

## Wonderful! 327: 2 to 3 Jorts

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

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

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

**Rachel:** And this is Wonderful.

**Griffin:** Welcome to Wonderful. It's a podcast where we talk—I sound so sarcastic right now. It's a *podcast*...

**Rachel:** I don't think you have to say it's a podcast.

**Griffin:** Wow, holy shit.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I think I say that in—or someone says that in the introduction of virtually every podcast that I'm on. But you're right, it's, you know... it's not a sandwich.

**Rachel:** Man, I just blew up your mind.

**Griffin:** I'm having a bit of an existential crisis right now.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** It could be—like, here's what I'm thinking. When my entire body of work ends up in the Library of Congress—

**Rachel:** Of course.

**Griffin:** It won't be a podcast then, because they won't—

**Rachel:** Ooh.

**Griffin:** That word won't exist anymore, right?

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** So people, you know, teens in like the 2080s, will be confused. They'll be like, "So, was this on CDs and cassettes?"

**Rachel:** And they'll be like, "Oh, Jort, it's a podcast. He says it's a podcast."

**Griffin:** Yeah. Their friend, Jort.

**Rachel:** Classic Jort.

**Griffin:** That's a future name. Basically, Jort's going to be like Michael in the future.

**Rachel:** [titters] Uh-huh. Jort S and Jort P.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** When you have two Jorts.

**Griffin:** Yeah. [titters]

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Listen, in the year 2081, you go into a kindergarten class, you can't throw a stick without hitting two to three Jorts.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** On the way. But anyway, in the Library of Congress, we need to let them know this is a podcast.

**Rachel:** This is a podcast.

**Griffin:** Where we talk about things we like, that's good, that we're into. Do you got a small wonder to share with us right now?

**Rachel:** Oh, man. I'm gonna need your help with it.

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Rachel:** It's the music bracket thing we're doing, what's that called?

**Griffin:** There's an app called Music League.

**Rachel:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Yeah. I got my ass handed to me in our Music League. I finished last place.

**Rachel:** Whoa?

**Griffin:** I know.

**Rachel:** I was doing pretty good until recently. But each week, there is a prompt for a type of song that you are supposed to submit. Our group submits two songs.

**Griffin:** That's crazy. That's so much work.

**Rachel:** And then everybody listens to the song and assigns points, and then you have a leaderboard.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Rachel:** And so like one of our—like our prompt this week was like dance music. Like a song that you like dancing to.

**Griffin:** We had your wrestling entrance music, which is a fun—

**Rachel:** Oh, that is fun.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, I like it. I wish I was better at it. Apparently, I guess my taste in music leaves something to be desired. Perhaps by literal interpretation of the prompts.

**Rachel:** I'm still not using the app. I have the website on my browser.

**Griffin:** I love that. I love that for you.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** And what that means for all of us. I'm gonna say... I don't know, man. We just went out to lunch with my friend, Evan, who's in town to visit. He runs a punk rock newsletter called Seesaw, that you should check out if you like punk music. And we went out to lunch, and can I just say, going out to lunch kicks ass, man.

**Rachel:** I know, we used to do it more. We need to get serious about it again.

**Griffin:** We went to an Indian restaurant and I had three different types of curry in a lunch special, and a bunch of garlic naan, and an Indian IPA. And I felt so fucking good after that.

**Rachel:** I got super drowsy, though.

**Griffin:** Did you?

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I am pretty sleepy.

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** But we gotta make the donuts! I go first this week.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I'm going to be talking about a YouTube video, that has taken the world by storm! I'm talking about-

**Rachel:** Has it really or is it just like in your—

**Griffin:** Oh, it's got millions of—

**Rachel:** Oh, yeah?

**Griffin:** Millions of views.

**Rachel:** It's not just your corner of the internet?

**Griffin:** I mean, it's extremely my corner of the internet. But it's been covered widely by the press outside of my corner of the internet. I am talking of course about Jenny Nicholson's four hour video essay on the spectacular failure of the Star Wars Hotel. That is the title of the video. It is otherwise known as the Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser.

