaning to do later. I'm totally just gonna skip out and be like, “Well, good luck with that, bye!” Beerios.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. I mean, milk's better, but this is fine.

Ross Blocher: This is fine like that little dog who's burning up?

Carrie Poppy: No, like this is—this is fine.

Ross Blocher: Oh. Oh, weird.

Carrie Poppy: It's not worth ditching milk for.

Ross Blocher: That was a real surprise of what I was gearing myself for versus what I got.

Ross Blocher: Somehow I had momentarily forgotten about the bitterness of Guinness.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay.

Ross Blocher: And then it just hit me like a rushing wind with like a carbonation kind of sensation. Like, I wasn't expecting it to tingle my tongue as well.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. It's intense. Guinness is intense. Honey Nut Cheerios are good though.

Ross Blocher: I don't like it.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. I don't think I like it either.

Ross Blocher: It messes with my expectations of what a good bite is going to be. And it like shocks me every time, like you thought this would be better! It's not!

Carrie Poppy: Still no. I really like Honey Nut Cheerios too. So, again, it's like we're ruining something good.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, the honey nut taste of Cheerios. Not a lot of sugar to weigh down those Cheerios.

Carrie Poppy: Uh-huh, uh-huh. Is that from a commercial?

Ross Blocher: Oh, yeah. That was the jingle. (*Singing.*) The unsinkable taste of Cheerios, not a lot of sugar to weigh down those Cheerios!

Carrie Poppy: Oh, okay. This is like '90s, right?

Ross Blocher: (*Singing.*) The unsinkable taste!

Oh yeah, the only time I was watching commercials of Ch-Ch-Cheerios!

I keep falling for it!

[01:05:00]

I keep thinking this looks tasty, and then I taste it, and it's bad!

Carrie Poppy: You're still eating it! Huh. I just had the one spoonful.

Ross Blocher: So, you were saying.

Carrie Poppy: Do you remember this jingle? (*Singing.*) Tastes too good to be, but it's true. Tastes too good to be good for you.

Ross Blocher: Oh, I really like it, but no. I don't remember it.

Carrie Poppy: Right? I think it was about some kind of like less fatty bacon or something, but it was in the early '90s—and well, now we need to know.

Ross Blocher: Amazing. Every now and then one of those little acorns will pop up in my brain. Like, (*singing*) my buddy!

(*Carrie joins.*)

My buddy, my buddy, my buddy, wherever I go, he goes!

Ross Blocher: And then of course they had Kid Sister as well. (*Singing.*) Kid Sister and me!

(*Mouth full.*) OH! Why?! Every time! I think it's gonna be a good bite. Like, “Oh, Beerios!”

Carrie Poppy: Why can't I find this jingle? Well, someone out there will find it for me.

Ross Blocher: This one keeps making me fall for it. I'm giving it an 8 out of spite.

Carrie Poppy: Why are you still eating it?! Wow, okay.

Ross Blocher: It really looks delicious, but it tastes so bad! It ruins the Cheerios.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, yeah, yeah. How many bites of that do you think you ate? 7? 8?

Ross Blocher: Somewhere in that range.

(*They laugh.*)

Carrie Poppy: Well, okay. Yeah, I had the one, and it was bad!

Ross Blocher: Feels like it mirrors our firewalking experience.

Carrie Poppy: Our firewalking? (*Laughs.*) Yeah, a bit, a bit. This is gonna scar your stomach tissue.

Ross Blocher: Wow, we had so many babies tonight!

Carrie Poppy: We did!

Ross Blocher: Babies of flavor. Let me wash it all down with some Mike's Harder Cranberry. Cranberry what?!

Carrie Poppy: (*Mouth full.*) What was your favorite baby?

Ross Blocher: You know, I shouldn't have doubted peanut butter, because it had the power to change celery into something comestible. And in the same way, I think peanut butter and pickle was actually like I actually am enjoying this.

Carrie Poppy: Yep, peanut butter and pickle was good. Peanut butter and pickle was good.

Ross Blocher: Any other favorite flavor babies for you?

Carrie Poppy: I'm very happy about the Saltines Pepsi combo.

Ross Blocher: I feel like that bore out!

Carrie Poppy: What else? I liked—I feel like there was one drink that I was impressed by. Not enough to remember it. Maybe it was the Mountain Dew and Tequila. That was fine.

