

## **MBMBaM 718: Shaq-cuse!**

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**Intro (Bob Ball):** The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also, this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme song, "My Life Is Better With You," by Montaigne, plays]

**Justin:** Hello, everybody, and welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

**Travis:** I'm your middlest brother. Wuddup, Trav Nation? Big dog, middlest, Travis, woof-woof, I almost forget, McElroy!

**Griffin:** I don't wanna—hey, I'm not here to sow seeds of discord amongst Travis' constituents, but I do—

**Travis:** No, I should hope not, Griffin. If I find out that is happening, retribution will be swift.

**Griffin:** No. Bro, no sedition guarantee on my part. But I do just want to say, the king is slipping. No sedition, but the emperor has no clothes. So, that's all I'm saying.

**Travis:** That's a different thing though, Griffin. How I record this show from the waist down is my thing.

**Griffin:** That's true.

**Travis:** Say your name.

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy. If I had my own nation, I would never ever forget about it.

**Travis:** That's not true.

**Griffin:** Or would let you feel like I had forgotten about it for even a second.

**Travis:** But you have to forgive me, Griffin, because we recorded a metric ton of podcast, especially My Brother, My Brother and Me last week.

**Justin:** A lot.

**Griffin:** That's true.

**Travis:** We went on what everyone's calling a wildly successful tour.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** It was, yeah.

**Travis:** Tysons Corner and St. Louis and Kansas City were amazing. But we have done a lot of My Brother My Brother and Me in the last week.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And so... as kind of an innovator, a revolutionary, what I've done—because I don't know if we have like an hour of My Brother, My Brother and Me in the tank, right? So, what I did, I hired a young photo journalist to get me a bunch of pictures of Spider-Man. That I would like to share with you now. He took all these pictures of Spider-Man for me.

**Griffin:** So...

**Justin:** Okay. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** So, just to be clear, your intro is we are too tired from doing our show three times. We possess some sort of adrenal gland from which we produce the show, that perhaps due to—

**Travis:** It's mana, thank you, yes.

**Griffin:** Age or other sort of genetic factors, we are unable to refill—

**Travis:** Our mana is low, yes.

**Griffin:** Fast enough to make jokes for one hour today.

**Travis:** Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** And so instead, we're going to look at together some pictures of Spider-Man, in our largely audio-based podcast.

**Travis:** Well, and it's so important, these are new, fresh, hot pictures of Spider-Man that this young photojournalist took for me.

**Griffin:** Okay, so these are new pictures. These are new pictures of Spider-Man we're gonna watch instead of doing the show we do an hour once every week.

**Travis:** Yeah, so this is one, he's—

**Justin:** But okay, Griffin, you have made an excellent statement, and I do want to zero in on it.

**Griffin:** Please.

**Travis:** Oh?

**Justin:** The show we make for one hour, once a week, that's the covenant, isn't it? That is the deal that we have made with God and our listeners. And we had to do like three of them in a row.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** And that is a violation.

**Griffin:** Yes. So, just to again drill right in on that, for 3 of the 168 hours present in every week, we had to do jokes, squish out our glands to make all the comedy come out that we had.

**Travis:** It was like 80 minutes. It was 80. It was like 80 minutes.

**Griffin:** The idea that in a—once in a seven-day span, that we would spend 4 out of 168 hours making jokes for you is—you're a selfish, greedy pig.

**Justin:** [laughs] Okay, you're—all right, let's talk about this, stupid—

**Travis:** Griffin you're wasting—

**Justin:** No hold on—

**Travis:** Can I just say, Justin, you're wasting a lot of time. I have 350 glossy 11 by 17 pictures. Just if we can—

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I'm stoked to get to those!

**Justin:** I wanna! I wanna see 'em! [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Trav, we're gonna get to—I'm making sure I understand.

**Travis:** Yeah. I paid him \$25,000.

**Justin:** But I do wanna drill down, if we could just dig a little deeper on what Griffin has laid out.

**Travis:** Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah. I just want everybody to get back to these pictures.

**Justin:** If what you're saying, if you believe—

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** If you—[chuckles] We're definitely doing that, Trav.

**Travis:** I got one of him with his mask off. We can see who he is.

**Justin:** Trav, we're definitely—I'll make you a deal, you button up one button—

**Travis:** I can't promise that.

**Justin:** And I will only make you wait five minutes. Okay, listen, I just want to drill down. If you believe what you're saying, Griffin, then we have to produce 52 of these a year, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [titters] Then by your logic, on Jan one, two and a little bit of three, we should just shit out the kit and caboodle. And then we're yacht bound, baby, for the rest of the year.

**Griffin:** From episode... five on, of that three-day horror marathon that you have just devised for us—

**Justin:** [chuckles] Yeah?

**Griffin:** Would be—

**Justin:** Notice the lack of bathroom breaks. [snickers]

**Griffin:** We would have less of a—

**Travis:** It would happen during.

**Justin:** [chuckles] It would be—we would be so thrilled for something else to talk about.

**Griffin:** We would be less sort of a show created for like a comedy-consuming audience, and instead a fleet of healthcare workers, scientists, will then become sort of our core audience. As they listen—as we go places no other human mind can even conceive of after making jokes for five hours in three days.

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah.

**Travis:** Guys, I have a picture of Spider-Man killing a man here. Like, you guys... I paid top dollar.

**Justin:** [chuckles] Wait, wait.

**Travis:** Okay?

**Justin:** I'm just saying, how many of these, Griffin—so we can agree that your argument is somewhere between 52 in a row—

**Travis:** Spider-Man eating an éclair...

**Justin:** And one—

**Griffin:** One a week.

**Justin:** One a week. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Spider-Man doing his taxes...

**Justin:** So, what's the number of these that you think that you could crank out—

**Travis:** This is two Spider-Mans pointing at each other...

**Justin:** [chuckles] Where you're arguing against Travis' pictures of Spider-man?

**Travis:** Three? Three Spider-Mans pointing at each other?

**Griffin:** Don't get me wrong, Juice, we're approaching the limit. I just, maybe—and this is my young—

**Travis:** Spider-Man and Kraven the Hunter kissing...

**Griffin:** This is my virility shining through.

**Travis:** This is Spider-Man in a Lamborghini.

**Justin:** Yeah, that's that multivitamin. [titters]

**Griffin:** It's that multivitamin I've been taking. My joke glands are swollen—

**Travis:** Spider-Man taking a shit?

**Griffin:** And tender. And ready to juice.

**Travis:** This is two Spider-Mans kissing.

**Justin:** [chuckles] All right. Me too, Griffin, I'm fired up. And Travis, the time has come. The ramp has been built. And I don't think I've actually [called in the AP??]. No one has ever seen a joke ramp built like this before, when the target of it is so absolutely amorphous.

**Griffin:** Microscopic, yeah.

**Justin:** [chuckles] Yeah, to a point of indescribability.

**Travis:** Can I tell you, I'm looking at these—I'm looking at these pictures for the first time. They're all hand-drawn in crayon, if I'm being honest.

**Griffin:** Okay... So, these are not—

**Travis:** Not a one of 'em—

**Griffin:** So, when you said photojournalist, you met like largely a crayon-based—

**Travis:** Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Well, I never looked at him.

**Griffin:** Reporter.

**Travis:** I paid him his money upfront.

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Travis:** And I think I got taken for a fool.

**Griffin:** Was he—could you see through his work clothes...

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** What if I just ended the sentence right there?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Could you see peeking through his work clothes, red webbed garments?

**Travis:** Yeah, but I thought he was Carnage.

**Justin:** [chortles]

**Griffin:** You thought he was Carnage, but you still hired him for the job anyway?

**Travis:** Well, if he could get me the—if he could get me the photos I need to finish.

**Justin:** Carnage might need the work. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** To finish the newspaper?

**Travis:** Sure!

**Griffin:** What if Carnage came in, and J. Jonah Jameson was like, "What the fuck are these?" And Carnage was like, [spoofing Carnage] "Pictures of Carnage." And he was like, "I don't want these. I want pictures of Spider-Man."