**Rachel:** It's four hours?

**Griffin:** It's a four hour long YouTube video.

**Rachel:** Wow.

**Griffin:** I adore how much of a sort of like zeitgeist this four hour long YouTube video is. I think it's probably the longest YouTube video I've ever voluntarily watched. I haven't quite finished it, I'm about 20 minutes from polishing it off. But basically, anytime I'm sitting down to eat something or I've got some free time my day I've just been tearing into this bad boy over the course of maybe a dozen watchings.

**Rachel:** I will say that we sit in kind of a privileged position in that we have seen video of the Star Wars themed hotel, because Ryan, of Ryan's world—

**Griffin:** Oh, that's right.

**Rachel:** And his family got to stay there. And they did a whole video.

**Griffin:** I don't remember that.

**Rachel:** Oh, I've watched it several times.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's so fascinating.

**Rachel:** Anyway—

**Griffin:** I will get into—

**Rachel:** They stay there.

**Griffin:** I think that it's very—there's so much to talk about, right? The thing, the reason why everybody's talking about this thing is because this is, one, Jenny Nicholson is like an essayist and critic at like the height of her power. Like this is all she does, is these like YouTube long-form video essays.

**Rachel:** Wow?

**Griffin:** And she's very, very, very good at it. But it's talking about this like multimillion dollar boondoggle, from one of the biggest companies in the world, using one of the biggest media properties in the world, building one of the most sort of ambitious, interactive like events in the world, right?

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And yet, despite all that, there was so much secrecy surrounding the Galactic Starcruiser before it opened. So much so that the Galactic Starcruiser ran from—it opened March 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, it closed September 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. And estimates said that on the low end, the place cost like \$350 million to build, and that Disney reported a \$250 million loss on the venture after it closed.

**Rachel:** Wow.

**Griffin:** That's fucking—that's so much money. When they announced that it was going to close, I was considering like going to it. Specifically me and Justin and Travis were like, let's look into how much it would cost for us to get a room with dad, who would like love to go to this two night interactive Star Wars LARP, essentially.

**Rachel:** Oh, it's specifically two nights?

**Griffin:** It is exactly two nights. So here's the thing, I will try and break this down for you.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It is outside of the sort of like Galaxy's Edge area of the Hollywood Studios Park. You go inside and you get on like a space shuttle up to the Galactic Starcruiser. And then from that point on, you're in this building that is like a spaceship. They have a little what they call like a nature simulator, which is actually just like an outdoor courtyard. So you, you know, you won't get cabin fever and lose your fucking mind—

**Rachel:** Because there's like no windows or anything, right?

**Griffin:** But it is a heavily orchestrated, two-day interactive event. Where the way they build it, almost robotically in all of the marketing, is an immersive event where you get to live out your Star Wars story. There were supposed to be all these little junction points all throughout your stay at the hotel, where you would have these scheduled events or you would encounter things in the hotel, and make a choice. That choice would then change whatever events you would be sort of invited to in the future. So that by the end of it—

**Rachel:** I didn't even know that!

**Griffin:** You would go down your own sort of like storyline, right? It is very much like a game in that sense. And a lot of that functionality goes through this app that you had to have on your phone, right? So there's cast members who are playing these like inworld characters, and they're all

basically, except for Chewbacca, like OC, original creations, of this Star Wars hotel.

And apparently, they all kicked ass. Like it seemed like they were all doing a great job. But like, then you would get like a text from a fake AI version of them like on your phone through this app that's like, "Are you ready to help me steal this TIE Fighter? You're gonna need to go into the park and scan this one QR code." And then that's gonna be basically it. But apparently, so in Jenny Nicholson's video, she like kind of explains everything that goes into it.

And then like the middle half of the video is just like, "And here's exactly what happened, beat for beat, on my stay." And it just like didn't work. Like the app did not work. This idea of her like kind of getting funneled based on the choices that she made didn't work. Like she just didn't get to do many of the events. And this experience, at least for her, staying in this one-bedroom room with a friend for two nights cost like \$6,600.

**Rachel:** Wow.

**Griffin:** Which is... I mean, it's a lot of money. It's I think more than the average of like a Disney World Resort, which is already quite a bit of money. So like this video kind of breaks down like what went wrong. Like what happened here.

