## MBMBaM 722: Are You Public Speaking?

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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, Travis McElroy! Wuddup, Trav Nation? I'm your middlest brother, big dog, woof-woof, Travis McElroy. I forgot that part.

**Griffin**: A reserved greeting—

**Travis**: Yeah, I had to circle back for it and drop it into the dark episode. You can only hear this—if you're hearing this, you're—this is part of the dark web.

**Griffin**: Okay. I don't know if that makes any sense, man?

**Travis**: Well, this is—[whispers] because I dropped down here into my lower register.

**Griffin**: That doesn't put our episode onto the dark web, when you whisper.

**Travis**: No, just this part. Just this part.

Justin: It's not a frequency thing.

Travis: Just this part of it.

Justin: Not even—

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: This part.

**Griffin**: Well, this is—and this is Griffin.

**Justin**: Oh. Hi, Griffin. Welcome to the podcast.

**Griffin**: All right!

**Justin**: We're both wearing buttons on our shirt, I see.

Griffin: Yeah, I noticed that today, me and you are kind of polo boys. And

Travis—

**Travis**: Travis: Not me. For me, you gotta regatta.

**Griffin**: Travis is wearing—

**Justin**: I don't normally do something this muted. I felt a little uncomfortable in—

**Griffin**: You know, Juice, I had the same thought. I caught a glimpse of myself in this polo shirt and I was like, "Who the fuck am I kidding? I can't wear this on MBMBaM."

**Justin**: I feel like we're both doing—it looks like we trapped Travis in like a—like we—

Griffin: It looks like Travis is—

Justin: The invite was business casual.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And Travis just ignored it.

**Griffin**: It looks like Travis is applying for a job with us, at our company. And we're the bosses. But that Travis has not gotten the memo about how we dress here.

**Travis**: Now, see I noticed that in both of those scenarios, I'm doing it wrong. And maybe what it is, is you guys are like corporate drones and I'm coming into the office with some kind of—

**Griffin**: That's interesting.

**Travis**: Big, heavy thing, and I'm smashing it into the big like screen that's—

**Griffin**: Awesome!

**Travis**: Controlling your guys' actions.

**Justin**: [sings] 'All in all, we're just a—' Direct supervisors. We're your direct supervisors.

**Griffin**: You must respect that.

**Travis**: It could also be the we—this is like a Mentos commercial, we've showed up for the job interview. You guys are dress like... kind of like pet rocks.

**Griffin**: Interesting.

**Travis**: And I've shown up and I'm kind of an interesting kind of guy here. And the boss is like, "I want to know *that* guy."

Griffin: Sure.

**Travis**: "I want *him* on the creative team." [sings] Du-du-du du-du-du wa.

**Justin**: The job interview Mentos ad always irritates me because there's like 14 Mentos in a roll. If you have money for Mentos, you don't need the job that bad. You know what I mean?

**Travis**: Is that the one where he—

**Justin**: The rest of us are out here on certs.

Griffin: Right.

**Justin**: You know what I mean? We're out here on certs, we're having a big jar Tic Tacs to last us for a week. You got Mentos money?

**Griffin**: That's crazy.

Justin: Work somewhere else.

**Travis**: Is that the one, the Mentos job interview where they sit down on a park bench and they get the paint from the recently painted bench and they're like, "I know." And they flip it over to the other side so it looks like a pattern? Because every time I watched that—

**Griffin**: That looks like pinstripes, man.

**Travis**: Even as a child, I watched that and I was like, "That's clearly paint on your suit." Like, if I saw that, I'd be like—

Justin: Yeah, he just painted his suit.

Travis: "Oh, you fucked up the whole suit."

**Justin**: This is a—

**Griffin**: Are there any other 100 year old television commercials that we want to reference or critique in some way?

Justin: No.

**Griffin**: Where is the beef? I always wondered about that one. Do you guys wanna go off?

**Travis**: Where's the beef?

**Justin**: [chortles]

**Travis**: Have we talked about the 'you lint licker' before? 'You cootie

queen?'

**Griffin**: No, that one's a good one. See, that—we have—and that's—

**Justin**: That's a good one. It's one of my favorite ads. Listen, this is an advice show. You can tell that we've been on the road for a long time. Doing are peddling, our comedy wares, all across this great nation. That never makes for a bad episode, but it can make for an uneven episode.

Travis: Yeah!

**Griffin**: [chuckles]

**Justin**: That's peaks and valleys.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Yeah!

**Justin**: But average it out? I guarantee you're gonna get some primo stuff in this. We're actually recording this intro after the main recording, because we weren't sure we were going to have any in the tank. But let me say, you've got some great stuff ahead.

**Travis**: And you know, out there on the road sometimes, a moment of clarity strikes you. And like for me on this one, like I was in, you know, kind of a fugue state. And I was like, I think I'm ready to get into Magic: The Gathering. Right? That just like hit me. Of like, it's time. I'm 40 years old. I'm not getting any younger. You know what I mean? And I think it's time. You know?

Griffin: I'm glad you had that post-nut clarity to—

**Travis**: Whoa, that's not what I said.

**Griffin**: Get into Magic: The Gathering.

**Travis**: That's not what I said, don't put that on me.

**Justin**: We had a... this was really exciting for me because this was the first time my kids were on this tour. And they're old enough now that they can actually like sit and watch.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: So, we were pretty excited about TAZ because it was going to be an Alice in Wonderland themed thing, and they were like, pretty stoked about it. And so, we got them like little seats off to the wings. They had to be near Paul, but what can you do?

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: And the show started with TAZ, and we were doing our skit and everything. And Cooper said, "So, when does it start?" [titters] And Sydnee said, "Well, this is it." And she said, "But they're just talking?" And Sydnee said, "Yeah." She said—

Travis: Brutal.

**Justin**: "When do they start acting?"

Travis: Ooh.

**Justin**: And I think she thought some other characters were gonna be there or something?

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But then she said, "Well, this is boring. I'm gonna go eat Skittles."

Travis: Yup!

**Justin**: And then she left for the rest of the show to go eat Skittles. And it really helped me to stay grounded.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: You know what I mean? It really helped me to stay—to keep it all in perspective.

Griffin: Was that—

**Travis**: A ringing endorsement of our live show, for anyone who's never been before. You could just stay home and eat Skittles.

**Justin**: This is also, I will say, this is a kid that I've watched watch a video of someone squeezing out ketchup bottles for an hour.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So like-

**Travis**: Okay.

**Justin**: [chuckles] I don't know. You know what I mean? I don't know what—she's not—it's not a high bar, certainly. I mean—

Travis: Oh!

Justin: She just—

Travis: Justin?

**Justin**: She'll watch families eating orange food, you know what I mean?

[titters]

Griffin: [titters] Yeah, sure.

Justin: Like, it's not—

**Travis**: Justin, you've blown me away. When we do a live show, right? We have a screen, we've incorporated AV elements. We need to have gameplay footage of someone like running across the top of subway trains or whatever—

Griffin: Subway Surfers above us, yes.

**Travis**: Jumping above it. While below it, we're doing our boring-ass show, just talking words.

Justin: Can I say, you... put a pin in it.

**Griffin**: Put a pin in this idea, yeah! Clip this chat!

**Justin**: It's worth experimenting with. Clip this chat, this is worth experimenting with. This is a bold, new—[titters] This is a bold, new idea.

**Griffin**: I mean, let's just, we'll cover the—

Justin: Value add!

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: It's a value add. You can't—nobody can unitask anymore.

**Griffin**: We will cover our bases on the screen above us—

Travis: We're second screen.

**Griffin**: On the screen above us, we will put clips of all the stuff our kids are into. Right now, Gus likes watching this 32 minute long video that's just a compilation of different toilets flushing.

Travis: Yeah!

**Griffin**: He started with Skibidi, but then he was like, "You know... there's a story here that's deeper than the scary man coming out of the john. I'm more interested in sort of the mechanics of the toilet itself. Won't use it! Fuck no! No way, dude. Not interested in learning how to use that special chair. But I'll watch videos of 'em flushing for 32 minutes 13 seconds, guaranteed."

**Justin**: You know how They Might Be Giants would do like spin the dial sometimes?

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: They'll turn the radio dial and whatever song starts playing, like if it's Tainted Love or whatever, they'll just start riffing on?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: We could do that—

Travis: Mm-hm?

**Justin**: With just kids YouTube. Just like whatever's on the screen, it's just—you know what I mean? We're just art—we're doing art right next to it the whole time.

**Travis**: Dot is into right now children who are in costumes of superheroes, and they're like doing sketches as the superheroes. Except whoever is making this sketch has done zero research into the powers or characterization of those superheroes.

Griffin: Perfect. Don't need it.

**Justin**: Yeah, absolutely.

**Travis**: And as a parent and nerd, it's so hard to just like, "Oh, I'm so glad you're enjoying this." And not go, "I mean, actually, so Hulk—okay, so Hulk wouldn't do that."

Griffin: Hulk can't fly. You know that Hulk mustn't fly?

**Justin**: If you're not familiar with what's going on with YouTube and kids, what has taking root there is kind of a... I want to say anti-entertainment. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Sure.