**Travis:** Do you think that unlike—

**Justin:** [spoofing Carnage] "But I—but I, Carl Beagermen, don't know Spider-Man! I only know Carnage!"

**Travis:** On like the 900<sup>th</sup> picture of Spider-Man the J. Jonah Jameson received from Spider-Man, do you think he was like, "All right, Peter, that's enough pictures of Spider-Man. Now get me pictures of Human Torch!" And he was like, "I don't know how to do that. I actually don't—that's not something I can do."

**Griffin:** "I don't know that guy."

**Justin:** Okay, wait, guys, can I—whoa, Travis. There has definitely been a point at which Peter Parker is like, "I can climb on walls. And I'm hard up for cash. And I hate the Human Torch." I bet he's been like a paparazzi!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I bet Spider-Man, there's been a point where someone's like, "Hey, Johnny, look out the window." And Spider-Man's like, "Ah, damn it! Okay."

**Travis:** "Gotta go!"

**Griffin:** My man's in The Avengers—

**Travis:** "It wasn't me!"  
"Spider-Man, it was you."

**Justin:** "It was you, Spider-Man, we saw you."

**Griffin:** My man is in Avengers Tower, making all the Avengers uncomfortable. Just like, "Yeah, we're gonna go get Thanos, get his ass, rip his hand off. Hulk, stay right there. Hulk, look angry. Pout. Good."

**Justin:** "Peter, bring me pictures of Thanos!"  
"Okay..."

**Griffin:** Oh, fuck."

**Justin:** "Now I've got some mixed priorities."

**Griffin:** "What about snuff pictures? Here's a dead picture of Thanos."  
"Holy shit, Peter!"

**Travis:** "How did you get that, Parker?!"

**Griffin:** Yeah, man, I—

**Travis:** "He was on a different planet, I think!"

**Griffin:** "I was on Mars, I was on Titan. Cut his fuckin' head off. I mean, Star Lord did."

**Justin:** Star Lord did.

**Travis:** "I got a lot of questions, Parker!"

**Griffin:** God, there's nothing funny about talking about the MCU. Can you guys imagine doing a podcast just about the MCU?

**Justin:** No, the MCU is funny, it's Chris Pratt. If you get to Chris Pratt in a conversation, it's—

**Griffin:** You're close, huh?

**Justin:** It's a comedy vortex. That's it, there's nothing there. It's nothing—he's a snoop—

**Travis:** You suddenly realize like, yeah, I don't want to talk about this.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** No, he's not the steeby people, he's the dirty dog—who's that dirty dog in Snoopy?

**Travis:** Who's the dirty dog in Snoopy?

**Justin:** Yeah, who's the dirty dog in Snoopy?

**Travis:** Joe Dirt?

**Griffin:** Pigpen?

**Justin:** No...

**Griffin:** Pigpen?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Joe Dirt.

**Justin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. But Pigpen's funny.

**Travis:** Something dirt.

**Griffin:** Wait, Joe Dirt—

**Justin:** Joe Dirt?

**Travis:** There's Joe Cool. There's Joe Cool.

**Justin:** Joe Cool.

**Travis:** Hold on.

**Justin:** Joe Dirt is David Spade.

**Travis:** Uh-huh, okay.

**Justin:** And then he's got like an uncle?

**Griffin:** You guys can feel it, right? Like we had momentum and then we started talking about the Marvel Cinematic Universe, and it just fell off—

**Justin:** It's Snoopy!

**Travis:** Snoopy.

**Justin:** And we've already clarified that Snoopy's not funny—

**Travis:** Spike!

**Justin:** And then—

**Griffin:** Right off a cliff.

**Travis:** Spike is his name.

**Justin:** Fresh us would never. Fresh us would never.

**Griffin:** Fresh us would never.

**Justin:** Fresh us would never.

**Griffin:** Four hours of goofs us? We're leaning on those everlasting arms of Chris Pratt. They're so big. Gonna hold us right up.

**Travis:** Eh. Give me a—ah, give me an Evans? All day. That's my Chris of choice. A Pine?

**Griffin:** Please start reading a question.

**Justin:** [sings] Everybody, what's your favorite Chris? What's your favorite Chris?

**Travis:** Pine.

**Griffin:** Parnell.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Justin:** God... you got it in one.

**Travis:** Kattan?

**Griffin:** Juice, I think you might have the wrong lights on, because it seems like you're at a library computer.

**Justin:** There he is. There's your beautiful baby, Griff. Is this what you wanted?

**Griffin:** Yeah, man.

**Justin:** Every crack and crevice.

**Travis:** Just tell me where the files are!

**Justin:** Every crack and crevice.

**Travis:** Where's the micro-film?! Huh?

**Griffin:** Ooh, dramatic.

**Justin:** Now this is cool. What do you think about this?

**Travis:** Ooh, I like that.

**Justin:** Like a dramatic—a noir.

**Griffin:** A noir, yeah.

**Travis:** We're gonna win an Oscar now.

**Griffin:** It really speaks to the duality.

**Travis:** Tinker Tailor Solider Justin.

**Griffin:** Yeah, man, you look fuckin' wild. No, dude.

**Travis:** Yeah, dude—not like this.

**Griffin:** Still look like Two-Face, pal.

**Justin:** What?

**Griffin:** You look crazy.

**Justin:** What is it—is this the—it looks too sexy? What is the problem?

**Travis:** Yeah. I think you look like a sexy Two-Face—

**Justin:** I don't wanna stand up to fix it again!

**Travis:** Imagine if Two-Face was—half of his face was sexy and the other half was even sexier. That's what we're looking at.

**Justin:** Here's the problem, if I want it flat on me, I have to stand up and walk all the way over. I have to take the headphones off *again*.

**Griffin:** Are you guys okay? Are you guys okay? That doing four hours of jokes and standing up to walk around your desk is—

**Travis:** It wasn't just four hours of jokes! We also had to sit in the greenroom for like an hour and a half beforehand, playing Stardew Valley, Griffin.

**Griffin:** Playing Stardew Valley and eating Skittles. Like no, dude, I get it! Our life is hard! Okay? I understand that.

**Travis:** I mean, football players play, what, three hours of football, once a week? You know what I mean?

**Griffin:** I think they do have to practice doing football.

**Travis:** We have to practice?

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** You guys don't practice jokes?

**Griffin:** It's better, Juice. It's better.

**Justin:** [shudders] Okay... I'm ready for—

**Travis:** Bring me those pictures of Spider-Man.

**Justin:** [shudders] Another show... All right, it's to take another question...

**Travis:** What's the first question?

**Justin:** "What do you do if you're Pagliacci?" From Justin.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Yeah, sure. That was Pagliacci's issue, if memory serves. Is he went to the doctor and he was like, "Dude, I had to do four fucking shows this week. And one point they were like, 'Pagliacci, walk around this small table.' And I was like—"

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** And no one podcasts for the podcasters, you know?

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** "Is it weird to wear patterned underwear based on the friend I'm hanging out with? For example, I was about to hang out with my friend who really likes marine biology. So I wore my underwear with octopi on them. Additional info—" [chuckles] Thank you. "It isn't sexual in any nature. The friend will not see them. This is for me, a fun thing. I do this frequently. Maybe once a week. I have a wide variety so it's easy to keep up with." Thank you. Thank you for the context. I appreciate that.

**Travis:** I want to get your guys' gut reaction just right—yes or no, is it weird? Go.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah, man.

**Travis:** Eh, wrong.

**Griffin:** Trav?

**Justin:** Can I try again?

**Travis:** Yeah, try again, Justin.

**Justin:** No.

**Griffin:** Yes, still, absolutely. If you found out a friend was doing this to you, you wouldn't be like, "Huh..."

**Justin:** That's a—that's—that—you chose to—to you. Done this 'to' you. Why that particular preposition?

**Travis:** I think that hearing you say that, Griffin, might reveal a fundamental difference betwixt you and I. Because if I find out that like a dear friend—and this is the thing I want to qualify here. One of my best friends? I find out Bradbury, when we hang out, wears microphone underwear? To like set—like to be like this is a fun thing?

**Griffin:** No, no, no, no, no, no—

**Justin:** No, no, no, no, no, no!

**Griffin:** Don't bail for that sentence!

**Justin:** No, no, no! Finish the sentence!

**Griffin:** To set—

**Justin:** The next 10 words!



**Travis:** I wanted to say 'set expectations,' but that's not what I meant. I meant like to set... exciting friendship mood for himself? Right? Of like...