**Rachel:** Can I ask you, you may begin to this, the whole mystery, like the mystique, was that intentional? Like they really didn't want people to know what they were purchasing?

**Griffin:** Well, yeah, I think so, right? The sort of thesis statement that Jenny Nicholson comes to, and I found it genuinely illuminating, not just in the subject of like the Star Wars hotel, but also like how a lot of things that Disney and other you know, other event planning companies, like major corporations, think about like inventing and marketing their thing. Which is that it's very like TikTok forward. It's very Instagram Story forward. Which is to say that you go to the Galactic Starcruiser, or you watch a video of some influencer who goes to the Galactic Starcruiser, you see them get to talk to a cast member who's dressed up like an alien, like a Rodian pop star. And then



you see them take part in this like little mini game where you're on the bridge of the ship and you're blasting like asteroids with lasers. And then you see them at a Jedi like lightsaber training facility. And then you—

**Rachel:** All of this is in the Ryan's World video.

**Griffin:** Yeah, right?

**Rachel:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** And then you see them like at this show where this pop star is like playing while you're eating dinner. And then you see them like go on an excursion to the Galaxy's Edge part of the Star Wars Park. And you think like, holy shit, this looks so dope. If this is what I'm seeing in this video, like I can't wait to see what it's going to be like when I stay here for, you know, three days, two nights. And the answer is, that's it. They showed you all the stuff that they have. They put enough stuff into the hotel to make for like a compelling sort of like commercial.

But most of the time that you are there, you are sort of being funneled between these things somewhat randomly. And that there's actually very little on the ship that's like especially interactive. We've gone to Disney since they introduced some of the like interactive components at the Star Wars Park, right?

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Like there's this thing where you go bounty hunting, which basically just means like you go around and you scan your magic band on like a few different things, and then it'll beep. And it'll be like—and for that, you get 100 credits that you don't do anything with, right?

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It's like going out and doing these extremely tedious, repetitive tasks for like a virtual currency that you don't spend on anything.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And that's like included with the price of admission to a Disney park. If you had paid \$6,600 for a two-day—

**Rachel:** And it didn't work.

**Griffin:** Interactive thing. And it just did not work. And it felt like you were being kind of like shunted to the side the whole time. That would be awful. And so the reason they didn't—they were secretive about it is because like, they didn't have that much to show. Which is wild to think about.

**Rachel:** And Disney is also like, they really make a big deal out of their like customer service, you know?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And so, I imagine people go to this thing and they complain about their experience. And Disney probably tried to compensate them in some way. Which you know, was maybe just meal tickets or something. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** I found the video just incredibly, incredibly fascinating, because like—and not from like a bear-baiting kind of way. Like there's nothing about this where I'm like, I'm glad this thing fuckin' failed! Like, I wanted to go to it pretty bad. And real talk, if it was still open, I still would probably do it for the Vine. Just to say you know, I got to go to the Star Wars hotel. Probably not for \$6,600, but like I would enjoy having had this experience, right?

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** But not based on like sort of how disappointing it sounds. But Jenny Nicholson, as a YouTuber, her niche is like a lot of nerd culture stuff, a lot of Disney stuff, a lot of Star Wars stuff. So, this is I feel like a pretty authoritative look at what went wrong, and some of the more kind of like crass decisions that were made, that resulted in this thing that ended up being a failure.

**Rachel:** Does she get anybody from Disney on record in the video? Like is it journalistic in that way?

**Griffin:** Not so much as I have seen, no.

**Rachel:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Outside of like including their own marketing material. But yeah, it's... I will, I think, always be kind of fascinated by this. It's the reason I like those Defunctland videos. They talk about like, here's a thing that Disney tried and they didn't do a good job with it, and it failed. My interest in that is not in the failing, as much as it is the trying part of it. That's like, what decision—because if you asked me like, hey, Griffin, can you come up with a two-day interactive Star Wars experience for hundreds of people at the same time? I don't know what that looks like.

But I do know that like watching this video and then comparing that to like going to a Great Wolf Lodge, where kids can point their, you know, \$40 magic wands at shit all across the hotel. And then you know, a special light flashes and talks to you and stuff. Like that seems a bit more considered than this hotel.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It is an excellent video that I have really enjoyed watching. Not my cup of tea usually, like the long-form YouTube essay. But this one is—

**Rachel:** Yeah, it sounds good.

**Griffin:** Is top-notch. Can I steal you away? You didn't... I need you to...

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Thank you so much. That was horrible for me.