**Justin**: Like, it almost strives to not be entertaining. And I got caught in one specific sub-genre of this, because there's like the whole—it's a whole genre of like people who it seems like their house is more fun than yours, right?

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: Sometimes it's family. Sometimes it's just two idiot brothers who seem to have nothing else but each other. There's a lot of those, I think,

Griffin: Careful, Juice.

Justin: But there's a-

**Griffin**: Care—Juice. Juice. Careful. Just saying.

Justin: [titters]

**Griffin**: This house is—this house we're all in right now, the three of us, is looking pretty transparent and fragile right now.

**Justin**: This is—oh, listen, folks. This is all sour grapes. Obviously, I wish this was us. It seems awesome.

Travis: But you know what you can make with sour grapes? Wine.

**Justin**: Wine, thank you. But the sub-genre I hate is 'I put my kids in the strictest school in the world.' This is a video that is in like as a sub-genre a lot.

**Griffin**: I've been seeing this one.

**Justin**: Like, "Today I challenged my daughter—" I'll pick any name, "Salish, to stay in this school. And it's the strictest school in the world! If she can make it the whole day, I'm gonna give an Apple iPads to her best friends!"

Griffin: [laughs]

**Justin**: [titters] So they go up to the school and it's like, "Here we are! At Stern Will Elementary." And the sign on the door says like Pine Crest. It's like, well, it's—you're lying already. And then they meet a bunch of fuckin' central casting actors!

Griffin: Cool.

**Justin**: That then have to be mean, but it's pretend! It's like—and I'm watching the videos with my kids. And it's like, "Kids. You know, I get it if it's like... I don't know, dig a hole in our home and then make a bounty hunter try to find us."

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: That's great!

**Griffin**: We feel papa's car with sticky foam. We love this.

**Justin**: That happens! Okay? You can look at papa's face and say, "Ooh." Or you know, "I bought 100 homes for people that needed homes." We love that!

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: This is nothing!

Griffin: No.

**Justin**: This is a pretend school! And if they're too strict, they get fired! Because it's a scam, kids. You gotta tell me you understand that.

**Travis**: That ain't real.

Justin: Nope.

**Griffin**: It's not real. Your teachers have no power over you. It's all

imagined and it is all reinforced by the deep state.

**Travis**: There's no such thing as a permanent record. There, I said it. There.

**Griffin**: No! It doesn't. No one gives a shit.

Justin: Yeah!

**Travis**: This is many, many times—and I just have to break my daughter's heart over and over again when I explain it to her. That video where they quote 'spent the night in a bouncy castle.' Do you notice how they were all like fully dressed in their regular clothes and like all the lights were on and the sun was still out? And we really only saw what added up to maybe 15 minutes worth of footage? "They didn't spend the night in the bouncy castle, baby, they inflated it—"

**Griffin**: They would die from exposure!

**Travis**: Yeah, "They inflated it in their living room or whatever, pretended to go to sleep. And then they woke up. None of this is real."

**Griffin**: Hell yeah, man.

Justin: There's a lot of mythologizing Among Us that's happening.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: A lot of like, we've turned Among Us into sort of a Brechtian hell nightmare. And then I saw that adapted. My kids watch a 30 minute long video, I think Griffin's kids were there, about people playing chess.

**Griffin**: Oh, that was kick ass.

Justin: But it was like a narrative—

**Griffin**: I like that one actually a lot.

**Justin**: It was a narrated chess video—yeah, I did! I just want to say, do you know where to find that one?! Because that was cool! I liked that one.

Griffin: That was cool. We gotta ask our kids to find that cool chess video.

**Justin**: Hey, kids! Find the one chess video, kids. That one was cool. Let's watch that again. That was good. I just wish our kids watched more of our content.

**Travis**: I don't, man. Because Bebe learned to cuss from watching animatics of our show. [chuckles] So...

Griffin: True.

Justin: "I learned it from watching you, dad."

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: This is an advice show. We take your questions, we turn them alchemy-like into wisdom. That's our charge. That's how we do it. That's what this show's about.

**Travis**: That's our eternal punishment. That was the deal we made.

Justin: That is our bargain with the devil.

**Griffin**: Once we've saved 1000 souls.

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: "I live in a rural desert town and I—" I sounded like I said 'real' and I'd like to try it again.

**Griffin**: I thought it sounded good, Juice.

**Justin**: "I live in a rural desert town and I do a lot of walking for errands or enjoyment." Do not let the fact that I didn't go back and try it again make you think that I think I did that right.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: Okay? "On more than one occasion, my best friend and I have been harassed by local teens from car windows. They usually just shout something unintelligible, but on one occasion, threw a hot dog at me from a moving car."

Travis: Ugh...

Griffin: Man...

**Justin**: "One day, unfortunately for me, they witnessed my sandal catching a sidewalk crack as I walked."

Travis: Oh, no.

Griffin: Fuck, that sucks, man.

**Justin**: Fuck! "I fear the humiliation will continue. In what ways can I make them stop doing this? The unfun answer would be to involve police—"

Travis: No.

Justin: Involve police? Come on.

**Griffin**: It's a hot dog?

**Justin**: They know. "We've considered thrifting a baby stroller make us look less like targets."

Travis: Won't happen.

**Justin**: "But that would possibly deter the next helpful option of finding boyfriends." That's from Demoralize in the Desert.

**Travis**: Here's the thing—

**Griffin**: The throwing a hot dog is beyond the pale. I think we can all agree that throwing a hot dog is unacceptable. It's food waste. If it had toppings on it, that is a whole situation that you have to deal with. The yelling out the car windows... that can be fun. If it's like funny stuff like, "Hey! Cool dog!" Or, "Where'd you get—"

Justin: Buy a horse.

Griffin: Buy a horse! Yeah, could be cool.

**Travis**: Or something—I mean, here's the thing. Listen, it can haunt you, obviously. But something that's very ambiguous like, "Look at those pants."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And then you're like, "Was that good?"

Griffin: No...

**Travis**: Was that good pants or was that bad pants? Now I'll also say this, listen. It's never fun to have people yell anything at you from a car, even compliments. Because the whole time you are walking around thinking, "No one's thinking about me." And then they yell at you and you're like, "Ah, I forgot I could be observed by human eyeballs." And then that's very upsetting. But I will also say this. In a rural desert town, the options for these kids to have any sort of whimsical, rebellious fun, are limited. And if what they've resorted to is simply yelling things out of car windows, it's potentially the least worst option. Now, the throwing hot dog, that crosses the line, obviously.

**Griffin**: Yeah.

Travis: But-

Griffin: Unacceptable.

**Justin**: The best thing that you can do for your brethren on Earth here, is to just become the worst villain, and the funnest to pick on. That's the thing you get do for the best.

Travis: Oh, I see. A magnet.

**Justin**: Like, when you get with a hot dog, it's full of like, "Why, I ought to... you kids!"

**Travis**: "Oh, those ding-dang kids!"

**Justin**: "I'll get you next time!" And it's like, you try to get 'em in some scrapes, but like they never—

**Travis**: Maybe you haunt the old amusement park to try to scare off—like so you can get the insurance money. Or like you haunt the old sawmill so you can like scare 'em off to get the insurance money. Or you could like haunt the old gold mines, so you could scare 'em off to get the insurance money.

**Griffin**: Yeah, sure.

Justin: What would be a—I would do their pranks back to them—

**Travis**: Haunt the old theater.

**Justin**: But in a boring, adult way. So like every day at 8:30AM, you drive past and filling an entire pack of hot dogs.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: And then you—it's every day.

**Griffin**: Every day.

**Justin**: Because that's what you can do. You have stability.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: Right? That's what they don't have. You have a budget, you have resources to fight back. And you have stability. You can [bean??] them with a hot dog every single day at the same time for a month, and they will have no recourse.

**Travis**: You could rig up like a loudspeaker system to your car, and a hotdog launcher. Right? So like, now we're in an arms race. But what are they gonna do? Right? They don't have the resources you have. Right? You could walk up to 'em, hand 'em back the hot dog and say, "I think you need this more than me."

Griffin: Yes.

**Travis**: Devastating. Now, you're in an emotional arms race.

**Justin**: What if you just walked around with a big bucket of water?

**Griffin**: That would be off—those are so heavy.

Justin: Yeah, but you would get—

**Travis**: You're gonna need two on a sturdy stick across your shoulders.

**Justin**: Yeah, like on a sturdy stick. And then like you see someone coming for you, you just douse 'em, man. That's their whole day. Hey, speaking of people in cars, it reminded me of this last weekend of Escape to Margaritaville. We were fortunate enough to have quite a few listeners from the shows come out and watch, both of our shows, this summer. And when I was at the stoplight, at 20<sup>th</sup> Street, you remember where the dragon shop used to be?

Griffin: Sure.

**Justin**: It sold appliances and stuff. At this intersection, I pull up behind a car that has the 'I'm not ashamed of my clown husband' bumper sticker.

Griffin: Oh, great.

**Justin**: So I'm like, oh my gosh! I'm about to make these peoples' day. So I honk at 'em.

Griffin: Juice...

**Justin**: And they remain entirely motionless. And I'm like, "Oh, no..." But I've already honked. [titters]

Griffin: You have to explain.