Ross Blocher: I would drink that if you handed it to me at a party. I'd be like alright!

Carrie Poppy: Yeah.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. That's another positive baby that came of these birthings.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, wait, what was the punch one? We had a—oh yeah, it was Mike's hard and...

Ross Blocher: And the Gatorade. The Cucumber Gatorade.

Carrie Poppy: Oh! That's right. That's right.

Ross Blocher: And that was such a—it was like the weird neutral one with just that hint of cucumber. That was the only lifeline that tied it for me to a real-life thing.

Okay. But the one I'm calling the absolute worst, the absolute grossest is—

Ross & Carrie: Ketchup on a brownie.

Carrie Poppy: Teeeerrible. Terrible.

Ross Blocher: That's a crime against many things—nature, humanity.

Carrie Poppy: I will also say pickle and vanilla ice cream is horrific.

Ross Blocher: (*Beat.*) Yes, it is. Sorry. That was my marijuana brain, apparently.

(*Carrie laughs.*) Your words just kind of separated.

Carrie Poppy: Sluggish cognitive tempo.

Ross Blocher: Yep! And I had to like, hold on, I've got all three of them. I got them held. I'm going to put together the three parts of the thing she said.

Carrie Poppy: I hope you don't edit out all these silences. They need to know.

Ross Blocher: No, no. I'm sure this is exactly what people want to know. Very interesting.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I think so. Interesting. You might be the only person in America who did ayahuasca before marijuana.

(*They laugh.*)

Ross Blocher: I feel like that does set me apart.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, absolutely.

Ross Blocher: I don't see anyone else getting to that path of their life.

Carrie Poppy: Write into the pod if you're like, "No, I did ayahuasca first and then marijuana."

Ross Blocher: Yeah, yeah. I think I'm in a very small Venn diagram.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. You could be Ross's best friend.

Ross Blocher: There's this giant circle, but you have to like zoom in like fractal style to find the intersecting circle of people who had ayahuasca first.

Carrie Poppy: The other Rosses. (*Laughs.*) Oh, what was I—? Oh, also, by the way, Morgan Spurlock died.

Ross Blocher: I know, I just heard that.

Carrie Poppy: What's crazy is he did single handedly, it seems, get McDonald's to stop doing the supersizing thing, which is hard to argue with. On the other hand, I always thought *Supersize Me* had a kind of weird premise. Like, every single time they offer me a supersize, I'm gonna say yes? What are we proving?

Ross Blocher: Oh, I think there's an interesting point to be had in that.

Carrie Poppy: Okay.

Ross Blocher: You're showing like if everyone took this so seriously that they did as you asked every single time, this would change things. It would have an impact on people's lives. I don't know. And it makes the whole—

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, but true of a lot of stuff.

Ross Blocher: It makes the whole enterprise of asking someone if they want to supersize something—it changed the appearance of that to something kind of absurd and ridiculous.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I don't know. I just—from the beginning, I was like—

Ross Blocher: Him pointing that out made us aware of this phrase all of a sudden.

Carrie Poppy: Well, the phrase, yes.

Ross Blocher: And its implications.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. I just—I don't know. I don't buy it. Now he's dead.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, like from cancer, right?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, they didn't announce what cancer yet.

[01:10:00]

I want to know what cancer.

Ross Blocher: So, yeah, you expect eventually they'll clarify.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, yeah, you would think so. At 53! I'm like I need answers. I need explanations. What if this happens to me? I got 13 years to figure this out. You tell me. Listen!

Ross Blocher: Definitely my processing time is down. I'm just on a three second delay here. I'm enjoying it.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughs.*) If you die—if you're listening to this show and you're about to die, please let your loved ones know, “Let's just go ahead and put the cause of death in my obituary. Carrie's gonna need to know at some point, so if you can just go ahead and put it in there.”

Ross Blocher: Carrie's gonna need to know. Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. Wait, Carrie's supposed to know at some point?

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, I just mean whenever I read the obituary and they don't say the cause of death, I'm like, “(Snorts.) We're all gonna—well, we all have to go find it now?!”

I just—if I die, (*clapping*) put it in there. First sentence, Carrie Poppy died, hit by a train. Okay, theen everything that I've done.