[theme music plays]

[ad read]

**Rachel:** Do you want to know my topic this week?

**Griffin:** I do!

**Rachel:** My topic is reserved seating.

**Griffin:** [titters] All right!

**Rachel:** Specifically, I mean, what I talked about is in a movie theater.

**Griffin:** Okay. Yes. Holy crap. Yeah, absolutely.

**Rachel:** I mean like, you know, obviously music venues, concert venues that have had seating have done this for a long time.

**Griffin:** I've only been to one or two concerts that were like—

**Rachel:** General admission—

**Griffin:** Sit down concerts.

**Rachel:** Oh, okay.

**Griffin:** And they are some of my favorites.

**Rachel:** [laughs] Yeah, no, it's... And I don't think this is just our age.

**Griffin:** No.

**Rachel:** I think that this is an experience that is just undeniably better for people that have anxiety of any kind.

**Griffin:** Yeah, man.

**Rachel:** Like a lot of what I read is it takes out that nervousness about showing up at the theater and wondering if you're gonna have tickets.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Entering the theater and wondering if you're going to be able to find good seats and seats together.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Rachel:** Yeah. And also just like, I don't know, just like being able to plan in advance.

**Griffin:** I can't tell you the number of times—and I feel like this is another kind of like generational thing, because this did not exist when I was growing up.

**Rachel:** Well, I did that whole segment on Moviefone.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Rachel:** That's what I was thinking about. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Yeah, exactly. But the number of times I would go—I remember when I went to see Spider-Man, the first Sam Raimi Spider-Man movie on like the day it came out. And we like raced to the theater because we had a rehearsal for a play we were doing at the time. And so we were like fairly late getting there. And it was like me and Justin and Travis and dad, and some of our friends. And none of us could sit together. [chuckles] Because like the crowd was already pretty full. So we'd have to like, one person would be like, way back there and then one person would be like—

**Rachel:** No, that's true. I went to see a movie in Chicago once and there were three of us, and two of us sat together. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** And it's like, that's not ideal. But like if you went with kids, what do you fuck—what are you supposed to do, man? Yeah.

**Rachel:** Yeah. So... and I didn't look to see how long the Drafthouse has been doing this. But what I found was a lot of information about AMC, because AMC is like the largest movie chain in the world.

**Griffin:** Mm-hm.

**Rachel:** They started doing this in New York in 2016.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** It was the first major city where AMC had a reserved seating option.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** And then almost exactly five years ago, starting Memorial Day in 2019, they opened it up to almost all their theaters in the country. And there was a lot of like opinion pieces about how this was terrible. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Rachel:** It was really interesting to see a bunch of people—a lot of it was just fear of technology. People who like found the interface of like getting online and picking your movie and picking your seats, to be like overwhelming and difficult.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** But if the alternative is going to the theater and rolling the dice, I guess that is easier, in a way.

**Rachel:** Yeah. And I think there's also this culture in like an earlier generation, of this idea of like this excitement around like showing up and deciding what movie you're going to see. You know, and like sitting anywhere you want. It was interesting, I was reading this interview with Patrick Corcoran, of the National Association of Theater Owners.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Rachel:** And he talked about like if you go back far enough, he said the theater was open all day long. You didn't have to go in at a specific show

time. You went in the middle of a movie, sat down, then watched the beginning of the first movie you saw. It was really informal. And then—

**Griffin:** Completely deranged, what you just said, my man.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] And then specific showtimes were introduced, and getting a good seat, and then showing up early. But I think about that—because you hear about that a lot in our grandparents' generation, about like going to the movie theater was this big, exciting thing.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And you would just kind of wander in and watch movies all day. Or you know, just this idea that it was like—

**Griffin:** That part's cool. That part's cool. The like Christopher Nolan wanted us to watch Oppenheimer by getting into the theater an hour and a half into the film and starting it there, and then watching the first hour and a half later.