**Griffin:** Look, I'm not—

**Travis:** You never put on fun socks?

**Griffin:** I'm not—

**Travis:** Fun socks. How do you feel about fun socks themed to the friend you're hanging out with?

**Griffin:** Okay, this is actually great. This will help deconstruct this question and any sort of like taboo nature it might possess. Because for me, that's also pretty fuckin' weird. If someone's like, "Hey, look, I wore my you socks." It's like, I don't need to be involved in that part of your—

**Justin:** Can I say, I—

**Griffin:** Experience.

**Justin:** I really—this—now we're getting to it. Because I think that—and I'm realizing this as I say it. I think I'm uncomfortable with people thinking about me...

**Travis:** Wow!

**Griffin:** Period.

**Justin:** [laughs] That's it. I mean, that's actually it. The idea that someone has thought about me... [chuckles] makes me—makes me uncomfortable, I think.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** I'm uncomfortable with that. It makes me uncomfortable. I don't—

**Griffin:** I'm not that far, Trav. I want to set the boundaries here. I'm not that far. But I am far enough that if somebody sees a shirt hanging in their closet and be like, "Griffin would like this. I'll wear it." That's weird, man. You don't—

**Travis:** Why is that weird?!

**Griffin:** 'Cause you're—

**Travis:** It's a friend who's hanging out with you and wants you to be happy! And they're like, "This will make them—ah, they'll like this shirt. I'm gonna get a compliment on it from them, because they'll appreciate it."

**Justin:** No, okay, I—see, I agree with Travis here, because I know that like Slice—get the—we both like patterned Disney shirts. So, I'll wear one of those if I know I'm gonna be seeing Slice.

**Griffin:** Yeah, but—hm... okay, maybe we do need to—

**Justin:** It's not that weird.

**Griffin:** Maybe I do need to take a few—

**Justin:** And we have like our matching Sivaco T-shirts and all—you know, we'll like—

**Griffin:** Well, that's a pre-planned—that's a pre-organized—if you're wearing a thing because you think you're gonna match someone, I think that's a different conversation.

**Travis:** Okay, but now you're matching their energy, Griffin, because you have matching socks?

**Griffin:** But in that way, it is a conversation. It's not like—and—no! I've moved the goalposts way too far forward here, because I thought that I was gonna have a little bit more support from my brother—

**Justin:** I want to know—I want to back you up on the socks, though. The socks is—here's the problem with the socks, right? I show up in a shirt that I think my friend would like. React to this, right now.

**Griffin:** That's the gag, boom. Boom-bang, right there, out the door.

**Justin:** Right there. To get this to the point of socks, it's got to be one of two things. Someone's got to ask, "Huh, interesting socks?" Or the other thing is the person being like, "I see you noticed my socks." Both of those are unsustainable.

**Griffin:** Suboptimal.

**Justin:** Yeah, suboptimal, thank you.

**Travis:** But now let me unravel you, Justin. Now, let's remove the idea of them ever seeing the socks, with a little thing I call underpants, which are hidden. Now you're just wearing it for you to make you happy.

**Justin:** But we've abstracted it out enough now that I no longer know how I feel. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Okay, no, no, no, I—

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** This has affirmed my point.

**Travis:** Boom!

**Griffin:** No, no, no—

**Travis:** I got him!

**Griffin:** This has—

**Travis:** I broke him!

**Griffin:** Reaffirmed—

**Travis:** I've unraveled his psyche!

**Griffin:** This has reaffirmed my point. The underwear and the never ever telling is not great. Because the whole time—nope, Travis, please.

**Travis:** It's just for you.

**Griffin:** Please! Please.

**Justin:** [titters] Please.

**Griffin:** The whole time you're hanging out with them, you're technically lying. You're technically—you've got a—you made a secret. You made a secret.

**Justin:** Uh-huh. Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** You made a secret. You know it, they don't.

**Justin:** I've got a secret.

**Griffin:** You don't tell them the secret, that's a big lie you're telling, the whole time.

**Travis:** Here's the qualifier I will have. Because I don't want to say that universally it's not weird. I want to say if this was a friend that somehow found out what underpants you were wearing, and that they match them, would they think it was whimsical and quirky and funny? Or would they think it was weird? Because I have friends that if I did this—

**Griffin:** Survey says!

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Like 99% of people is like, "No way, man."

**Justin:** [chortles]

**Travis:** You need to work on your friend group, my dude. Because me and Bobby Bradbury—

**Justin:** I thought about it again—

**Travis:** If we showed up and the three of us found out we were wearing underpants that complemented one another in some way—

**Justin:** No, not the same thing.

**Travis:** We'd think that was the cutest thing in the world.

**Griffin:** That's what I'm saying, man, it's not a—Trav... it's not 100, there's some—there are such things—

**Justin:** [chuckles] It's never gonna get to 100.

**Griffin:** There are strong, supportive, contemporary male friendships out there that would be definitely down with that. And I'm so deeply jealous that you do—that you do have that, but—

**Travis:** You and I could have that, Griffin, if you would let us.

**Griffin:** Super wicked don't even want it! Which maybe means I'm doomed to not want it, or have it, ever.

**Justin:** It's that it's on the crotch though, isn't it?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** That doesn't bother me.

**Justin:** It is that it's on the crotch though, isn't it?

**Travis:** It would be weird—

**Justin:** It's that I wanted to have a crotch secret about you.

**Travis:** I was about to say if my face was on their T-shirt. But my face is on a lot of T-shirts right now. And I actually love that when that happens, so...

**Griffin:** Again, different—I appreciate the comparison. Fundamentally different thing. If I found that you were wearing underwear with my face on it, that would be... that would be a fucking deal breaker, my man.

**Justin:** [snickers]

**Travis:** Unrelated, if anyone knows where I can get custom underwear made?

**Griffin:** Travis, not kidding—

**Travis:** Please let me know.

**Griffin:** Cut and run. Wait—

**Travis:** What if we partnered with Bombas to make underwear with Griffin's face on it?

**Griffin:** I don't know where Juice just went, but I've never been more suspended in a state of terror by a contributor's departure on this program than I am right now. Hey, Juice.

**Travis:** Seamless, Justin. What have we partner with Bombas to make underwear with Griffin's face on it?

**Griffin:** What did you—where did you go and why are you making that fucking face, man?

**Justin:** I was sneaking back in because I was hoping you guys weren't going to talk about my absence. I needed to get my phone because dad has the girls and—well, I don't need to finish this sentence.

**Griffin:** Oh, I thought—okay, please understand, from my perspective, I was like, "I sure hope no one wears underwear with my face on it." And you were like—[giggles] you chose that moment.

**Justin:** That must have been absolutely wild for you. And I am so sorry.

**Griffin:** Yes, thank you so much for recognizing that. And I—

**Justin:** I'm so sorry.

**Griffin:** Yes, thank you so much. Thanks for making space for that.

**Travis:** Now, I just want to make it clear for our listeners at home. I can joke about and maybe execute this. None of you can. None of you—

**Griffin:** Okay, weird—huh, Trav! That's totally—

**Justin:** It's an advice show—

**Travis:** Are they friends with you, Griffin?!

**Griffin:** That's peculiar, isn't it, Trav?!

**Justin:** It's an advice show...

**Travis:** This is the height of a parasocial relationship. If someone showed up that you did not know, and you'd never met 'em before and said, "Hey, you're on my underpants." Let's put it on a scale, Griffin.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Are you more comfortable with a complete stranger showing up saying, "I've got your face on my underpants," than me saying it? Who— which one are you more comfortable with?

**Griffin:** Here's the—this is the fucked up—you ready for this? I'm about to fucking mind freak you, dude. Are you ready?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Travis comes to me. We hang out. He leaves. Later tells me, or never tells me, "I was wearing Griffin underwear." That sucks. Right? A stranger doing that to me, who gives a shit? Like I don't know—I'll never know about it. I don't know who you are. But, but, but, but, but flip 'em. You come to me, you say, "And by the way, I'm wearing the Griffin underwear." I would be like, "Eh!" But if a stranger does that to me, that also... that's bad.