**Justin**: I have to explain, they have to see. So I honk again—[chuckles]

**Griffin**: The only option is to pull into the intersection, stop the car, get out of the car. Like you're, like—

**Justin**: We're at a stoplight. No one can move. We're at a stop light.

**Griffin**: That's fine. Yes.

**Justin**: I've now honked twice. And I could see the faces in the car looking at each other like, "What do we do? We're in West Virginia and this guy is just honking at us." So, I have to let 'em know it's me, right? So, I have to climb out of the car window and start yelling, "Hey!"

**Griffin**: [guffaws]

Justin: "Hey! Hey, it's me!"

**Griffin**: Yeah.

**Justin**: And then, and only then did the—there was a moment where I—and they were come out of a car—that I saw a lot of panic. Because they did not know what they're about to—but once they saw it was their podcast hero—

Griffin: Yeah, it was worth it.

**Justin**: Justin, who just doesn't know how to handle things in the real world, I think that—and later at the show they were like, "Hey, you honked at us earlier. That was so funny." And I was like, "I'm glad that's how you remember it." [titters]

**Travis**: Was there a moment, Justin, that it crossed your mind that perhaps this might be like they borrowed a friend's car and have no fucking idea who you were?

**Griffin**: Or bought it used and couldn't get it off because we make our bumper stickers *so* sticky?

**Travis**: Or maybe like, this was like a parent who their car broke down.

**Justin**: I mean, it's definitely—it didn't cross my mind, no.

Travis: No? Okay.

**Justin**: Did not cross my mind. What are the odds? You gotta take chances. You can't let those outliers keep you from a magical moment you know, Trav? [chuckles]

**Griffin**: I'll tell you what I like—

Justin: Or horrific embarrassment, whatever it is.

**Griffin**: I'll tell you a move I like, is if you see someone wearing like one of our shirts, or see a car with a bumper sticker, you just like roll up next to them. And then you're like very casually and cool like, "Hey, great bumper sticker." And then you drive off, while smoking or vaping. And then it's like, then you don't—neither of you has to talk to a stranger that you don't know, which is a benefit.

**Justin:** That would have been better.

**Griffin**: We do seem cool when we do shit like that. When we're like, "No big deal."

Travis: Nice shirt.

**Justin**: I do know—I do wonder what impression it gives you of Huntington like, "No, no, no, it's not bullshit. I was in Huntington for 10 minutes and one of the brothers was behind me screaming at me."

**Griffin**: Leapt onto the hood of my car?

**Justin**: Yeah! [chuckles] "They're just there, wandering around and yelling and people. It's fantastic."

**Travis**: Yeah, you too can get harassed by Justin McElroy. Just visit Huntington.

**Justin**: Yeah, if he spots you—if you hang out near the hardware store, he's probably gonna spot you. He's probably gonna try and get you. How about another question? Is that good? Or—

**Griffin**: I want it.

**Justin**: "I work as a therapist at a university. For me, having a good office mug is an important part of the job. It's a great prop to help me seem thoughtful and wise during sessions, when I really just have no clue what to say and I'm taking a sip of Red Bull." Hey, quick pause. I don't like that. [chuckles] I don't like the therapist has to drink Red Bull. I don't like that. I feel—

**Travis**: But if it was coffee, that'd be fine with you. Or tea.

**Justin**: That would be fine with me. There's something about needing Red Bull to power through the human experience that makes me very unsettled. [titters]

**Griffin**: It's not even that, Juice. For me, the idea of decanting Red Bull bums me out on such a huge—

Justin: That's what it is! Yes! You're not getting the hit!

**Travis**: I actually, I like the cloaking it. Because if they just... [spoofs the sounds of a can opening] Ptch-ew! [spoofs the sound of drinking] Ffphlw! Out of the can, during it? God, that lets me know whatever I'm saying is the boringest shit!

**Justin**: But you can agree, right? That I'm not coming up with nothing. This isn't nothing, right? If the cloaking is an admission that there's something that is going to unsettle you if you're like, "So, it all started when I—" [spoofs the sounds of a can opening] P-tsss! Hell yeah, dude. [chuckles]

Griffin: When I see—

Travis: [laughs] "Yeah, man, tell me more."

Justin: "Hey, man, however long this takes, I'm here for it. Let's go."

**Griffin**: When I see someone cracking one of those silver skinny—silver bullets and chugging it down, I make a mental note of like they are going to be fucking silly later. That's a person who's going to—whose body is going to be just pulsating with guarana and ready to take it to the next level. I need to see that, I need that forewarning of like, "Okay, when you talk to Terrance later, he's gonna be—"

**Justin**: He's gonna be a little out there.

**Griffin**: He's gonna be a wild animal.

**Travis**: I just want to say, if you're listening, Red Bull, and I know you always are, that's a branding issue that you need to work on. Because I see somebody sipping a cup of coffee and I'm like, what a grown up. I see somebody drinking a Red Bull and I'm like, were they up too late like partying? Like what's going on? How irresponsible.

Justin: But that's their brand, man.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: That's what they want. That's why they're huge at—that's why they're advertising at Stadium Spirits, man. Because that's what they want!

**Griffin**: Yeah.

**Justin**: Anyway, I didn't even make it through the question. Here we go. "My problem is this. My office mug went missing months ago. And I recently realized that my boss has it. How can I get my mug back while staying on my boss' good side? Important info, he keeps it in his office and the only time I see it is when he's giving an office wide presentation in the conference room." That's from Meaningful Mugging in Philly. "It's not a novelty mug or anything. It's just a good shape and my favorite shade of green. And I got it secondhand, so I have no clue where it came from."

**Griffin**: You don't have to explain yourself. You don't have to explain yourself.

**Travis**: The don't know where to get a replacement is important.

**Griffin**: It is important, I guess. But I'm saying like, of course that's your favorite mug. My favorite mug is a plain, yellow, round, little bowl-shaped boy, with a white ceramic inside. And I like him the best. He doesn't have any crazy shit on him. Justin's got his 'I like big butts and small government.'

**Travis**: I've got mine right here.

**Griffin**: I'm drinking one that says, 'Be nice to me, I have diarrhea.' I actually—

Travis: That's a good one!

**Griffin**: Oh, I got two of them from two different fans, sent them to my PO box.

Justin: [chortles]

**Griffin**: Which is cool for my brand. But I'm saying, of course that's your favorite mug. You have to get it back. They have already taken everything else from you. The best years of your life, for sure. You can get this mug back.

**Justin**: I'm gonna say some of the controversial. The last line of this is, "I got it secondhand, so I have no clue where it came from." What you are not leaving the door open for, the possibility, is that it is their mug.

**Travis**: Oh? That this is a—

**Griffin**: That's interesting.

**Justin**: This was their mug first.

**Travis**: This is a—

**Justin**: Like if you don't know the lineage, it's absolutely possible that it was their mug. They sold it when times were tough.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: They see the mug again. Oh, Henry.

**Travis**: Oh, Henry.

**Justin**: It's back. [chuckles] You know what I mean?

**Travis**: I thought you were saying more of this was a mug that moves from person to person as it is needed.

**Griffin**: That's what I was thinking, a sisterhood. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.

Justin: [sings] It's a spin mug!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [sings] It's a spin mug!

**Travis**: Yeah. Now, I also want to say that within the context of this, there's a, I would say, indirect admission from your boss of the quality of this mug. That your boss used the mug and then said, "This never leaves my office." So not to a sink or the kitchen from whence I have to assume it began, that maybe they're bringing wet paper towels to clean it out or something, I don't know.

**Justin**: Do you think this is the sort of office where it's like communal mugs? I've worked at places like that. Because if it's communal mugs, which is the only thing that makes sense to me, because how else did you lose it? Is the boss like sitting—are they camping the mug?

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

**Justin**: Are they like—like, they're not even giving everyone else a shot to get at it?

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: Frick, that's hard! Because they definitely are aware. Like if you show up with mug—

Travis: Wait, how long? How long?

**Justin**: I think the one option you have is for this to become your home mug. It cannot—

**Griffin**: Once you do exfiltrate, do not bring this back into the office.

Justin: Unless you are—unless.

Griffin: Unless?

**Travis**: Unless.

**Justin**: Unless you have a background in light glazing, in which case you can re-glaze the mug to a differentiate shade, possibly. I don't know the ins and outs of that.

**Travis**: I will also say, and I'm sorry, I don't want to be negative here. But you write in the question it's been missing for months, if you go in now and say anything like, "That's my mug," your boss is gonna be like, "No, it's mine. I've been using it for months." You know what I mean? Like, there is a—if it was like the next day, right? And you're like, "Oh, my mug." And he'd be like, "Oh, sorry, I didn't know." Fine. But months?

Griffin: Yeah.

**Travis**: *Months*?

**Griffin**: You have to convince your boss that drinking hot beverages is bad for them. That they—I read an article on readersdigest.com the other day, and it said our bodies are being poisoned every day—

**Justin**: Did you say readersdigest.com?

**Griffin**: Readersdigest.com is—

**Justin**: I go there every day. Let me take a look. What is—do you not just go to rd.com? Because I just go to rd.com. You type in the whole thing?

