

MBMBaM 726: Hot Dog Think Appointment

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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 music, "My Life (Is Better With You)!" by Montaigne plays]

Justin: Hey everybody, welcome to *My Brother, My Brother And Me*, an advice show for the modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis: What up, Trav Nation? Hello, my name is Travis Big Dog Woof Woof McElroy.

Griffin: Good morning, Trav Nation, I'm your sweet, baby brother, Griffin McElroy. [beeps repeatedly] News sounds, it's time for a *Trap Watch*.

Travis: *Trap Watch*. [beeps repeatedly]

Griffin: This is not our other segment that sounds very similar called *Trapt Watch*, where we cover some of the latest and greatest jams coming out of—

Justin: That scene.

Griffin: — American unproblematic fave band, Trapt.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: That segment has been on ice for a while, I don't know if you guys have noticed that. Collecting dust over there.

Justin: Yeah, with the rest of—

Griffin: It's also not out segment on the whole genre of trap music.

Travis: Nor—

Griffin: We do know what Fetty Wap is up to today.

Travis: This is also not the one where we talk about the Von Trapp family, and just like their whole history and stuff like that.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: No Justin, specifically I wanna tell you and perhaps any listeners who aren't aware about the concept of the movie *Trap*.

Griffin: Oh, I'm so excited to talk about *Trap*. Did you see *Trap*?

Justin: Now I know it's an M. Night Shyamalan picture.

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: Did you guys see *Trap*?

Justin: So—

Griffin: Hey, you seen *Trap*?

Justin: No.

Griffin: Travis, you—

Travis: I saw the preview Griffin, and that was all I need to see.

Griffin: Yeah, same for me.

Justin: I was—

Griffin: I like— The preview was kickass,

Justin: I was too busy seeing *Deadpool* twice in the theatres. [chuckles]

Travis: Justin, imagine— You're a father, right Justin? Okay, so we've all been in this position, you have your kid begging you to take you to the concert of an incredibly popular musician, perhaps a Taylor Swift level musician.

Griffin: Or a Danny Go, for— if— in our case.

Travis: Correct. So Justin, you like arm and a leg, buy these tickets. You're taking your I think tween daughter.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: To go see Taylor Swift.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And you're going to buy some merch for the show, of course. While there, the merch salesperson reveals to you that this whole concert is in fact a sting op—

Griffin: It's a trap!

Travis: It's a sting operation, a trap if you will.

Griffin: It's a trap!

Travis: To catch the most notorious serial killer alive, or dead.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: The concert's a trap?

Travis: The con— The whole concert's a trap.

Griffin: The whole con— They put a big cage over the whole concert.

Justin: This band—

Travis: Yeah, they figured out the serial killer's gonna be there.

Justin: Who's the band?

Griffin: It's Trapt.

Travis: It's Taylor Swift, right.

Griffin: But Taylor Swift, but also M. Night Shyamalan's daughter.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It's the— It's two— It's both things.

Justin: Okay, got it, okay.

Travis: And so then, the salesperson is like, "Yeah, so everybody's gonna get checked leaving to see if they're a serial killer."

Griffin: Yeah, they have a little gun that they point at you, and if it goes, "Boop!" it means you're the serial killer. And that's—

Travis: And so you're like, "Aw cool man," but then as you're walking away Justin, we see that you are very nervous, because you are in fact a serial killer, and the start of this movie, Josh Hartnett.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That's right, Shyamalan twist, the main character—

Griffin: It's in the trailer. Huge for me! 'Cause I'm always— I see these movies and I'm like, "This the beach that gets you old." And I'm like, "Fuck, I wish I knew what the twist was with the beach that get you old."

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: But the trailer didn't tell me, and I certainly didn't go see *Old* in theatres. This one, Juice?

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: They put the thing right in the GD trailer.

Justin: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: Which was awesome.

Justin: So the— I love havin' that twist right up front.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Justin: So I didn't see island make you old.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I didn't see—

Griffin: It's not i— [stammers to interrupt] Bup bup bup! It's not a whole island that makes you old.

Travis: Beach old.

Griffin: This is something that people get confused. It's just one side— It's the one edge sort of perimeter of one land mass. If the whole island got you old, that movie would be so shitty.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: I also think he did—

Justin: I've never seen the movie, that actually makes a lot more sense, because I thought it was just a movie [chuckles] about watching people get old real fast.

Griffin: Yeah, check this out. Every island is an island that get you old.

Travis: Yeah, that's true, that's a good point. It's like M Knight Shyamalan watched *Boyhood* and said, "I'm just gonna watch somebody for a hundred years."

Griffin: "Boooooor—" He said, "Boriiiing! Fast forward."