**Rachel:** Can you imagine?

**Griffin:** Can you fuckin' imagine? Any director working that would not be down with that whole model.

**Rachel:** I have the kind of intensity where if Griffin and I are watching something at home, and he starts talking to me, I will pause whatever we are watching. Because it's like, I don't want to miss anything in the way that it was intended to be viewed.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Rachel:** I can't imagine just being like, oh, it started 20 minutes ago—

**Griffin:** Who gives a shit? Yeah, I'll turn around and I will go right out.

**Rachel:** Yeah. A lot of times too, there were complaints about people sitting in the wrong seats. And then having this issue of like, "Well, you have to get out of my seats. Those are my seats."

**Griffin:** I mean, that's gonna happen with any kind of big policy change.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** For anything, on any scale.

**Rachel:** Also, when you just showed up to the theater, you could like kind of survey the room and see like, oh, these people are going to be loud, these people are on their phones, and choose a seat kind of based on your proximity. And with reserved seating, you can't do that. But obviously, now it's like easy to see that the benefits outweigh the costs. But when I was looking at this beginning 2019, it was just tons and tons of opinion pieces at like every outlet saying like, "Reserved seating is the worst and here's why." [chuckles]

**Griffin:** It is, I think more than anything, when I moved to Austin and started going to movies at the Drafthouse, like obviously, being able to order food at the movie you're watching is always great. But for me, it was the reserved seating that they offered before anybody else, as far as I can tell. That just I was like, oh, okay, amazing. I can go see a movie with my friends and know we'll sit together in a spot where we want to be.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** That's like, that's so huge.

**Rachel:** And on the aisle.

**Griffin:** And on the aisle is also very important.

**Rachel:** You have really opened my eyes to on the aisle.

**Griffin:** Yeah!



**Rachel:** At first I thought like, I'm not somebody who gets up to use the bathroom during a movie typically. So that wasn't really a concern. The thing that I don't like now, especially post peak COVID, is just like sitting surrounded by strangers.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no.

**Rachel:** The aisle gives you at least one side where it is just—

**Griffin:** You can scoot if you need to.

**Rachel:** Yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** Get out of there. Stretch your legs.

**Rachel:** And with young children, and we talked about this I think last episode, you know, you can't stay in a movie from start to finish. [titters]

**Griffin:** You cannot. They won't let you.

**Rachel:** Yeah. So being able to sit on the aisle just seems perfect.

**Griffin:** I love this.

**Rachel:** One thing that was funny when I was searching this, 2023, AMC decided they were going to start pricing tickets based on where the customer chose to sit.

**Griffin:** That's not good.

**Rachel:** [snickers]

**Griffin:** See, that's the slippery slope, I feel like.

**Rachel:** I found an article in NPR that said AMC was going to follow the pricing models of other entertainment venues such as arenas and live theaters, in a program they called Sightline. Where middle seats would be a dollar or two more, while front row seats would be cheaper.

**Griffin:** That's fine. Suckers. You guys can—

**Rachel:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Oh, wait, middle in terms of distance from the screen—

**Rachel:** Yeah, like—

**Griffin:** Not from the aisle. Oh, yes, yes.

**Rachel:** When I was a younger person and you walked into a theater, like you want to sit in the middle.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** Back when theaters were first being designed, that was acoustically also the best place to sit.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Rachel:** Now the technology is such that like any seat is fine.

**Griffin:** It's loud everywhere.

**Rachel:** Yeah. [titters]

**Griffin:** It's way too loud all over.

**Rachel:** But yeah, they were treating this like, oh, don't you want to sit in the middle? They abandon it within a few months. People were so upset about this idea of like, I'm still not gonna book a front row seat, even though it's a few dollars cheaper.

**Griffin:** No, yeah.

**Rachel:** You're working against yourself here.

**Griffin:** It's so interesting, I think about that, I think about like surge pricing Wendy's, I think. Because Wendy's is the one that was like—

**Rachel:** Oh, do they? Okay.

**Griffin:** Let's experiment with surge pricing. But they dropped it immediately. This idea of like, let's try—let's dip our toes into the waters of these historically reviled business practices, that our good friends over at airplanes work with.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Is like, it's not... no one's ever going to be stoked for that, guys.