**Travis:** But it sucks more. It has to suck more.

**Griffin:** It sucks way more! It sucks way more. Because if a stranger comes to me and is like, "Hey, I'm wearing Griffin underwear." That's the worst moment of my fucking life.

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Do you understand that there's like a—every—context matters in all of these kinds of situations. But I would say the best way to sort of avoid all of them is to not do this thing.

**Justin:** What if it's a bunch of hunky, sexy hard bodies, and they all come to—

**Travis:** Good question.

**Justin:** You at the same time, Griffin, and they say, "Hey, and we're wearing them now."

**Griffin:** No good! No good!

**Justin:** What if it's 100?

**Travis:** What if it's some of the people you respect most in business and politics and science?

**Justin:** Yes.



**Travis:** And they come to you—

**Griffin:** Jesus...

**Travis:** And they're like, "Hey, anytime I work on my science stuff—"

**Justin:** Sanjay Gupta, Bill Nye.

**Griffin:** Ah, man. If Gupta rolls up and is like—

**Travis:** Mark Cuban.

**Justin:** Mark Cuban, all your heroes.

**Griffin:** If Cuban—if I get Cuban and Gupta, and they reveal their matching Griffin McElroy underwear, [chuckles] I'm... I don't—I still actually don't. I'll be like stoked, stoked to meet both you equally righteous dudes!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** But no, thank you!

**Travis:** Hm. Okay.

**Justin:** All right. To each his own, I guess.

**Griffin:** Yeah! That's the beauty of it, isn't it?

**Justin:** I guess it is, Griffin. I guess it is.

**Travis:** The beauty of... the beauty of life?

**Griffin:** I don't know, man. We've been talking about underwear for so long. I would love another question.

**Justin:** "I'm at a workplace book club for the summer." God, I'm jealous of that. Why don't we do that? We have a workplace?

**Travis:** I can't do a book club. As soon as I have the expectation that I have to like read something, it becomes homework and I put it off.

**Griffin:** We also read exceedingly different types of literature.

**Justin:** Oh, that's true. That's true.

**Travis:** I enjoy like mysteries and biographies, and Griffin like smut.

**Justin:** Yeah, Griffin does love smut.

**Griffin:** I love fairy smut so much. Robo smut.

**Travis:** Historical, non-fiction smut.

**Griffin:** Historical fairy smut! Non-historical robo smut. Time smut.

**Justin:** Griffin is now just describing the Chuck Tingle catalog.

[group chuckle]

**Justin:** That's literally all the genres. "I joined because I like the other people in the club and because they usually get together to talk about the book somewhere cool, like a museum or zoo. My problem is that I'm now five chapters into the book, and I hate it. How can I save myself the mental agony so I can get to that sweet end goal of a workday at the zoo? Or should I just fess up and get through the FOMO now? And no, the book does not have a movie/TV/game adaptation." That's from Booking on Bossman's Dime in Florida.

**Travis:** There needs to be more video game adaptations of classic novels.

**Griffin:** There's really not many of them.

**Justin:** Not enough.

**Travis:** I would love that.

**Justin:** They did A Christmas Carol Metroidvania recently, just saying.

**Griffin:** Which absolutely rips ass, yeah.

**Travis:** Oh? And I think one of the Bible too, but I don't think a lot of people are doing that for like non-religious book clubs.

**Justin:** Bible adventures, yeah.

**Griffin:** A few Bibles.

**Justin:** We gotta play Bible Adventures again.

**Griffin:** You can, a lot of the time, find this book in a sound format that you can make the guy go so fucking fast.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Like I'm not a big audio book guy, but then when I realized like, hey, you know, there's some gaps in my oeuvre that I could fill in by going on a drive and slapping this guy on five times speed.

**Justin:** Yeah, crank it out.

**Griffin:** And just fucking—

**Justin:** Fucking rip it.

**Griffin:** Fucking crank, dude.

**Justin:** [spoofs the sound of a sped-up recording]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] [chuckles]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] [snickers]

**Travis:** Now I'm thinking that this is a service we could offer, just having Justin do 10 second book synopsis videos.

**Griffin:** Yeah, that's cool.

**Travis:** I would love that.

**Griffin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] Two farmers—one makes—uh-oh—gets shot. The end.

**Justin:** [titters]

**Griffin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] Bye!

**Travis:** [spoofs sped-up recording] Bye! Reivew. Like and subscribe.

**Griffin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] Love you! Bye.

**Travis:** [chuckles] Like and subscribe.

**Griffin:** [spoofs sped-up recording] Two brothers—one shoots the other one—byee!

**Travis:** Byee! [titters]

**Justin:** "Paul's good but he's probably banned. There's sand everywhere." That's the dude.

**Travis:** Byee!

**Griffin:** That's the dude—

**Travis:** Love you!

**Griffin:** Yeah, I get you.

**Justin:** Paul's good but he's probably bad. There's sand everywhere.

**Griffin:** Dude.

**Travis:** Heathcliff sucks. That's the end of Wuthering Heights, byee!

**Griffin:** I've never—

**Justin:** I—

**Griffin:** I've never been in a book club. But I do record a video game podcast called The Besties every week, where sometimes we have to play some real fuckin' stinkers.

**Justin:** Yeah, we do.

**Griffin:** But you just play 'em because it's your job.

**Travis:** Hm!

**Griffin:** This is your job.

**Justin:** Sometimes—

**Griffin:** This is your job.

**Justin:** This is your job.

**Travis:** Now, let me—I would say, ist not possible, mein friends, that if you have fallen off a book that you have so many reasons that you have to—like that you feel compelled to read it, that someone else in the group is—this could be a like leaning, you know, like all the sticks fell over and they're leaning, standing up against each other. Where they're waiting for one person in the book club to be like—

**Griffin:** That's it.

**Travis:** "This book sucks!"

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** And then everyone else is like, "Yes, thank you. Yes, yes, yes, yes."

**Justin:** Whoa, okay. You come to the...

**Griffin:** The zoo.

**Justin:** The group, you say, "Hey, listen, I just came up with a good idea, guys. And I want to see what you all think about it. They're called Skip-os

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And you take out a coaster that says Skip-o on it. Everybody when they join the club gets one Skip-o. And you can earn Skip-os by bringing snacks or by—

**Griffin:** Friends?

**Justin:** Cleaning up afterwards, or by bringing in friends for referrals. You get a Skip-o when they get a Skip-o. And you get to—

**Travis:** Yeah, if you can memorize a Bible verse, you get a Skip-o.

**Justin:** You could get Skip-os. And there's like—

**Griffin:** 10 cans of food to donate, Skip-o.

**Justin:** And then you look around, right, you watch the group. Then what you're gonna do is you're gonna keep on promising this until everybody is wild about Skip-os. You can't stop until you see a lot of enthusiasm and nodding, like if it takes—there's tiered layers of Skip-os. There's like an—

**Travis:** Oh, yeah, there's different colors of Skip-os.

**Griffin:** There's gold Skip-os.

**Travis:** Yes!

**Justin:** There's a crypto currency tie-in.

**Travis:** There's power Skip-os that override a Skip-os. Unskip-os.

**Griffin:** There's a Skip-o—there's what's called a Skip-o reverse, where you can undo someone else's Skip-o.

**Travis:** And what's that? It's a draw four. They have to read for books this week.

**Justin:** Okay, so then you're like, you get everybody excited for it and then you're like, "Ah, okay, we're all on board. Me first. Fuck Nathaniel Hawthorne. Peace."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "I'm burning my Skip-o."

**Griffin:** This is actually a beta Skip-o.

**Travis:** Burning it right now. And I also get eight Skip-os, because I invented Skip-o. As a reward for—

**Griffin:** Before we put this—

**Justin:** I've been mining Skip-os for months! [snickers]

**Griffin:** Before we put this platform into service, I'd like to beta test the Skip-os personally myself. I'm going to try a Skip-o this week, work out some of the bugs. I'll come back at you next week with another Skip-o. Books are so fucking boring! All of 'em, every time!

**Travis:** Now, what if, and this is a mechanic that we know works, we've seen it. Tribal Council, anonymous vote.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Like after the first five chapters of a book, the next session you guys get together and you all like put a torch in front of the book. You go off to like a private booth. You write down either like 'this book sucks' or 'we keep reading it.' And if there's more votes for 'this book sucks,' you put out the torch and you burn the book.