Ross Blocher: That's what confused me, because I was picturing, okay—oh no, Carrie just died, and she's okay with everybody knowing her cause of death. But then you're coming around to saying like, you know, this is what I want for me, in a situation where someone else dies. And I was watching you observe your own death from a newspaper. And was hung up on that.

Carrie Poppy: Oh, this is complex. This is complex. I just—

Ross Blocher: wonder how much of this is going to make sense later when I'm reviewing this audio.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughing.*) I hate it when I read obituary and I'm like how did they die? I need to avoid it. So, just go ahead and tell me.

Ross Blocher: And you're saying that I, myself, want this to occur when I die for the benefit of others who are not me.

Carrie Poppy: Well, no. (*Laughs.*) I would say—

Ross Blocher: Well, I'm going to try real hard. I'm trying real hard.

Carrie Poppy: I'm saying that the listeners should proactively tell (*laughs*) their immediate loved ones, “Listen. (*Clap, clap.*) Spouse. If I die unexpectedly, put my cause of death in the obituary.”

Ross Blocher: This takes Carrie out of the equation.

Carrie Poppy: “So that Carrie Poppy, when researching me—which is obviously gonna happen sometimes—”

Ross Blocher: It makes sense now! I get it. Thank you for selling that.

Carrie Poppy: “I want her to know how I died so she doesn't spiral out about whether it's gonna happen to her!” (*Laughs.*)

Ross Blocher: Okay, so let me just make sure I can repeat this back to you. So, Carrie is emboldening anyone listening to (*laughs*) participate in the exercise of—

Carrie Poppy: What's this Christopher Walken voice!?

Ross Blocher: Really? Okay. I don't know. I feel like I'm speaking as quickly as I'm thinking, but maybe I'm losing some of my perception of time here.

Carrie Poppy: It's just very percussive. Okay, here we go.

Ross Blocher: Uh-oh, oh no, what was I talking about? So—Carrie encouraging listeners to spread amongst their loved ones just awareness that one's cause of death should be shared in all its specificity for the benefit of Carrie. And if this gets out to society and spreads around, Carrie will benefit. Her death is not involved in this scenario.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, that's right. I was just additionally saying that also, when I die, people can put it in my obituary.

Ross Blocher: So, yeah, I combined these things, and it was a bad brain baby.

Carrie Poppy: Wow. Yeah. I know you're sensitive to pot, probably because of never having had any.

Ross Blocher: I may have gotten us off course.

Carrie Poppy: I don't know. I think we were basically saying Morgan Spurlock did some interesting things, now passed away.

Ross Blocher: Okay. And we have flavored many babies. As I always say to Carrie, I'd like you to do me a flavor, though.

Carrie Poppy: You always say that. Oh, is there a second part to it?

Ross Blocher: Nope! Nope.

Carrie Poppy: Okay. Yep, you do always say that. You always say that, and you always put that ellipsis at the end.

Ross Blocher: Well, I was having to think did I mirror Trump's conversation with Ukrainian leader, Volodymyr Zelenskyy?

Carrie Poppy: Oh, no tit for tat? No quid pro quo.

Ross Blocher: The, yeah—I'd like you to do me a favor though. But for us it's I'd like you to do me a flavor. Well! Thanks for coming.

(They erupt into laughter.)

Bad transition! At some point we do need to end the podcast. So, thanks all for coming along on whatever ride this was. I know we had *Flavor Babies*. I'm looking at all of these like—

like, just this sea of half open glasses looking back at me. So, I don't know. We'll have to figure out how to separate all this and not leave Carrie with a horrible mess.

Carrie Poppy: Oh no, it's okay. I can put away groceries.

Ross Blocher: We've had the *Flavor Babies*; we hope you've learned what to avoid and what to embrace.

Carrie Poppy: Yes, yes. As a reminder, there is no way to recreate the flavor of marijuana with lemon and any kind of root beer, apparently. I don't know where I got the idea, but we're just going to keep trying every five years and accidentally getting high.

Ross Blocher: And Carrie will lose so much sleep just trying to figure out.

Carrie Poppy: What kind of root beer was it?!

Ross Blocher: Yeah. How do I reclaim this experience?

Carrie Poppy: By the way, I did fact check this. I did text Stacey Molski.

[01:15:00]

You were on the chain. And I was like, "We need info."

Ross Blocher: I saw.