**Travis**: This is R-E-E-D—

**Griffin**: I type in the whole thing.

**Travis**: It's for saxophone players.

**Griffin**: Right. That's what we call ourselves, readers.

Justin: I'm a subscriber, so I'll just search the knowledge base real quick.

Griffin: Okay.

**Travis**: You're a subscriber at—

Justin: Hot drinks—do you remember if it was Deborah Fielding or Paul

Glaser?

**Griffin**: It was Paul Glaser, yeah.

Justin: Paul Glaser.

Griffin: Paul Glaser write it and it said, "Hot drinks poisoning our bodies and

our minds every day."

**Justin**: The best beverage in every state... Six things you can take from

your hotel room...

**Griffin**: Yeah, keep going.

Travis: Whoa, Paul?

**Justin**: Starbucks' brand-new pairings can save you a lot of money...

**Griffin**: I'm sorry, are you fucking fact check—

**Justin**: I'm not seeing.

**Griffin**: Sorry, hold on one second, Paul. Are you fact checking me right now

about this article's existence?

**Justin**: Yes, I am. You are my employee and you've had a penchant for lying in the past. And honestly, it's got you in a lot of hot water. And we've

talked about it—

**Travis**: Well, you know what?! [spoofs the sound of a can opening] Ptchew!

We're gonna get into right now, Paul!

**Griffin**: Who the fuck is this?!

**Justin**: This is our work therapist. We've asked—

**Travis**: That's me slamming a Red Bull.

Justin: We've asked him to come in and try to mediate the situation.

**Travis**: You two fight it out!

**Justin**: Is that really—

**Griffin**: Is that really what you want?

Travis: Let's go!

Justin: \$500 an hour, that's what we—

**Travis**: Glug! Glug! Glug! Glug! Glug!

**Griffin**: No, come on, I'll beat your ass.

**Travis**: Crunch!

Griffin: I'll beat—

**Travis**: Slam!

Justin: You've just shoved a baseball bat in my hand, like a little Wheeler

bat. What is this for?

**Griffin**: I don't need a bat, I'll—

**Travis**: I want you guys to solve it! You guys have been dancing around the

issue for too long!

**Griffin**: Oh, I'm gonna stomp this guy's little ass. I'm gonna take my cup

back where it belongs.

Travis: Hell yeah, dude. First blood wins! Go!

Justin: Is The Joker the master of HR?

**Griffin**: Oh, no. I used the mug to smash it on your head, to hurt you for the fight? And now neither of us—

**Travis**: Well, I guess that taught you guys a lesson. I guess my therapy session worked, huh?

**Griffin**: Damn! It's like Gift of the Magi, but opposite. In every imaginable way. [chuckles]

**Travis**: No, I think it's more like, who was the one who cut a baby in half? And then everyone was like, "Oh, no, we shouldn't have cut that baby in half."

**Justin**: Oh, yes! You go to the boss and King Solomon it. Say, "Hey, I've got your mug here. And I'm gonna smash it." [chuckles] And you say to the boss like, "How do you think about that? How do you feel about that? Because I really don't want to smash it." And the boss is like, "I don't care if you—" It's like proof. Proof positive. "The real owner of this mug, I.E. me, would never let it be smashed."

**Griffin**: Walk by your boss's office either pretending to, or if you really want to get this fucking cup back, actually choking. And running like, "Ah-uh..." Looking for a drink, looking for a drink. Pick up that cup, drink it. And then walk out. Leave with it in your hand.

**Travis**: Yeah. You could do like a 'I'm organizing a cup swap, get to know you' thing. Where we switch mugs and that's how—

Justin: Ooh?

**Travis**: And then you find the person who has your mug. And then you get your mug, but then you do have to quit. Because you didn't organize this cup swap thing and if the boss follows up on it, gonna have a lot of questions.

Justin: No, no, no! Trav, you're so close!

**Griffin**: You're almost there.

Justin: But like classic you, like...

Travis: Oh?

Justin: So close, but wrong, like-

**Travis**: Oh? Okay.

Justin: Like, but close, right?

Griffin: Are we saying that's classic Travis?

Travis: That's classic me?

Justin: [titters] It's classic Trav, like so close, but wrong.

Travis: Huh.

Justin: You—listen—

**Travis**: I think I've gotten it right a couple of times?

Justin: [chortles]

**Travis:** I think—I don't know that I would—

**Justin**: This isn't about you! It's not about you!

Travis: I just don't know that if someone was like some Travis up in like one

kind of idea, they'd be like—

**Justin**: It's not about you.

**Travis**: So close, but wrong.

Griffin: You almost, for what it's worth, Travis, you almost get it.

Travis: Yeah...

Justin: [chuckles] He says—you keep missing the mark! Listen, Trav, you

gotta get the—

**Travis**: Yeah, no, I get it.

Justin: You gotta get the boss a new mug that they have to use, or your

feelings will be hurt.

Travis: Okay?

Justin: Like, the best possible world's best boss mug. They would have to

use that, right?

**Travis**: Travis' favorite boss. Like make it—

**Justin**: Oh, it's personalized!

**Travis**: Yeah, it's so personal.

Griffin: That's cool.

**Travis**: And there's a picture of you two together.

Justin: [chortles] And you get one too.

**Travis**: Yeah, but you don't use yours.

**Justin**: You don't use yours, it's too special. [snickers]

**Griffin**: I think they made a... I think they made a special cup for the

Deadpool movie that has Deadpool's like butt on it.

**Travis**: There you go.

**Griffin**: [laughs] You get that and then... just fuckin' keep it, man. And don't worry about this other shitty cup that you used to have. Now you've got one that's funny because it has Deadpool's ass on it. And it's kind of like cool too, like it's kind of hot. And cool. It's a mug.

**Justin**: It's a mug, but it's kind of got like a bad attitude a little bit.

Travis: A baditude.

**Griffin**: Can you get all the mugs in the office, put them all in a row on the counter. And then when your boss walks in to figure out what's going on, you hit him with a Last Crusade style cup challenge? And say, "If you can find the true cup, you get it. But if not, you age a billion years in a second. You die a dusty, old man."

Travis: "Or you can have this Deadpool mug where it's his butt."

Griffin: "Your choice."

Travis: "Your choice."

**Justin**: Sometimes I struggle with making fun of Deadpool, but also feeling like it would be really fun to like hang out with Hugh Jackman and Ryan Reynolds on like one of the—like I feel like they probably have a lot of laughs.

**Griffin**: Yeah. I'm not making—

**Travis**: Those two—

Justin: And I guess—

**Griffin**: You know that's not what I was doing just then though, right?

Justin: Yeah, I know, but I'm thinking about—

Griffin: Never.

**Travis**: You were thinking about—wait, sorry. Griffin was talking about the Deadpool mug where it's his butt. And your thought was—

Griffin: Sorry, Travis. Travis. His ass.

**Travis**: Thank you. And you thought, Justin, I should make fun of Deadpool in such a way that makes it seem like I wouldn't have a lot of fun hanging out with Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman together at the same.

**Justin**: I think I'm thinking about like sometimes we rag on Deadpool and I think it's some of our most inauthentic riffing.

**Travis**: I've never ragged on Deadpool, what are you talking about?

**Justin**: [chuckles] We do, though!

**Travis**: We might make jokes that are adjacent to Deadpool, that are Deadpool related.

Justin: We say things—

**Travis**: But I've never been like, "That fuckin' whole franchise can fuck itself."

**Justin**: All right, you—all right, it's—but it's sardonic. You've been sardonic about Deadpool.

**Travis**: I've never!

Justin: I don't know why you guys are pretending like—

**Travis**: I'm 100% sincere.

**Justin**: I'm gonna have to check the transcripts.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I'm gonna have to check the transcripts about this.

**Travis**: You'll find how excited I am that, one, Deadpool exists. That Deadpool breaks the fourth wall all the time. So, he technically exists in my universe. And I'm just glad—

**Griffin**: He cusses—

**Travis**: Ryan Reynolds is finally enjoying himself making movies. He went through so much with the Wolverine: Origins and with Green Lantern. And then he got to make the superhero movie he always dreamed of, like seven times. And I'm really happy for him. Hugh Jackman is back in the suit. He's back with the claws. I'm loving that, bub. Justin, there's—

Griffin: I saw a report—

**Travis**: There's nothing about this I don't love!

**Griffin**: I saw a report that the day that Hugh Jackman rolled up to the new Deadpool movie in the old classic Wolverine suit, there were like grown adult people like breaking down in tears.

**Justin**: [chuckles] Griffin, I saw the same report. And it's honestly been in my head since I saw it.

**Griffin**: It's up there with Paul Dano losing his mind while being The Riddler, of like—

Travis: 'Cause his brain got hot?

Justin: [laughs]

**Griffin**: Guys, guys, guys! It's a job. It's pretend work. We do it too. If we busted out like the—like somebody put on a Torsi costume, I don't think the three of us would be like, [spoofs flustered gasping sounds] Ha-heeh! Ft-ppp! It's a job!

Justin: It's work.

Griffin: It's make-believe.

**Travis**: I'm glad in your mind, Griffin—what Hugh Jackman has done with the Wolverine characters, in I believe 10 movies, is equal to that time we talked about a [horse??] with no legs or face.