**Justin:** Yeah, burn all the books.

**Griffin:** I don't actually think you would want to do that last part. But you were really on to something.

**Travis:** Which part, you don't wanna put out the torch?

**Griffin:** No, no, no. Trav, I hate—I think feel like Skip-os is a way more elegant solution than what you just devised. So, I—

**Travis:** Yeah, okay, you could use a Skip-o and burn the book. That's fine.

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** No, I think it's the book burning that I don't like. I—but if you—there is an option—

**Travis:** I mean... but then what do you do with them? If the book sucks, Griffin, and you hate it, you're supposed to force that onto somebody else?

**Justin:** [laughs] Then what if you don't like what the book has to say?

**Griffin:** You bury them so the paper can turn back into trees.

**Travis:** That's a good point.

**Griffin:** I think that it would be pretty kick ass—



**Travis:** I bet there's someone out there who's taken books and turned them into like termite houses or bee houses and shit.

**Griffin:** I think, normalize when you reach a point in the book you're reading for your book club and you don't wanna read anymore, you tear out every page that came after that. And you doodle in with a sharpie like, "And then they all got married. The end." And then you roll up to book club and you be like, "I don't know what the fuck you guys are talking about. My book ended at chapter five. And they all got married. And then it said 'the end.'" So like all this stuff you're saying about Jim going to war and coming back and being different, and then Susan was a robot, I didn't get any of that shit in my apparently abridged copy of Nathaniel Hawthorne's best book."

**Travis:** Start sneaking in references and summaries of things that happened in the most recent episode of Bridgerton you watched.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** And just like as it's part of the conversation, right, and you're like, "Yeah, and I love that conversation between Benedict and Eloise." And eventually they're gonna start being like, "What?" And they're gonna get interested in what you're talking about. What's that? It's not a book club anymore. Now it's a we go to the zoo once a week and talk about Bridgerton club. Which is way better! In so many ways

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Here's the way Justin McElroy would handle this. Because I did a lot of this in middle school. You go in, you don't say fucking shit. You let everybody else run their mouth, run their mouth, run their mouth. And then eventually... it ends. Or someone's like, "And Justin, you've been pretty quiet." And you be like, "Ah, yes, you've noticed." And then you just recite some shit that you heard other people say.

**Griffin:** Yeah, easy.

**Justin:** Like, "I think Grant nailed it when he said bla-bla-bla-bla-bla. That so echoed everything that I said."

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** And then everybody's like, "Man, I really appreciate your support, man." It's like, "Yeah, absolutely. Good."

**Travis:** So it would go something like this, "Ah, you've noticed? Yes. It's just, as I was listening and trying to take it all in, I saw that monkey over there. And he stuck his finger in his butthole."

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** "And that made me think about what Grant said earlier."

**Griffin:** What the fuck are you—oh, at the zoo. Trav, I forgot about the zoo element of this question and I thought you just had a stroke.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** So, Travis, you're like—in Travis' world of the zoo it's like, "That's—ah, you've noticed. Actually, I was about to say—" "Oh, shit! Panda! Everybody, look! Look at this guy go!"

**Travis:** Can I just say—okay, listen, we've danced around it for a while—

**Justin:** But there's not a panda.

**Travis:** A museum, café, or wherever you talk about the book, that's fine. You're going to a zoo where there's so much shit going on at any given time. Even a museum, there's stuff to look at. But a zoo? Stuff is moving around, it's loud, people are walking around, and I'm supposed to focus on a fucking book while I'm there?

**Griffin:** No way.

**Travis:** When I could see a hippo or whatever? What are you talking about?

**Griffin:** The world's best book cannot hold a candle to the world's worst hippopotamus.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** This is what I'm saying.

**Justin:** Everybody's always saying that, aren't they? [titters]

**Griffin:** In terms of the value they provide me? Hippopotamus over book every day of the week.

**Travis:** I could watch a penguin fuckin' like rocking itself through the water, and you expect me to talk about fuckin' Wuthering Heights?

**Griffin:** Incredible. No way.

**Travis:** Get off.

**Justin:** Yeah, no way.

**Travis:** No, get off the—I don't wanna hear it.

**Griffin:** So glad we continue to take horrible positions on this show, on things like—

**Travis:** Books, boo. Penguins, yay.

**Griffin:** I feel like Snoopy was a test balloon that we sent up to see if it would be okay for us to shit talk how boring—[chuckles]

**Justin:** How boring Snoopy is?

**Griffin:** I don't even like—I don't know why I'm doing this character. There's a lot of books. I'm reading a book right now—

**Travis:** I love books!

**Griffin:** About books. So like, believe me.

**Travis:** No, you missed my point. I love books. If you expect me to hold a conversation thoughtfully and insightfully, talking about my feelings on something, and you put me in a place where there's so much stuff going on...

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Travis:** What the fuck did you expect?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Right? Like, we meet in a living room, we'll chat. You wanna have like a book club while a movie is on at a movie theater? What are you talking about?

**Justin:** That sounds—[not only anybody that suggested that??] whatsoever, but I'm into it.

**Travis:** Well, a zoo is like a movie of life.

**Griffin:** A zoo is like a movie of... well, not my life.

**Travis:** If you're watching Zootopia.

**Justin:** I wish. I mean...

**Travis:** Oh, man, me too. Let's have a book club about Zootopia. I've got feelings.

**Justin:** Yeah. Hey, listen, let's take a quick break. And then we'll come back and we'll talk about more great, great advice. For you, our beloved listeners.

[theme music plays]

**Travis:** Hey, let me tell you something. I'm very excited about this. I mean this very sincerely.

**Justin:** Oh, yeah.

**Travis:** I am something I'm a gardener. Completely amateur. But one of the things, especially as like a homeowner and you know, someone who tries to not disappoint my entire neighborhood, mulch and stuff is so—argh! It's so expensive!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Ah, doing that stuff.

**Griffin:** So heavy too.

**Travis:** Ah, it's so heavy. It's so expensive. Sometimes it stinks like butt. And I gotta figure out like what of it is like good or whatever. And then I go to like the hardware store and I have to appear to be an adult who knows about mulch?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** I don't know that? That's why I'm excited to tell everybody about ChipDrop, which is a service for gardeners and arborist. And gardeners can sign up to get free wood chips, get wood chip mulch or logs delivered. And arborists sign up to access inexpensive sites where they can drop their woodchips and logs. It's a perfect match. I've got wood chips and logs. I need wood chips and logs. Well, have we got a deal for you. Because Chip Top in—chip-chip. Chip!

**Griffin:** It's fun to say. Like, it's called ChipDrop. And now that we've said it once good, we can just—we can just blaze right through 'em.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** They encourage people to transform their yards and communities by providing free wood chips and information about how to use 'em. And you

can do so much cool stuff with woods chips. It's not just like you know, mulch, there's so much stuff. And it's—

**Griffin:** Shitty dominoes. I mean, any—like, anything, man.

**Travis:** You gotta check it out. Whether you have a bunch of trees you're trying to get rid of, or a bunch of weeds you're trying to get rid of, or anywhere in between, I guess.

**Justin:** You just—here's the way it works. People pull up plants and trees and they say, "Man, screw these things!" And someone else is like, "Wait, don't screw those things. Or at least chop and screw them, and then give me the remnants." It's a beautiful circle. It's a virtuous circle!

**Travis:** Sign up for your wood chip delivery at [chipdrop.com](http://chipdrop.com). Arborists, if you're out there, sign up at [chipdrop.com](http://chipdrop.com), and start saving your business all kinds of money. Go check it out now.

**Justin:** Trav, we have been so busy over here at our house lately, but we still want to eat real food sometimes. We can't live in a nugget-based home all the time.

**Travis:** Oh, I thought you meant like a hook scenario where you were imagining like bowls of different colored goop.

**Justin:** No, just like you know, stuff that tastes like someone actually cared when they prepared it, and they put love into it, you know what I mean?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Factor has made that a lot easier to keep up with. They have these really delicious meals that can be ready in two minutes with no prep.

**Travis:** Two minutes?

**Justin:** Yeah, two minutes, no prep. And they got a bunch of different ones to choose from. Okay, just this week, roasted garlic chicken with green

beans and sour cream and onion mashed potatoes. Yes. Thank you. Cilantro chicken with some black beans and spicy corn. It's delicious.