Carrie Poppy: She told me she was confident it would be cheap root beer, but she couldn't get more specific than that.

Ross Blocher: Oooh, you're going to have to try so many things.

Carrie Poppy: I know, I know.

Ross Blocher: Keep that bag of lemon Oreos handy.

Carrie Poppy: For the next *Flavor Babies*, which of course is next week.

Ross Blocher: Yeah, and we'll get to the bottom of that. Thanks everybody for coming along.

Carrie Poppy: You can support this and all our investigations by going to MaximumFun.org/join. If this is the moment you do that, that's really incredible.

Ross Blocher: Do let us know, though, if you suddenly decided this was the right time to support this podcast.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah, 'cause then you're a special person. Oh, there's my sweetie! Hi, sweetie!

(A door opening.)

Drew Spears: *(Off mic.) Flavor Babies?*

Carrie Poppy: Yeah! *Flavor Babies* is just ending. And now my spouse has walked into the room for the final 34 seconds of *Flavor Babies*.

Drew Spears: A lot of flavors out here!

Ross Blocher: Yeah, Drew what is your impression upon looking at this table of discarded and partly consumed bottles of stuff?

Drew Spears: It kind of looks like when you're like at a disappointing house party, but like if I were to be told like two people were making a flavor-based podcast, I'd be like, "Oh, that's not so bad."

Ross Blocher: Par for the course. Okay. Absolutely. Well, very good. Thank you, Drew.

Carrie Poppy: Well, that's it for our show. Our theme music is by Brian Keith Dalton. No! Our theme music's by me!

(They laugh.)

Ross Blocher: I'm leaving that in. Our administrative manager is Ian Kremer.

Carrie Poppy: I already told you how to support us. Don't make me say it twice.

Ross Blocher: Maximumfun.org/join.

And remember!

Drew Spears: Yeah, so walk me through—and we're not recording, but this is Mike's Hard Lemonade that you're now just drinking casually.

Ross Blocher: Right, but that went with this Cucumber Lime Gatorade.

Drew Spears: Cucumber Lime Gatorade on its own is good.

Ross Blocher: And they cancel each other out into this thing that was described as "the flavor", where you can't describe it or what it is.

Drew Spears: *(Chuckling.)* Just the flavor?

Ross Blocher: Yeah, though I still had just a hint of cucumber to tie it back to reality.

Drew Spears: I mean Mike's Hard Cranberry on its own seems just miserable.

Ross Blocher: Yeah. Carrie had the exact same response. And now that I'm drinking it, yes, I see it as a sad alcohol.

Drew Spears: Yeah. Like, of the things here that I would actually—well, I do like the Cucumber Gatorade.

Ross Blocher: Oh yeah, Carrie's a fan as well. You know, I'll leave that with y'all.

Drew Spears: Yeah, absolutely. You got Guinness, which is of course always good.

Ross Blocher: Here's the lid. Yeah. We mixed Guinness with Monster energy drink? Bad. Bad baby. Don't do that. Ruins them both.

Carrie Poppy: Yeah. We did discover though that we like to say the phrase “bad baby”.

Drew Spears: It's good. This is the after show.

Carrie Poppy: (*Laughing.*) Are you guys still recording? Good for you guys. Good, good, good. It's good for you boys to have fun.

Drew Spears: This is—yeah, this is just the after show.

Music: A short acoustic guitar melody.

Flavor Babies time is over

(Song ends.)

Promo:

Christian Dueñas: In 1979, singer Miki Matsubara cut “Stay With Me”, a love song that hit big in her home country of Japan.

Music: “Stay With Me” by Miki Matsubara.

Stay with me...

(Music continues under the dialogue.)

Christian: The song has almost half a billion plays on streaming apps.

Yosuke Kitazawa: But Miki Matsubara didn't get to enjoy all that renewed interest. She died in 2004. In fact, she had burned all of her music. And she literally asked everyone she knew to forget her.

Christian: I'm Christian Dueñas.

Yosuke: I'm Yosuke Kitazawa.

Christian: On our new podcast, *Primer*, we celebrate unforgettable music from outside the English-speaking world, starting with Japanese city pop.

Yosuke: We'll cover Miki's work and others in conversation with Devendra Banhart, UMI, DāM FunK, and more.

Christian: Get *Primer* on MaximumFun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

Transition: Cheerful ukulele chord.

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