**Griffin**: I'm just saying you can't let—it's work, it's business. This is the thing—

**Travis**: I just, I guess my heart is open to enthusiastically enjoying things and allowing myself to see Hugh Jackman as Wolverine to some degree. And I'm sorry if that makes me, Griffin, somehow weak to you.

**Griffin**: But I've seen a lot of the reviews of this film and they're like, I don't know, I feel like Jackman gets lost in the sauce. Like it's he's in a reverie the entire time. And a lot of the jokes don't land and a lot of the line reads are weird, because he's—

**Justin**: And he leaves the frame a lot. You can see him—

**Griffin:** He leaves the frame a lot. He falls—

**Justin**: He pretends to sniff something, like a scent, and then he leaves the frame of the film.

**Griffin**: And he'll be talking to Deadpool and he'd be like, "Yeah, let's fucking cut that dude's dick off!" But then he'll be like, [spoofs the sound of sobbing] "Ah-hua-hua!" And he started crying, falls down—

**Travis**: Oh, and crying makes you weak. Is that it, Griffin? Crying is a weakness?

**Griffin**: I mean, yeah. Like...

**Travis**: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: It's okay to do it, but like, yeah. It's weaker than—

Travis: Not in front of people.

**Griffin**: If you have two Wolverines, and you have to pick one of them to be your protector and your guardian through the night. And one of them is crying, and one of them is not? I'm going to pick the not crying Wolverine, thank you so much.

**Justin**: I want to say, guys, I don't think Hugh Jackman—

**Travis**: Is the way—hold on. Justin, hold on. Sorry, this is an important question. Griffin, is the not crying one visibly holding it in? Like is the not crying one maybe like—

Justin: That's so sexy!

**Travis**: [spoofs the sound of holding back tears] Hm-hmm!

**Griffin**: You're camping in the woods. The Sentinels are out to get you. They say, All right, Wolverine. You stay with Youngblood here." And the two Wolverines are like, "Which one, bub?" And one of them's crying and they're like, "All right, Travis, you pick."

Justin: [chuckles] I want—okay, what I have to say—

**Travis**: But is it crying for a good—Justin, I'm sorry, I have more.

**Justin**: [chuckles] It's so important, though.

**Travis**: Is it crying for a reason that I can discern? Has it maybe been through some stuff that it hasn't been ready to talk about until now? What's the other Wolverine's emotional state?

Griffin: Normal.

Travis: Normal like angry?

**Justin**: It's just that, it's not Hugh Jackman, was not the one crying. It was the other people. Hugh Jackman didn't walk up and be like, "Look at me!" [chuckles] "Look at me!"

Travis: Observe!

**Justin**: "I'm doing it! The one from the cartoon, it's happening! Look at me!"

**Travis**: [sings] Pa-na-na, na-na-na! Na-na-na, na-na-na!

**Justin**: I Hugh Jackman wanted to see himself in that costume, I bet he's got the scratch to help that come together, huh? I bet he didn't need that visual.

**Travis**: Is the one crying seem like he's in the middle of the crying thing or near the end of it?

**Griffin**: They're identical. They're two, this is—

**Travis**: But is he—is it—is the cry thing like, wow, he's really processed a lot and he's almost done?

**Justin**: The other one's sweating so much that you can't tell. [chuckles]

**Griffin**: No, the other one looks normal! He looks like normal Wolverine. It's just the other one's crying a lot.

**Travis**: How is he reacting to the crying one?

Justin: They're both sweating.

**Travis**: He has a clone next to him that's crying. How is that—he's normal? I'm taking the crying one. Because he shouldn't be normal in that circumstance. He's some kind of alien or something. He's a robot. Because if there's a clone of me next to me weeping and I was like, "Hm, this doesn't affect me emotionally one way or the other," something's wrong there.

**Griffin**: Always got something—

Travis: That's off.

**Griffin**: Juice, same question.

Justin: Which was?

**Griffin**: Crying or not crying Wolverine to protect you from the Sentinels?

**Justin**: I've already—[chuckles] I want to a crying Wolverine. I want somebody who's not pent-up.

**Griffin**: You guys have changed.

**Justin**: I want somebody who's experiencing the moment live. Who's there and present, and cares about me. I want those tears to be about what if something happens to Justin. I want them to be experiencing that, so he can keep it from happening.

Travis: Oh, trick answer, I'll take Gambit.

Justin: Ah, shit! I didn't know Gambit was there?

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: All right, listen, we gotta take a break. We're gonna go The Money Zone. When we come back, we're actually going to help somebody.

**Griffin**: Yeah.

Justin: Guaranteed.

[theme music plays]

**Travis**: Stitch Fix. What is it? Scientists are unsure. Some scientists believe that it's a service that you sign up for, and you answer questions about yourself and what sizes you like. And like what your budget is and what kind

of styles you're into. And then they send you those clothes and you try 'em on, and you only pay for what you keep. Now, other scientists think it's a wormhole. And we're not really sure which one it is. I tend to lean towards the first one. Because that's the ad copy.

**Griffin**: Well, you don't even understand, you don't know about like string theory and dark particles and...

**Travis**: I mean, there's something about wormholes connecting quantum particles or whatever?

Griffin: Yes.

**Travis**: And time travel and... I don't know, man.

**Griffin**: Okay, you get the basics.

**Travis**: Yeah, bud, I'm there. But I like to think it's that first one because that's the copy that I have that I can read, and they paid us.

**Griffin**: That's crazy. I've got the wormhole copy.

Travis: Oh, that's so wild! Okay, my copy says—

**Griffin**: I'll do mine next.

**Travis**: That you sign up and you get a stylist who understands you. And sends you the stuff and you get like five items in a box. And then you're like, "This fits great, this looks great, not wild about this one." And you send that one back and you only pay for what you keep. What's yours about?

**Griffin**: Pictures of worms.

**Travis**: Huh? Worm's holes?

**Griffin**: No, just a bunch of worms.

**Travis**: Oh, okay. So, if you want a style that makes you feel as good as you look, get started today at stitchfix.com/brother. That's stitchfix.com/brother. Go check it out now!

**Griffin**: One of the words is called Reggie.

**Travis**: Oh, that's cool?

**Griffin**: That copy says to mention him specifically. He's the biggest one.

**Justin**: You know, it's never too late to chase your dreams. I think we all remember the film Mr. Holland's Opus?

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: I have not seen it. And I've been meaning to make a website about that lately. How I haven't seen it—

**Travis**: Yeah, I've only seen the first half. But I've seen it a lot of times, thanks to my middle school band teacher.

Justin: Yes, that's excellent.

Travis: And class only being 45 minutes.

Griffin: Right.

**Justin**: Yes, my driver's ed teacher showed it to us, in part because he looks like Richard Dreyfuss in that movie.

**Travis**: [chortles]

Justin: The important thing is that driver's ed class is pointless.

**Travis**: Richard Driveus.

Justin: Richard Driveus wants me to tell you about—

**Griffin**: There's something there!

**Justin**: "Hi, I'm Richard Driveus." And I want to tell you about Squarespace, the all-in-one platform for entrepreneurs to stand out and tell everybody that they haven't seen all of Mr. Holland's Opus. You want to engage people with that message. You don't want to let it sit on the ground like a floppy fish. You want to pick it up and shove it in people's face. With web design, you can!

And you don't need to be an expert in HTML. They pre-make the templates, they make them look beautiful. All you gotta do is put in your text and your soliloquies, and your pictures of yourself and Richard Dreyfuss. Whatever you've got on your hard drive, you can put it on the web! With Squarespace. Not saying you should, but you can, probably, with Squarespace. So, go to squarespace.com for a free trial. And when you're ready to launch, go to squarespace.com/mybrother to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

[break]

**Hal**: [in an announcer voice] The following pro wrestling contest is scheduled for one fall! Making their way to the ring for the Tights and Fights podcast are the baddest trio of audio, the hair to beware, Danielle Radford!

[crowd cheers]

Danielle: It really is great hair!

Hal: [in an announcer voice] The Brit with a permit to hit, Lindsey Kelk!

[crowd cheers]

**Lindsey**: The queen is dead, long live the queen!

Hal: [in an announcer voice] And the fast talk, fist clocking, Hal Lublin!

Hal: See? I can wrestle and be an announcer!

**Danielle**: Get ready for Tights and Fights!

**Lindsey**: Listen every Saturday or face the pain!

Hal: [in announcer voice] Find us on Maximum Fun! Now ring the bell!

[sound of a ring bell ringing]

[break]

**Biz**: Hi, this is Biz. And this is the final season of One Bad Mother, a comedy podcast about parenting. This is going to be a year of celebrating all that makes this podcast and this community magical.

**Guest 1**: I'm so glad that I found your podcast.

**Guest 2**: I just cannot thank you enough for just being the voice of reason as I'm trying to figure all of this out.

**Guest 3**: Thank you and cheers to your incredible show, and the vision you had to provide this space for all of us.

**Biz**: This is still a show about life after giving life. And yes, there will be swears. You can find us on maximumfun.org. And as always, you are doing a great job!