**Travis:** Yeah, I'll take that.

**Justin:** It's delicious. In two minutes you could be eating that, you don't have to rely on fast food or whatever. It's just—

**Travis:** I can imagine those, just as you describe 'em, I'm imagining. Oh! They just appeared in bowls before me!

**Justin:** Travis?

**Travis:** I imagine 'em so good, I'm having a food fight like in Hook!

**Justin:** They got breakfast, they got dessert, they have—make your entire day delicious with Factor. Head to [factormeals.com/brother50](https://factormeals.com/brother50) and use code Brother 50 to get 50% off your first box, plus 20% off your next month. That's code Brother 50 at [factormeals.com/brother50](https://factormeals.com/brother50) to get 50% off your first box, plus 20% off your next month, while your subscription is active.

**Travis:** Factor meals, their meals taste bangarang. That's what it says right here!

**Griffin:** Whoa? It's weird.

**Justin:** Whoa?

**Travis:** It says—yeah, their tagline is 'their meals taste bangarang.'

**Griffin:** That's so weird, because it doesn't make any fuckin' sense.

**Travis:** I know. Yeah.

**Justin:** It's such a wild thing to say. [titters]

[break]

[sound of phone ringing]

**Benjamin:** Hello, Podcast Recommendation Service.

**Caller:** Hello there, young man. I'm looking for a new podcast to listen to. Something amusing, perhaps.

**Benjamin:** Oh, what about Beef and Dairy Network?

**Caller:** Something surreal and satirical. Well

**Benjamin:** Well, I would suggest Beef and Dairy Network.

**Caller:** Ideally, it would be a spoof industry podcast for the beef and dairy industries.

**Benjamin:** Yes. Beef and Dairy Network.

**Caller:** Maybe it would have brilliant guests such as Josie Long, Heather Anne Campbell, Nick Offerman, and the actor, Ted Danson.

**Benjamin:** Beef and Dairy Network!

**Caller:** I don't know. I think I'm going to stick to Joe Rogan.

[theme music plays]

**Benjamin:** The Beef and Dairy Network Podcast is a multi-award winning comedy podcast, and you can find it at [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org), or wherever you get your podcasts.

[break]

**Narrator:** Somewhere in an alternate universe, where Hollywood is smarter...

**Presenter 1:** And the Emmy nominees for Outstanding Comedy Series are...



**Presenter 2:** Jetpackula.

**Presenter 1:** Airport Marriott.

**Presenter 2:** Thrapple.

**Presenter 1:** Dear America, We've Seen You Naked.

**Presenter 2:** And Allah in the Family.

**Narrator:** In our stupid universe, you can't see any of these shows. But you can listen to them on Dead Pilots Society. The podcast that brings you hilarious comedy pilots that the networks and streamers bought, but never made. Journey to the ultimate television universe of Dead Pilots Society on [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org).

[break]

**Justin:** Would you guys like another question?

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Justin:** "I frequently play basketball at a public park in Florida. The day I didn't show up, Shaq showed up—"

**Travis:** It's pronounced Flo-rida. Flo-rida.

**Griffin:** It's pronounced Flo-rida.

**Travis:** Do you wanna try again?

**Justin:** "I frequently play basketball at a public park in Flo Rida. The day that I didn't show up, Shaqew show—fuck!"

**Travis:** [snickers]

**Justin:** "Shaw showed up and was taking pictures."

**Griffin:** Did you just call his—did you call that man Shaqew?

**Justin:** [titters] "Shaq showed up and was taking—"

**Travis:** That's what he says—that's what Shaq says whenever somebody has committed a crime and he's figured it out. He's like, "Shaq-cuse!"

**Griffin:** Shaq-cuse!

**Justin:** Shaq-cuse.

**Griffin:** Yeah, when you're in France, they call—he's called Shaqew.  
[chuckles]

**Travis:** That's when you're in line to meet him. If you're in line, you gotta get in the Shaqueue.

**Justin:** I was just pronouncing it because I just did your Flo Rida thing for you... "I would like to meet Shaq! How do I make sure I don't miss Shaq again?" That's from Shaquille Ordeal in Gainesville.

**Griffin:** Incredibly strong.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Shaq is? Yeah, man. I imagine. He's a large man.

**Griffin:** There's additional info that Shaq's daughter plays basketball at the University of Florida. So they—so this person suspects there will be more Shaq in the future potentially.

**Justin:** More Shaqability.

**Travis:** I really appreciate that additional info because—

**Justin:** More Shaqessability. [titters]

**Travis:** Yeah. I don't actually know where Shaq is based. And the idea that Shaq could appear anytime, anywhere I am...

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Is... I don't know if off-putting is the word I would use. Intimidating?

**Griffin:** It would be a constant consideration of mine, I feel like. I would always—

**Travis:** Here's the thing about Shaquille O'Neal that I think you—maybe people don't think about enough. I've seen him stand next to other basketball men, and he's way bigger than them.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Basketball men are big, right? Bigger than me. So, I have to imagine—

**Justin:** Right, 100%.

**Travis:** Were I in the presence of Shaquille O'Neal, it is the closest I would get to the thing I've often dreamed of when having to care for my children, of having a much larger adult that then cares for me in turn.

**Justin:** Mm-hm.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Right? And I think that I would instantly feel a certain amount of... safety, paternal love for Mr. Shaq. And that might be the weirdest part of it all.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** There's—

**Travis:** Would be like, "Oh, you're my dad."

**Justin:** They already wanna meet Shaq, Trav. Like, that's settled. Like, you don't have to hype up meeting Shaq more. They definitely wanna meet Shaq.

**Griffin:** I just—

Travis: No, I'm saying that because I know that about myself, I don't know that I want to meet Shaq.

**Griffin:** I googled where's Shaq.

**Justin:** [titters] I don't like that you can do that.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I mean, I don't have a feed of his I assume sizable private jet.

**Justin:** Okay, well, I guess I am glad that you had to do that. And you didn't have that information at your fingertips, I guess, in hindsight.

**Griffin:** This is crazy. He has more than one house. Like, I know he's—

**Justin:** [chortles] What? You're telling me pro basketball player Shaquille O'Neal has more than one house?

**Travis:** Famous spokesman for a thousand things? Basketball commentator, incredibly well-known celebrity, Shaquille O'Neal?

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. No, we get it. No, we get it. He's famous and successful. But like, I know he's big. Why do you—it's—you have one body—you have one body. You know what I mean?

**Travis:** But he has a lot of stuff.

**Griffin:** One's in Dallas and one is in Vegas.

**Justin:** It's got all his Shaqessories. [titters]

**Griffin:** I know you need to keep all your Shaqessories somewhere, but like Orlando, Vegas, Dallas, these cities are not close to each other. So like, make up your mind! Just pick one—

**Travis:** Well, he's tall. His strides, Griffin, he can move across the country at rapid speeds.

**Griffin:** Cool. That's awesome.

**Justin:** The thing is, watching basketball makes him very sleepy. So, he's trying to build a house in every place where they play basketball.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** So that time—anytime he watches basketball, "Ah, I'm getting tired," then he could just go straight home. Go to sleep.

**Griffin:** There needs to be a series of towers in Gainesville, Florida. That when Shaq is sited at this basketball court, you light one ablaze. And then the watchman at the next tower sees it and—

**Justin:** And then they can start—they can start Shaqing him wherever he happens to go.

**Griffin:** Well, I don't need a live update. I was imagining that this is like, Shaq has appeared at this basketball court, and so your buddies send up the fires of Gondor. And then it's time to fuckin' get there.

**Travis:** And I bet it gets so exciting when you see 'em like sparking, you know, the spark to light. And you're like, "Oh, it's heating up." And then it sets ablaze and like, "He's on fire!" And then like you know that it's time to slam.

**Griffin:** He came up with that.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** He came up with that. The first time Shaq dunked in the NBA, he yelled all that shit. And that's where it all—that's where it all came from.

**Travis:** Oh, yeah!

**Justin:** A lot of people think it was an accident, but it was actually a Shaqccident.

**Griffin:** I think you need to—

**Travis:** Ah!

**Griffin:** Tell—

**Travis:** Hey, Griffin! It was a Shaqccident. Justin, I heard it.

**Justin:** It's okay, you guys already missed that they were Shaqing him with the towers. I said they were Shaqing him wherever he went.