Travis: "Not enough."

Justin: I saw grandparents are wildin'.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You see that one?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You see that, *The Visit*? Grandparents are wildin' out.

Griffin: Oh, yes yes.

Justin: I saw... weak man—

Griffin: Did you see *Hellevator*?

Justin: [wheezes] *Hellevator* was good. I saw weak man versus Bruce Willis.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: That was— And— [chuckles]

Griffin: Did you see weak man versus Bruce Willis two and three?

Justin: [chuckles] I saw the whole franchise, man.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: So how do you feel about seeing "Oops, my dad's a serial killer?"

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: Yeah. Travis, actually, this one we can't change the title of.

Justin: *Trap*.

Griffin: *Trap* is the best fucking title of a movie certainly this year. A lot of movies think, "We have to put a lot of words in here." *Avatar: the Way of Water*, it's like that's— you've told me so much about that film, and now I don't wanna see it. *Trap. Trap*. I gotta see *Trap*.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "Let me get one ticket for *Trap*, please."

Justin: That is kinda nice too, because if you don't like it, then at the end they can just be like, "Well, I guess you were— you're— the trap's on you."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Cause like we said it was a trap, and you got trapped. We got you."

Travis: "We will be scanning anybody who leaves the theatre to see if they're a serial killer."

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I'mma see *Trap*.

Justin: "The trap is to catch you."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I'm gonna watch *Trap*. I might wait 10 days for it to appear on my home television set.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: On your Roku.

Griffin: Which is so fucking kind. The kindness that let's say a *Borderlands* has provided me, a gamer who loves movies, to say, "The movie just came out, but we're gonna go ahead and let you watch it on your home television set."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Is so fuckin' choice, and I do appreciate that.

Justin: Hey. Do you— I love the Roku.

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: Because the Roku with its many free options. I love `cause every once in a while, Roku will be like, "Here's a movie you could watch for free," but you could tell no algorithm has even peaked at it.

Griffin: No.

Justin: It'll just fire it out of a T-shirt cannon at you like, "Hey, remember how Steve Martin did a Cerano DeBergerac thing called *Roxanne*?"

Griffin: Jesus Christ.

Justin: [imitates T-shirt cannon firing sound]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "You like that."

Justin: "You wanna watch it?"

Griffin: It's just the gar—

Justin: No, I don't.

Griffin: It's just the garbage can of DVDs they have in every electronics section in every Walmart of like, "I don't know man, we got *A Dog's Purpose*?" [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Is that what you want?"

Griffin: "It's \$3. And it's got so many bonus featies."

Travis: Do you guys remember when we went and saw the *Dungeons & Dragons* movie, and at the start of it—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: — like the cast is sitting there like just straight up, lookin' straight into the cameras, saying like, "Thanks for coming to see a movie theatre, the way movies are supposed to be seen?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I think that when movies come out simultaneously to streaming and theatres, they should also put one at the beginning of the streaming where it's like, "We're so fuckin' disappointed in you, man."

Griffin: Just have Kevin Hart. "[clicks tongue in disapproval] How could you?"

Travis: "You're not seeing this movie the way it was meant to be seen. Ugh."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Now you're watching it on your NOKIA flip phone."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I don't actually remember that from the *Dungeons & Dragons* movie, Travis, because Justin let me hit his weed pen right before the movie started.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And the first 20 minutes of that movie for me were a straight panic attack. And also the most I've ever enjoyed a movie, but having the whole cast in the room—

Justin: At the same time, yeah.

Griffin: The whole cast of the movie, Chris Pine arms folded, looking at me like, "Are you fucked up right now, Griffin?"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: That was more than—

Travis: “Are you enjoying this movie the way it’s supposed to be seen?”

Griffin: That was more than I could—

Travis: “Or are you fucked up?”

Griffin: Hugh Grant looking at me with peak judgment was not a pleasant experience.

Travis: “It’s a trap.”

Griffin: It was a trap, that one was a trap.

Travis: Now Griffin, are you aware that you’re still wearing the “Hello, my name is Griffin” name tag?

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, I went to my son’s like preschool orien— daycare orientation, and I for— I did not realize until we started recording that I was still wearing the name tag, but some people have trouble figuring us out. And knowing which ones we are. And I thought it— I thought maybe it would be helpful.

Travis: Maybe we should do like an audio name tag, where just in the middle of every sentence, Travis, we’re saying— we should say like our names in there.

Justin: Oh.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah. I mean we all have beards and glasses now, and so like it’s hard— it’s getting harder and harder for people to tell us apart, so I think what would be good is if maybe we wore big, monogrammed shirts.