[break]

**Griffin**: Little Dickie Dreyfus stepped in it recently.

Justin: Ah, beans.

[group laugh]

Justin: Golly. Oh, golly.

Griffin: Yikes.

Travis: Oh my gosh.

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Griffin: Yeah!

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

Griffin: Squad.

Travis: Squad. Beep-boop-beep.

**Justin**: Gamers, alert, [sings] I want to munch.

Travis: Squad!

Justin: Player one, power up.

**Griffin**: [titters]

**Justin**: Welcome to the Munch Squad. [chuckles] It's a podcast within a podcast, about the latest and greatest in brand eating. And I'm so excited to welcome you guys to the Breakfast in Bedwars. A Fortnite Whataburger event is happening right now—

**Travis**: Hey, can I just say, that was a lot of words in a combination that my brain could not process.

**Griffin**: What sucks, Travis, is mine did. And that makes me sad about my brain and what I've done to it.

**Travis**: Breakfast in Bedwars?

Justin: Yes, it is a themed event held within a Fortnite.

Travis: Fuck off.

Justin: But about Whataburger.

Travis: No.

Griffin: All right.

**Justin**: The loser has to buy Whataburger, right? It sounds like the stakes are high, as Whataburger unveiled its brand-new Whataburger themed Fortnite Bed Wars map. The new map launched today at 11AM, going live alongside the announcement of the Breakfast in Bedwars. Whataburger's first ever Fortnite tournament.

**Travis**: Are the stakes high? Is that high? How expensive?

**Justin**: The stakes are higher than ever, Travis. The stakes are incredibly high. I'm gonna—just hold on one second.

**Griffin**: I mean, have you ever had a honey butter chicken biscuit from Whataburger?

**Justin**: Like have you had one?

**Griffin**: Because they... oh my god, they go so hard.

**Travis**: Yes, but I don't know the exact price of things at Whataburger. But I can't imagine that they are exorbitant.

Griffin: No, but—

Justin: Okay, I'm gonna show you—I'm gonna show you guys the—

**Griffin**: Better be a picture of a honey butter chicken biscuit, because I would love to look at one of those glistening—

**Justin**: No, I don't have that. I will talk to you about those in a moment though, but—okay, you ready? Can you see?

**Griffin**: Yeah.

**Justin**: Yeah, so there's a map code, you jump in with the Whataburger challenge.

Griffin: Cool.

**Justin**: And it has a whole themed map that's just about Whataburger. So, what is it—what does that mean? I'll give you specifics. Breakfast in Bedwars, presented by Whataburger, will take place on a daytime map. Focusing on early morning coffee runs and breakfast foods to jumpstart the day. Throughout game play, the tournament will feature iconic Whataburger characters and restaurant items, such as custom Whataburger beds and restaurant island bases. Whataguy, featured as a non-player character, NPC.

**Travis**: Mm-hm!

**Justin**: Whataburger inspired consumables, including breakfast on a bun for quote, 'HP,' hot coffee for quote, 'shields,' spicy ketchup speed boosts. And a honey butter chicken biscuit signifying the high-risk/high-reward item.

**Griffin**: Fucking incredible! Like, stellar. Absolutely the correct choice.

**Justin**: Whataburger inspired power-ups, including iced coffee, taquitos and breakfast burgers. Whataburger Table Tent vault keys. Other boosts and buffs earned by engaging with the map, such as walking across a floating Whataburger tray, jumping off a Whataburger breakfast burger and interacting with iced coffee cups.

**Griffin**: Awesome.

**Travis**: Interacting with them, you say?

**Griffin**: The person who wrote this not only didn't play this map, didn't experience this.

Justin: Has never played anything.

**Griffin**: Has never played any video game or pretended, is the other thing they've never done.

**Justin**: Nobody from—now this is rare. No one from Whataburger put a quote in this. And that is, I think it is very aware that they went around to the entire office and they were like, "Would you like to give us a quote about Fortnite? I will be sending it to Justin McElroy personally myself, it will be on his desk by the end of the day. No matter what you say, he's gonna tear you down. So, does anybody want to weigh in about Fortnite and Whataburger?" There's \$25,000 on the line though.

**Griffin**: Whoa?

**Justin**: Y'all, this is not a joke. You gotta compete in the Whataburger-fueled experience. Four teams of three players will strive to defend their beds, while simultaneously launching daring attacks on their opponent's bases. All for a chance to win \$25,000 in cash prizes. So, this is a Whataburger themed—I'll give you the map code, in case you want to dip in, folks. 661983135969, get in there, fight the breakfast battles. And—

**Travis**: Can I tell you guys something wild here?

Griffin: Please.

**Travis**: I saw this and I was like, my first impulse was the true OG Fortnite gamers are gonna hate this. They're gonna talk about it's a sell-out, blah, blah, blah. So, I did some googling. And I can't find—across several different Reddit pages and social medias, I can't find anybody talking about this at all.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah.

**Justin**: Yeah. Okay, interesting.

**Travis**: I found maybe a combined two comments about this.

**Griffin**: Well, then—

**Justin**: You might argue, Travis that maybe Whataburger is perhaps seven to eight years late for this to be a relevant thing that has happened. Right?

**Travis**: Yes, perhaps.

**Griffin**: Yeah.

**Travis**: Yes.

**Justin**: We are extremely—the only issue I think with it is that it is so unbelievably far away from the time where this would have made a splash or an impact.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: It's unfathomable, right? If Merrill Lynch was like, "We set up shop in Fortnite," you'd be like, "Really, just now? You guys are just now getting into that, you didn't set up a few years ago?" For Whataburger to come in at this point can be like, "Can you fucking believe it? Ketchup in the game!" It's like, yeah.

Travis: Yeah, man.

**Justin**: Hey, yeah, guys! We've had like Mike Tyson fighting the Incredible Hulk.

**Griffin**: [guffaws]

Justin: Like, what are you talking—no, I'm not excited about this.

Travis: I thought you guys were already in the game, if I'm being honest.

**Griffin**: We gave Peter Griffin a lightsaber. We've seen everything that Fortnite has to offer.

**Travis**: I have a video of me playing as John Cena, airbending around the map. I don't care about your—

Griffin: I don't care about anything else.

**Travis**: Burgers and iced coffee.

**Justin**: That said, I would like to dip in on this if it's still—

**Griffin**: I mean, if nobody's talking about it, and it's teams of three people, I think we stand a pretty good chance of winning 25 big stacks.

Justin: Yeah. Well, our share—

**Travis**: And with that kind of cheddar, we could make ourselves the next Mr. Beast. Right? We're spending that \$25,000—

**Griffin**: That's how he started.

**Travis**: I think so? He won, back then it was Minecraft and Wienerschnitzel, but—I think that was the combo.

**Griffin**: Wienerschnitzel gave Mr. Beast \$25,000 for being so god dang good at Minecraft. No tournament, no competition.

**Travis**: They were just impressed.

**Griffin**: Just Mr. Beast playing Minecraft—

Justin: No gods.

Travis: Only man.

**Griffin**: Wienerschnitzel saying, "Great job." Hey, let's continue alienating the older members of our audience by doing a—

**Travis**: Oh, fuck yeah.

Griffin: WikiHow article.

Travis: Ohio, Skibidi.

**Griffin**: And this one is, I'm actually going to actually put a... I'm gonna put the kibosh on—a moratorium on referencing, tangentially, things associated with youth culture, like Skibidi or Ohio.

**Travis**: Oh, those are the only two I got, so don't worry.

**Griffin**: Right, and so—but do you maybe think about the fact that you only know two of them, is maybe reason why deploying those isn't the strongest play?

**Justin**: If our dad knew two words that we knew, right, and he only said those two words over and over again, you would start to worry that he had—

**Griffin**: Right, and not only that, never used them in the correct context. Just said the words—just sort of said the words out loud.

**Travis**: I mean, to be funny—to be fair, they're funny. Like, Skibidi is just fun to say.

**Griffin**: No, but it's...

**Justin**: Yeah, but—huh... it's not interesting.

**Travis**: This isn't the wikiHow article. Can we please get off of my nuts and move on? [titters]

**Justin**: [chuckles] Griffin hasn't read the title yet. It could be about how to get on your brother's nuts.

**Travis**: How to get on—how to establish a little vacation home on your brother's nuts and never leave.

**Griffin**: [snickers] So, Nicks sent this. Thank you, Nicks. It's a wikiHow article called The Ultimate Collection of Funny, Cheesy and Romantic Rizz Lines. That's okay to say because it's like in the article and we're using it. If I was just like, "Rizz Ohio." Do you know what I mean? There is a difference.

Travis: Yeah, Rizzo the Rat.

**Griffin**: Rizzo the Rat is looking for a rizz line that will sweep your crush off their feet. Rizz, short for charisma, is a slang term, that means you come off as attractive and suave and have no problem picking up the people you like. Rizz is not just about looks. It fuckin' helps, though.

Justin: Yeah.

**Griffin**: It's also about confidence in your ability of banter. You gotta have strong bants. Let's—there's so many freaking pickup lines in here, guys. Almost 90, and I'm gonna read—

Travis: Almost 90.