**Griffin:** I did, I missed both of those. They were—

**Travis:** I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

**Griffin:** They're buttery smooth. I think that you need to start telling people in your life. Just so you know—

**Justin:** That you love them.

**Griffin:** I love you. But—

**Travis:** Yeah. Because you never know.

**Justin:** You never know.

**Travis:** When it's gonna be your last.

**Griffin:** I love you.

**Justin:** Good point, Griffin.

**Griffin:** But...

**Justin:** [titters]

**Travis:** Yeah, Griffin, that was beautiful.

**Justin:** [chuckles] It's a weird moment to bring it up, but you're right. You should let—

**Travis:** Yeah, you never know. A bus—

**Griffin:** Let people in your life know 'I love you.' But if I—

**Justin:** [sings] Say it! Say it! Say aloud!

**Griffin:** But—

**Justin:** you know that that's Tommy's ringtone for when his dad calls? And I love that, because that does help you to remember to be nice to your dad when he calls. I think I'm at a point where I need to do that.

**Griffin:** But—I love you so much. But if I get a text from my friend Dougie, at the park, that Shaq is there, I'm stopping whatever we're doing together. No matter how critical or important it is, I will stop that. I will call the fastest car service that can get to me and I'm going to that park to meet Shaq. Like, I'm going to that park to meet Shaq. The best thing is an emergency service text from your friend saying, "Shaq here go." And then you look at your—

**Justin:** Drop a pin.

**Griffin:** You look at your significant other or your surgeon and you say, "Stitch me up. It's Shaq time." And they'll know what that means.

**Travis:** I am picturing now like the person running in with like the smock still on, halfway through a haircut. Like, "Hah! Hey! Whoa, Shaq's here."

**Griffin:** "I was just in the neighborhood."

**Travis:** "I was just showing up to ball and—"

**Griffin:** "Cool!"

**Travis:** [spoofs panting sounds] "Give me a minute... Let's play—yeah, let's play some basketball, Mr. Shaq. Oh, yeah. These are pajamas. Don't worry about it. That's how I ball, son."

**Griffin:** "It's a cape. A backwards cape."

**Justin:** [chuckles] "I'm kind of a basketball superhero."

**Travis:** "Don't worry about it!"

**Justin:** "You want to ball with me? All right, Shaq. I didn't say that."

**Griffin:** I bet Shaq never plays at the same like just park court twice. I think he guarantees maybe one—I think maybe once, Shaq will show up to your public park basketball court. And will bless it like a new ship setting sail for the first time. And then never—

**Justin:** Christening it.

**Griffin:** He can't come back there.

**Travis:** It's wild to me that he still likes playing basketball without like just non-professional—that it's just like—I don't know how old Mr. O'Neill is. But he's played—

**Griffin:** 59 years old.

**Travis:** He's played so much basketball in his time. That after a while you think that like even if it was a thing you loved very, very much, you played so much basketball, that eventually you'd be like, "I think that's enough basketball for one lifetime."



**Justin:** Yeah. But it's also very fun to play. You know?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** I guess if you were good at it, and tall.

**Justin:** If you're good at it.

**Travis:** I could see where you would enjoy—

**Griffin:** Do you guys ever shoot—

**Travis:** Maybe that's the difference, is I'm coming at it from my point of view, where I'm of a perhaps average height, and below average talent.

**Griffin:** Co-ordination, sure.

**Travis:** And so for me, basketball is a slog and an unpleasant experience.

**Justin:** But I don't ever think you get truly Shaqclimated to the feeling of dominating people like that.

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** You know what I mean? Like, I think that that's always gonna give you a thrill.

**Griffin:** I also think if Shaq didn't like playing basketball, he would have done something about it before now.

**Justin:** [titters] Canceled basketball?

**Griffin:** No, just—

**Justin:** Put a stop to basketball?

**Griffin:** Just not—

**Travis:** [laughs] "I'm taking it with me!"

**Griffin:** I'm more talking about—

**Travis:** "I'm taking all the basketballs with me!"

**Griffin:** I'm not saying that Shaq hates basketball so much, he would try to delete the sport from the public consciousness. Just that he might have cut his career a little bit shorter because he would be like, "I actually don't—this is weird. I don't like this this much."

**Justin:** "I don't like this."

**Travis:** I'd love to know what other dreams Mr. O'Neill has. In an alternate universe, the Shaq we could—

**Griffin:** Actor? Did it. Check.

**Travis:** Shaqctor, please.

**Griffin:** Sorry, man. I keep stepping on your guys' kick ass Shaq portmanteaus.

**Justin:** [guffaws] This is great.

**Travis:** There's so many S-tier ones. It goes so—if I say he's a Shaqctor, you know exactly what I'm portmanteauing.

**Griffin:** He's a tractor. [chuckles]

**Travis:** Pff! [titters] [sings] 'She thinks my Shaqctor's sexy!' Now, I would like to see a Shaq that dominated other fields, is all I'm saying. Has Mr. Shaq written a novel yet? Kareem Abdul-Jabbar wrote—

**Griffin:** There's so much we don't know about Shaq, that I'm actually growing increasingly uncomfortable talking about Shaq.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Hey, can we talk about something else then?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [mouths Munch Squad riff]

**Griffin:** All right!

**Justin:** [continues riffing]

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Justin:** [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch!

**Travis:** Squad!

**Griffin:** Squad.

**Justin:** [continues riffing and sings] I want to munch!

**Travis:** Squad!

**Griffin:** Squad!

**Justin:** [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad. It's a podcast within a podcast, profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating. Welcome to a quick Dunkin' update for the summer. They've gotten some things that are very exciting. Some things that are not very exciting, and I'm not going to tell you about those. I will say that there is a hot honey kissed sandwich that sounds really delightful. There's a s'mores—

**Griffin:** Hot in which hot—

**Justin:** Mike's hot honey. This is the—this is the trend now. This is where everyone is at. Hot honey. We love it right now.

**Griffin:** I like hot honey. Maybe not here. Not here though, maybe.

**Justin:** No. But I will take it on anything. That is the trend. We got hot honey—

**Travis:** Can I use this platform for a second to say I love hot honey. Don't zhuzh up—don't make hot ketchup.

**Justin:** I like hot ketchup. I like hot honey.

**Griffin:** I like hot ketchup too.

**Justin:** We're gonna get Hot Honey Snackin' Bacon, that's marking Dunkin's first new seasoned bacon flavor since 2019. So...

**Travis:** Thank god.

**Justin:** That's huge.

**Griffin:** I still think Snackin' Bacon is one of the greatest accomplishments that the world has given us. This idea, you like bacon, it's okay to snack on now. We said so.

**Travis:** Yeah, here's some for the road.

**Griffin:** Take it from us over here at Donkey Dug's. You can snack on bacon, no problem.

**Justin:** This is what—this is the bit though that I really want to drill down onto. Okay? This is part of like a lineup for the summer, and then it talks about this, "A Whirlwind of Flavor: Tornado Twist Sparkd' Energy. In tune with stormy summer blockbusters, Dunkin' debuted the Tornado Twist Sparkd' Energy Drink, a thrilling taste that's worth chasing. This new way to enjoy Sparkd' Energy blends Berry Burst with Peach Sunshine flavors, delivering a refreshing burst of raspberry, strawberry, peach, and lychee flavors for a kick of caffeine and vitamins. Country music fans may have caught a glimpse of the new Tornado Twist in the recent music video, "Ain't

No Love in Oklahoma (From Twisters: The Album)," performed by Luke Combs."

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** I have a question. Wait, I have my hand raised.

**Griffin:** Yeah, go ahead, Trav.

**Justin:** Do you guys see what's happening here?

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah, it's outrageous.

**Travis:** I have my hand raised!

**Griffin:** Please, Travis.

**Travis:** So. It's not in partnership with Twistors though, right?

**Justin:** No. It's not—as far as I can tell, it's not. Now wait. Now, I'm going to complicate this a little bit. I'm going to share with you guys the tab where I have the video for the scene-stealing appearance of the Tornado Twist.