**Rachel:** I will also say now, and this is probably again like a result of kind of... well, it's probably largely when we go to see movies, like the time of day.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** But like also when you purchase your seats, you can kind of build in a buffer.

**Griffin:** Oh, yeah.

**Rachel:** You know? But I imagine if you're going to a sold-out show, that is not an option.

**Griffin:** No.

**Rachel:** But we never—

**Griffin:** I can't remember the last time I went to a film—

**Rachel:** I think it was a Star Wars!

**Griffin:** It was probably one of the Star Wars. It was probably the first of the new Star Wars.

**Rachel:** Yeah, like before we had kids.

**Griffin:** Or maybe one of the Avengers I went to? No, because I went to like a press screening of the second one with folks. That was empty, too. Yeah, I don't know. Doesn't happen often.

**Rachel:** No.

**Griffin:** But when we get to fuckin' Kung Poo Fanda—I said Kung Poo Fanda 4 again! Why can I not say the name of this god dang flick?

**Rachel:** [chuckles] You're getting ahead of yourself.

**Griffin:** We went to Kung Fu Panda 4, four weeks after it came out. It's chill as hell in there.

**Rachel:** [chuckles] Yeah, I mean, usually what we go see now is like a middle of the day kind of film, or like early. So we're not dealing with crowds anyway. But just the comfort of having a seat worked out, it's changed the whole experience for me. I can't imagine, with children, trying to live a life where I'm like, yeah, let's go see the new Garfield movie. Let's show up at the theater and—

**Griffin:** And roll the dice! I just wouldn't go. Like I just wouldn't go to the movies at all.

**Rachel:** I know, like with kids—I mean, you know how it is. You get 'em like super hyped and they're like, all right, we're doing this thing. And then you get there and there's no seats or you can't sit together and it's like, well, never mind. And then you're like dealing with the fallout from that all day.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Not no more. Thanks, assigned seating.

**Rachel:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Do you wanna know what our friends at home are talking about?

**Rachel:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Got one from Alex here who says, "My small wonder is the first sign of life after propagating a plant. My boss gave me a dried-out cactus clipping a few weeks ago that I didn't think would make it, but I still potted it. And this morning, I saw two beautiful yellow flower buds." This is an experience I've never had before, but it does—that's not true. We actually had a little box garden in the first house that we lived in together. And I remember when we started to get like little guys growing out of there, it was—

**Rachel:** Yeah, but we didn't like propagate anything. Like that's like—

**Griffin:** We grew like from—

**Rachel:** No, but the thing he's talking about is when you take a piece of a plant and try and create a whole plant from that.

**Griffin:** That's fucking crazy.

**Rachel:** And I don't entirely know how to do that. But it is obviously very impressive and exciting.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Brighton says, "My small wonder is when you get a new board game with lots of little cardboard pieces that you get to punch out of their perforated sheets. I love the feel and sound of the pieces popping out. And it's so satisfying to set aside the empty sheets as you watch your collection of gameplay bits amass in front of you."

**Rachel:** Yes!

**Griffin:** Oh my god, yes. So good.

**Rachel:** I like it from a place of like, now I get to throw all away this excess material. And that's rewarding to me. [titters]

**Griffin:** I just like having a bunch of little things.

**Rachel:** I noticed that Gus has one of those like card matching games.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** And I saw the little like remainders of where the little squares have been popped out.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Rachel:** I felt like, ah, that must have been nice.

**Griffin:** Hey, thank you to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, Money Won't Pay. You can find a link to that in the episode description. And thank you to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. Hey, if you want to send us your small wonder, so we can read them at the end of the show, send us an email at [wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com). Keep it short, we like it to be like one or two sentences about just something you're into. And we'll talk about it on the show.

We've talked about doing like an all-listener submissions episode sometime soon. But in order to do that, we would need way more of those. So again, [wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:wonderfulpodcast@gmail.com). That's going to do it for us this week. Thank you so much for listening. And I want to go to sleep, so... This curry and just sort of like beer potion I've been brewing in my tummy cauldron has reached maximum potency. And I'm ready to just tuck in.

**Rachel:** Your tummy cauldron!

**Griffin:** It's a double, double, toil and trouble, basically always.

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

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