**Griffin**: Every single one of them. No, I'm only gonna read the ones that are completely next-level, off their rocker unhinged.

**Travis**: But I wanna see this article—are you just gonna read all of them to us, or can we take turns?

**Griffin**: I think we could take turns. I don't know that Justin has the article pulled up?

**Justin**: No, I do not.

**Travis**: Okay, well, then here's what we'll do, Justin. Griffin and I will each pick a line, and you tell us which one you think would land better.

**Griffin**: That's cool. We're not doing these to you, though. That's important.

Justin: Okay?

**Griffin**: You're just the—you are witnessing these pickup lines, you are not on the receiving end of them. You okay?

Justin: Yes.

**Griffin**: I thought I hurt your heart by saying that we weren't going to say pickup lines to you.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: No, I think I strained my muscles. That wasn't for public—

**Travis**: I've got my first one here, Justin, that I want to attempt.

**Griffin**: Okay. Let's do them—maybe let's go category by category. So like, pick your favorite smooth rizz line.

Travis: I did.

Griffin: And I'll do my favorite smooth rizz line, because there's a lot of—

Justin: Okay, and I'll kind of judge which is most rizzy?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay.

**Travis**: Okay, here we go, Justin. My parents told me to chase my dreams. I guess that means you better start running.

Griffin: That one's—

Justin: I don't—okay, I... Hm, Griffin, let me hear one from you?

**Griffin**: No, I'm not 14. But I'm the one four you.

**Justin**: Okay, so we have two entries here that both have massive problems.

[group chuckle]

**Justin**: I will talk—Travis first, because you were brave enough to kind of step out front. We actually don't love anything about chasing. Like physically, like running from me—

**Griffin**: Chasing, running, better run, get running—

**Travis**: Okay, cool, yeah, it is threatening. When I said it out loud, it's incredibly threatening!

**Justin**: Yeah, you're a stranger to them.

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: Okay, Griffin, yours was so good in the second half.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: But in the first half, it's really weird that you said you weren't 14. It's just, as an opener... it's a really, really bad one.

**Travis**: It does leave—

Justin: So I think—

**Griffin**: Also, if you were 14, now you're lying to—

**Justin**: Now you're lying.

**Griffin**: The person, which is a terrible way to start out—

Travis: It does leave—

**Justin**: And what if they're a police person you don't know? Now you've lied to a police person.

**Griffin**: Great job.

Justin: Okay?

**Travis**: Does that mean that you aren't 14 yet? Or you're way older than 14?

Justin: Both of these are bad.

**Travis**: Yeah, okay.

**Justin**: Okay, both of you lost one point. So you have negative one each.

Travis: Okay.

**Griffin**: Okay. I'll start this next one with a funny rizz line.

Travis: Uh-huh?

**Griffin**: And I'll hit you with this. Are you the school stairs? Because you take my breath away.

**Travis**: Pff... okay.

Griffin: I have serious health and breathing problems.

**Justin**: So, you saw the problem in yours on your own that time, that's growth.

**Griffin**: No, no, no, I'm saying a fact. Which is that I have stairs breathing problems.

Justin: Right, I gotcha.

**Griffin**: And you know that about me, and that's why the pickup line works. **Travis**: Okay, here's mine, Justin. Hey, I'm Microsoft. Can I crash at your place tonight?

**Justin**: Okay, so the one thing that you've told this person is that you're a dork.

Travis: Yeah!

**Justin**: I don't want—you don't want 'em to know that, you're trying to rizz them. These are both not good. Because I think you're a dork, and I think you're an asthmatic dork. I think you're both dorks and I don't wanna—

**Travis**: The best—

Justin: Kiss you.

**Travis**: The Microsoft line, the best you're gonna get, *the best* response you're gonna get is, "Oh, okay." [titters] "Oh, yeah."

Griffin: It's also incredibly—

Justin: "I get it."

**Griffin**: It's incredibly—I don't like a pickup line where the ask is, "Can I spend the night at—hey, here's a joke. Can I spend the night at your house? Hi, nice to meet you. Here's a sexy joke. Can I crash—can I spend the night at your house? Will you put me up tonight?"

**Travis**: "I need a place to stay! I didn't plan this out when I got in town tonight. Can I crash at your place?"

**Justin**: You gotta remember, folks. The mind is incredible. But not everything in the mind is located together.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: Right? There are distances. If you asked me to go to the place of my brain that does puns, it is really, really, really, really, really, really far away from the part of my brain that has to respond to a stranger asking me if they could stay at my house. So, that's the part that I am over addressing.

Griffin: Yes.

**Justin**: My brain has to deal with that first. I can't even go back to your pun. I'm really focused on the fact that, okay, now I have to navigate this incredibly perilous social situation you've created.

Travis: So, mine won?

**Justin**: Yes, you're at zero.

**Griffin**: How about, Travis, have you got a cheesy rizz line?

**Travis**: Oh, I'm so worried, Griffin, that this is the same one you pick.

**Griffin**: Of course it will be.

**Travis**: Okay. Are you a vape pen? Because I'd never use you.

**Justin**: That's... unbelievable. I mean, it would be—it would be such a gigantic, gigantic play. You are assuming a huge level of not just vape abstinence, but like vocal, evangelical vape abstinence when you roll up with this line.

**Griffin**: This says a lot. And it says, "I would love to—my parents are fighting a lot. Can I sleep at your house tonight? And also, I don't vape, and I expect you not to either.

[group laugh]

Griffin: Do not disappoint me.

Justin: I don't vape and I don't like people that do.

**Griffin**: Mm-hm. Man, there's not really a good backup option. Of course, that was the one I would have gone with. There's, are you Lego? Because I'd never Lego of you. There's got to be a way to pronounce that word in a way that makes it sort of make a little bit more sense than the way I did it.

**Travis**: Is your name Elsa? Because I'll never let you go.

Griffin: That's not what she says.

**Travis**: That denies—the entire one, she does. And two, it's eh, right? So, that's more of saying like, "Are you Elsa? Because if we ever had a fight, I want you to know I'd never let it go. I will hold on to that shit forever." But even then, Elsa let it go.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah...

Travis: Doesn't work.

**Griffin**: Let me hit you with a flirty rizz line.

Travis: Okay.

**Griffin**: Are you public speaking? Because you make me really nervous. So, that one is cool because asking if someone's public speaking, the noun? [chuckles]

**Justin**: Public speaking. My brain has let—I'm next door like, what does that mean? I'm rifling through the boxes. What could that mean?

**Griffin**: Saying that someone makes you really nervous could also mean that this person is doing something dangerous for themselves, or perhaps you. That is—

**Justin**: I do also think that this person has missed sort of a fundamental step of a—in my day, we call them pickup lines, you see, kids. But now you call 'em rizz lines, it's a different world out there. But I think the thing this person's missing is that some part of it should be complimentary.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: Like, because it—a lot of these are like, "Hey, girl, are you beef? Because you're really ground up and cooked for me." It's like, well, none of that was like a positive thing. You didn't really—there's not a nice thing you're saying, like—

**Travis**: Yeah, I'm gonna say—

Justin: You make me nervous.

**Travis**: I also liked that there's a category on here of flirty rizz lines, which at which point, what have the rest of them been? But this is the one I've chosen. "You better tie your shoe. I don't want you falling for anybody else."

**Griffin**: That's cool. That's like cool. Because some people like that, some people like it when you're like, "You're mine."

**Travis**: You belong to me.

**Griffin**: You belong to me.

**Travis**: I don't want you... And also, you should—you should tie your shoe, though. I mean—

**Griffin**: This one's a mixed bag, isn't it? Because the first part is great. You should keep your shoe tied.

**Travis**: Hey, babe, you—Hey. Hey, pretty lady. You should tie your shoe, because I don't want you to trip and like hit your head on like the counter, or fall down the stairs or something like that. Because then—

**Justin**: Here, I want to try. I want to try to sell this one. Now, it only works if the shoes are actually untied, though.

Travis: Yeah.

**Griffin**: Okay.

Justin: If their shoes are tied, you just sound stupid.

Travis: Yeah.

**Justin**: But if their shoes are actually untied and you're like, "Hey, you should tie your shoes." And then they're like, "Thank you." Like, "Wouldn't want you falling for anybody else." And then you're like, "Hah, just kidding."

Travis: "Stupid."

Justin: "Stupid." [chuckles]

Travis: "Stupid."

Justin: "Stupid. Stupid thing to say."

Travis: "I'm... I'm Microsoft. Do you mind if I crash at your place tonight?"

Justin: "I untied your shoes when you weren't looking. Fuck."

Travis: "Stupid."

Justin: [titters] "I untied 'em, I didn't tell you."

**Griffin**: There's a really good romantic rizz line here.

**Travis**: I did share the image with you, Justin, in Slack, so you can see the image they've chosen to go with the romantic rizz lines image. That does look like—

**Griffin**: Just two people standing in front of a giant flame.

**Travis**: Just two people watching the world burn down around 'em.

**Justin**: Like that scene from Scavengers Reign. [titters]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Can I hit this one, Trav?

Travis: Yeah, go for it.