**Travis:** The only mention of Twister is abstracted out from it appeared in a video for the thing.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Okay, here we go.

**Justin:** Okay, you're ready? I'm not gonna play the music because I don't want to get copy struck, and I probably wouldn't like it that much.

**Griffin:** So, this is a man in the middle of a tornado. And there's one cowboy drinking it—oh, is that it?

**Justin:** That's it. [chortles]

**Travis:** Oh, okay. Okay, so I'll tell you exactly—

**Justin:** And then it's like on the table! There's like Dunkin' on the table!

**Travis:** I'll tell you exactly what's happened, Justin.

**Justin:** What has—guys, if you can tell me what's—because it's definitely intentional product placement.

**Griffin:** It's 1.9 seconds of footage.

**Travis:** I'll tell you exactly what's happened.

**Justin:** In the music video, it is product-placed.

**Travis:** There was a bigger brand deal here.

**Justin:** Okay?

**Travis:** That the development of this Tornado like drink was there, because there's a Dunkin' bag clearly in that shot, right?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Travis:** And there's a Twisters album, official video. So, this was in the works, right?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Something fell through. Something fell through.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** And they play it down.

**Justin:** So they're saying that like we—listen, we can't take the dunk—"I know the deal fell through. Okay? Everybody agreed. We can't take the Dunkin' out of the music video. It's key shot. We have to have it. We have to

have it." And Dunkin's like, "Well, we actually already made the shit to make these Tornado drinks. And we're gonna call 'em Tornado Twist. And when you drink it, you're gonna be like, fuck, that tastes like a tornado. So we can't it anything else."

**Travis:** Because there's no other scenario that makes sense to me, why they would say like in tune with summer blockbusters?

**Justin:** But not—

**Travis:** Oh, you mean all, all the...

**Justin:** We're not gonna mention the one!

**Travis:** Variety of tornado—all the tornado summer blockbusters.

**Justin:** All the tornado movies!

**Travis:** You know—

**Justin:** We're celebrating all the tornado pictures!

**Griffin:** Could they not refer to Twisters as the movie that contains the Luke Bryan song from the Twisters soundtrack? Twisters, of Twisters soundtrack fame.

**Justin:** It is in the music video for song—for—first of all, thank god that this is still happening in the year of our lord, 2024. That there are still unhinged music videos based around summer blockbusters. Thank you.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** I thought that died in the '90s. I'm thrilled. It's wild that Dunkin' would acknowledge this. Like, I mean, it is in the music video, guys. We should at least tell people it's in the music video. But are so spitefully not mentioning the movie, Twisters?

**Travis:** Or legally not mentioning.

**Justin:** Or legally not able to.

**Travis:** This is where I want to be a fly on the wall at Dunkin' HQ, where they're like, "Can we mention that it's in the music video for the song from Twisters?"

**Griffin:** This—yes/

**Travis:** Like, it is right there!

**Griffin:** This press release took 19 days and 6 lawyers to write, to figure out like, "What can we possibly say? We can't not mention Twisters, but we mustn't mention Twisters."

**Justin:** I'm... y'all, I'm gonna have to email them. [titters] I'm gonna have to reach out. I'm gonna have to ask. I think they'll be—I think they'll ignore it. But I think I'm gonna have to ask if this is just mere happenstance. If this mere coincidence.

**Travis:** Could it be—now, there is another possibility, Justin, that's far... that's, I don't know, stranger. That they made this music video and the shot of the Dunkin' was completely unintentional. And then the music video came out and Dunkin' said, "We gotta move on this now." And like they saw that thing and they were like, "We're making a tornado drink. We're talking about the music video. That was free."

**Justin:** The shot—the one shot though of a singular cowboy center of screen enjoying the biggest Dunkin' drink I've ever seen, and the pinkest I've ever seen anyone drink, I think that's an intentional hero shot. It has to be. The shot is so long, it makes you think that it's a movie about this drink.  
[chuckles]

**Travis:** And there's also Dunkin' bags on the table.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** Yeah, this is planned.



**Travis:** So, it has to be a fallen through deal. It has to be.

**Griffin:** Please get to the bottom of this, Justin.

**Justin:** I will do my best. No one will tell me.

**Travis:** Get me pictures of Spider-Man.

**Griffin:** Drinking. Drinking this pink, big drink.

**Justin:** Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself, because we really enjoy spending this time with you. You know the stuff at the beginning, that's just a way to do an introduction. We always have fun doing the show. That's the secret, or we wouldn't do it. That's the trick, if you're really—if we really are too tired, you know what we do? We just don't do it. We just don't do it. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** We just don't do it.

**Justin:** Just don't do it. Yeah, we do it a different time. We just don't do it then. It's like a little break to ourselves then.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And kind of a fuck you to ourselves later. It's classic adult stuff. Classic adult stuff.

**Travis:** Hey, I'm so excited because it's a new month. And we got all new stuff to announce. This month, The Suffering Game, Adventure Zone: The Suffering Game, the latest Adventure Zone graphic novel—

**Justin:** I cannot wait.

**Travis:** Comes out July 16<sup>th</sup>!

**Justin:** This is just a beautiful object to look at. It brings me such joy just having it around my house. It's like... it's incredible. It's beautiful.

**Griffin:** It's very sick.

**Travis:** We are partnering with four independent bookstores to offer signed bookplates. Go to [bit.ly/sufferinggamesigned](http://bit.ly/sufferinggamesigned) for information on all our partner stores, and purchase things. You can submit your pre-order receipt at [theadventurezonecomic.com](http://theadventurezonecomic.com) to receive a free acrylic keychain of Tres Horny Boys, while supplies last.

**Griffin:** We got some shows coming up.

**Travis:** What?

**Griffin:** Yeah, July 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, we're gonna be in Detroit, doing MBMBaM and TAZ. July 20<sup>th</sup>, we're gonna be in Cleveland. We got—

**Justin:** Have we heal—we've healed Detroit already. We don't have to talk about Star Wars anymore.

**Griffin:** We're all fine. We don't have to talk about Star Wars.

**Justin:** We're all fine. We've moved on.

**Travis:** Now we only have to talk about Star Wars if we want to.

**Griffin:** Yeah, absolutely. We got more coming up, shows in Portland, Orlando, Atlanta, Denver, Phoenix, Indianapolis, Milwaukee. Go to [bit.ly/mcelroytours](http://bit.ly/mcelroytours) for tickets and more information.

**Travis:** And we've got new merch! New month, new merch. You can get an amazing Fungalore poster designed by Cat Tervo.

**Griffin:** It's a find Fungalore poster. It's a puzzle, a game, but it looks fucking great. And I'm gonna get one for my office.

**Travis:** I think I read it as a fine—

**Justin:** All for one price? Are we charging people extra because it's both fun and...

**Griffin:** Good look?

**Justin:** And good look?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** We've also got a Fungalore standee, design by Cait May. And if you've been listening to Adventure Zone Versus Dracula, a Yon Cuck sticker, designed by Pepper Raccoon. And 10% of all proceeds this month go to the Palestine Children's Relief Fund. So, go check all those out at [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com).

**Griffin:** Hey, do y'all wanna—oh, thanks to Montaigne. Do y'all wanna thanks to Montaigne?

**Justin:** Yeah. Thanks to Montaigne

**Travis:** I would love to thanks to Montaigne.

**Griffin:** All right, cool. Thanks, Montaigne, for the theme song, My Life Is Better With You. It is a chart-topping, ass... clapping—

**Travis:** Clapping.

**Griffin:** Club banger.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** What?

**Travis:** Ass-slapping, is what I said.

**Griffin:** Ass-slapping club banger. Can we give a—

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah, there's a wish I'd like to elevate. If you guys would give me a little sound bath background?

**Griffin:** Sure, sure, sure, sure, sure.

**Justin:** [mouths tune] Doo, doo-doo-doo, doo-doo. Doo, doo-doo-doo-doo—

**Griffin:** [mouths high-pitched squeal] Aaah-aaah-aaah-aaah-aaah-aaah-aaah

**Travis:** I wish the sound Born in the USA was maybe 40 seconds shorter.

**Justin:** My name is Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy.

**Justin:** This has been My Brother, My Brother and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

[theme song, "My Life Is Better With You," by Montaigne, plays]

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