**Griffin**: Melt their heart with a captivating rizz line. How about this one? I must be a time traveler, as I can't imagine my future without you. That doesn't make any fucking sense, dawg! What are you talking about?! Are you a time traveler? Because I can't imagine my future... without you? I must be a time—

**Justin**: Are you the ozone layer? [titters] That's something, right?

**Travis**: Do you have a name, or can I call you mine? Now—

Justin: What? That one's like—

**Griffin**: That's romantic, actually.

**Justin**: Yeah, it's sweet.

**Travis**: 'Do you have a name or can I call you mine' establishes a binary option. At which they'd be like, "No, I have a name." And you're like, "Oh, shit."

Justin: Sheesh.

**Travis**: "So, I guess I can't call you mine?" And they're like, "No. It's Suzan."

**Griffin**: Do they do that—I didn't see Call Me by Your Name. But do they do that in the movie where they're like, "What's up, Jeremy?" And the other guy's like, "Hey, Tony."

**Travis**: This would be like if Call Me by Your Name was because he had recently been cloned or created in a laboratory. And he's like, "I don't even have a name." And it's like, "Oh, I'll just call you by my name. You're also Tom."

Justin: [chuckles]

**Griffin**: Steamy—

Justin: That is what the film is about.

**Griffin**: Get steamy rizz lines. These are—these might be a little too hot for

TV.

Justin: These are the sexier ones?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay.

**Griffin**: Do you want to go first, Travis?

Travis: This one, are you a sea lion? Because I want to see you lion in my

bed.

**Justin**: Wow, that one actually—if you delivered it with like—

**Griffin**: Correctly?

**Justin**: [chuckles] Like if you game—if you came 100% exact. And like, folks, I'm talking like close-up magic levels of repetition. You have to say this line over—not a single syllable can be out of place.

**Griffin**: Yeah, yeah, yeah. This one's huge. Are you Ronaldo? Because I

think we should get Messi.

Travis: Ah-

Justin: [chortles]

**Griffin**: [guffaws]

Justin: That's good!

**Griffin**: This one's awesome! Because the first part is like, if someone walks up to and is like, "Are you Ronaldo?" You'll be like, "What? What is this person—"

Travis: What?

**Griffin**: And then they hit you with a, "Because I'd like to get Messi with you." That is—that's strong. You don't usually reference sort of the mess that you make in the love making process, in the sort of sales pitch for the lovemaking.

**Travis**: Now, another interesting headline here for this section, creative rizz lines. Which, once again, what have the rest been?

**Justin**: Yeah, these have all been kind of a stretch. [titters]

**Travis**: It's—okay. It's time to pay up, because you've been living in my head rent free.

**Griffin**: Travis, I can't believe that's what you picked from this category. It's one of the weakest ones.

**Travis**: No, I left that one for you. I left that one for you, Griffin.

**Griffin**: Let me hit you with; Are you China? Because I'm China to get with you. [titters]

**Travis**: See, Griffin, I thought you were gonna do; Are you John Cena? Because I've never Cena a girl like you before.

**Griffin**: That's good, but 'are you China because I'm China get with you' is fucking so powerful.

**Justin**: [chuckles] It's like not how anybody talks. No one has ever said it like that before.

**Griffin**: And the arc of this is so perfect because if someone hits you with a, "Are you China?" You're like, "I don't know what the next thing is gonna be,

but it's gonna be fucking bad, dude." But then they hit you with a, "Because I'm China get with you," that's fucking great, man.

**Justin**: I don't know, it's a real—it's a dicey one. I don't know. I'm not sure I'd attempt it for real.

**Travis**: All the clever rizz lines are bad. But I do, I want to go down to cute rizz lines.

**Griffin**: Yeah, let's hop it.

**Travis**: Are your parents Bakers? Because you're a cutie pie.

**Griffin**: None of the good ones are gonna be good. When I was a kid, I used to have to chase butterflies. Now, you're over here bringing them right to me. You're like Brenda Fricker in Home Alone 2.

Justin: [titters]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I used to chase birds. But now, they are always on you.

Justin: They flock to me.

Griffin: They flock to me because of—

**Travis**: You could have done something about them being in your stomach? Now, there's butterflies in my stomach every time you're around. Like—

**Justin**: Yeah, but that's what it's saying. Like, you give me butterflies. It's just like—

**Travis**: No, it's saying you bring 'em over here. You've got a cloud of butterflies following you like Pig-Pen has dirt.

Griffin: Yeah.

**Justin**: I think you're being too specific. It's not one of the greats, I'll grant you. [titters] It's not one of the classics.

**Travis**: Oh my god. Oh my god. Poetic. Poetic rizz lines.

**Griffin**: The poetic ones are all good.

**Travis**: If you died, I'd be jealous of the Earth because she'd get to hold you forever.

**Justin**: You could not get out of the room fast enough. There is not a hoverboard in the world that would get you out of that room, out of that building, out of that zip code quick enough if someone said that to you in real life.

**Travis**: If I had a rose for every time I thought of you, I'd only have one. Because you never left my mind.

**Griffin**: That's not very many roses.

**Justin**: Yeah, what is that even trying to—if I had a nickel for every time that I thought of you, I would have the singular nickel.

Travis: But it'd be really big.

Justin: Because that—I just started that thought.

Griffin: It's huge.

**Travis**: It would be a *big* nickel!

**Justin**: It's like, imagine you know in the Batcave?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: There's the giant penny? But like that for nickels. Okay?

**Griffin**: You stole my heart, my eyes and my thoughts. All that's left is my last name.

**Travis**: Stole my eyes.

**Justin**: [titters]

**Griffin**: Steal my last name?

**Travis**: No, hold. [chuckles] Stole my heart. Okay, cool, that's a phrase. "You stole my eyes." Am I the mummy, from The Mummy? Who steals that guy's eyes?

**Justin**: "Hear me now, soothsayer. You have taken everything from me, but not this!"

**Griffin**: The sequel to Call Me by Your Name is Steal My Last Name. And it's them trying to get their names back from the way that the witch cursed them to switch names forever, until they learn a valuable lesson about being themselves.

**Travis**: According to wikiHow, this right here is a classic rizz line. If you were a transformer, you'd be Optimus Fine.

**Griffin**: That's pretty good, actually.

**Travis**: That's a classic?

**Justin**: That's bad. Optimus Fine? It's like, it doesn't even rhyme.

Travis: No?

**Justin**: It sucks. Pick a better one, but do a better one for Transformers, Trav.

Travis: Oh, okay... eh...

**Justin**: Go ahead, Trav. Just anyone. Hey, you're—

**Travis**: Hey, are you into Autobotic asphyxiation?

Griffin: Oh my god, Trav.

Justin: [chortles]

**Travis**: No? Maybe not that one?

**Griffin**: No, you got it! You perfectly got it.

Justin: Got it in one, baby!

**Griffin**: We'll cut out that eight and a half minutes if you thinking.

**Travis**: Oh, thank you, thank you.

**Justin**: [chortles] We'll cut of the call you had with your lawyer before you said it out loud.

**Travis**: Yeah. "Can I say this? Is this cool? Am I going to prison for this one?"

Griffin: That's all of them.

**Justin**: Hey, folks, thanks so much for listening to our podcast. We so appreciate the time that we get to spend with you. And we think that you're just the best.

**Travis**: The bee's knees.

Justin: The bee's knees.

**Travis**: We've got some exciting announcements for you.

Justin: Mm-hm?

**Travis**: Yeah. Well, when the new month starts. When August starts, there's going to be new merch over on the merch store. Including a Trav Nation pin designed by Riley Woolworth. And a Munch Squad sticker design by Tyler Reed. And 10% of all merch proceeds this month go to the World Central Kitchen.

Also, this week, on August 1<sup>st</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>, me Griffin and dad are going to be at Gen Con. We're doing a Q&A at the Suffering Game book launch event, and a bunch of other stuff. So, make sure you check that out. You can send questions, by the way for that Q&A, to social@themcelroy.family. And put Gen Con in the subject line. And you can find all of our other stuff at themcelroy.family.

And if you go to bit.ly/mcelroytours, you'll see all the tickets for our shows in Portland, Oregon, Orlando, Atlanta, Denver, Phoenix, Indianapolis and Milwaukee. And all kinds of other information. Go check that out now.

**Griffin**: Thank you to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. It's a great tune that you're going to be vibing to all the live long day, as you work at your job. Also, we have a graphic novel out that you can go get now, because it's out. It's the sixth one and The Adventure Zone graphic novel series, it's The Suffering Game. It is exquisite. It's an exquisite book and you are—you're gonna be moved by it.

**Travis**: You're gonna love it.

**Griffin**: You're gonna love it. Please get it. Help us. Get it.

**Justin**: You're gonna love it.

**Travis**: We've got a wish here that I think we should elevate for Fungalore. If you guys—

**Griffin**: Go right ahead.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Pa-pa-pa. Ra-pa-pa-pa. Ra-pa-pa-pa. Ra-pa-pa-pa.

Griffin: Swshss-sss! Sswwsh-sss-sss—

Travis: I wish him immortality was real, so that Columbo could be on TV

forever.

Justin: Pff! My name is Justin McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin—

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy!

**Griffin**: Why did I go second?

Travis: I don't know.

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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