Justin: I don’t—

Griffin: Like we were on *Yo Gabba Gabba* or something like that.

Justin: I don’t have—

Griffin: Bright jewel-toned shirts—

Travis: You didn't say your name in there at all, Griffin.

Justin: I didn't— I'm not wearing glasses. [chuckles]

Griffin: You have done our—

Travis: Yeah, but it sounds like you are to the listeners.

Griffin: Sometimes you put your Gunars on, Juice, your gamer glasses that block out those blue beams.

Justin: But not now as you're saying this and looking at me, you know? [chuckles] Like you're seeing—

Travis: But you sound like someone who would wear glasses.

Griffin: You sound look and look like someone who should wear glasses.

Justin: Alright.

Travis: Yeah, the brain fills in the glasses, like when you look at a thing and it's like, "Does it look like this picture's moving?" It's just the way the shapes are. When I look at you, Justin, the shapes of you—

Griffin: Are glasses.

Travis: — make me see glasses.

Griffin: Make me think glasses. Are you wearing your Gunar contacts right now, Juice?

Justin: I don't have—

Griffin: Because if you're gaming without protection.

Justin: I do— I'm not a paid endorser of the Gunar brand.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So I'm not gonna indulge in this whole bit.

Griffin: You seem like you would be.

Travis: Yeah, you seem like their target demo.

Justin: I think you guys have a lot of assumptions, a lot of assumptions.

Griffin: Am Is it wrong assumptions though?

Justin: Can you believe they're makin' a new *Crow* movie? Can you believe it?

Travis: Well, he comes back from the dead.

Justin: When I—

Travis: So yeah.

Griffin: It just makes sense.

Justin: I saw a poster for that and I looked around for teens, to see if teens are like, "Heeeey! *The Crow!*"

Travis: "Finally, my *Crow!*"

Justin: Like were they wantin' *The Crow*?

Griffin: I mean.

Travis: "I just need a *Crow* for my generation. This isn't your granddaddy's *Crow*." [chuckles]

Griffin: If memory serves, when *Crow* came out, no-one— also no-one was excited about *Crow*, 'cause they didn't know that— how badass *Crow* was gonna be. But it seems like that might be the case now. I think *Crow's* gonna get a lot of buzz and a lot of build, and I don't think it's gonna come to my home TV set for two months.

Justin: [wheezes] I think we should be— we— Are you saying that we should get out early and be staunchly pro-*Crow*? Because we're gonna be on the right side of history.

Griffin: I would wanna do some Googling, some cursory Googling—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: — of some of the big names attached to the feature film, I think.

Justin: Some of the big nations. [wheezes]

Griffin: "Have you seen the new *Crow*, starring and directed by Mel Gibson?"

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "The McElroys are all the fuck about it."

Justin: [laughs] He's got a new one. He's got a new one out. I saw this—

Travis: Of course he does.

Justin: — a couple times before [wheezes] *Deadpool & Wolverine*.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: And they don't say Mel Gibson, they say, "the director of *Hacksaw Ridge*," which okay Mel.

Travis: Ahhhh.

Griffin & Justin: [laugh]

Justin: Do you mean *Braveheart*?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I think you mean *Braveheart*.

Griffin: The guy from *The Patriot*.

Travis: I have just put together— I have this theory in films, specifically that once the 19, I believe, 89 Tim Burton *Batman* came out, that everybody was like, “Okay, we gotta make something like this, what have you guys got?” And that’s how we ended up with like *The Phantom*.

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Travis: And we ended up with like *Dick Tracey* and anything, and *The Crow* came out in 1994. So it’s possible that somebody pitched *The Crow* as like, “It’s like *Batman*. You guys like *Batman*? It’s like *Batman*.”

Griffin: “You like *Batman*?”

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: *Dark City*’s only... *Dark City* comin’ up soon, you know that. You know we’re about to get *Dark-er City* comin’ up real soon.

Justin: Oooh.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Justin: Ooooh...

Griffin: I think.

Travis: *The Shadow* is another— Thank Tim Burton’s *Batman* for *The Shadow*.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And it’s been like two years, I think we’re ready for more *Watchmen*. Another *Watchmen* try.

Justin: [chuckles] Let’s do *Watchmen* again. Let’s try.

Travis: Yeah, maybe this time we’ll figure it out.

Griffin: I mean the TV show figured it out pretty fuckin’ definitively.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: Hey, let's do questions instead of talking about comic book movies.

Justin: Thank you. "I work at a game store, and my boss randomly decided to give me a *Final Fantasy VII* puzzle. He said his wife got it and wasn't doing anything with it, so I decided to take it. One problem though, the puzzle was already finished. Glued together and everything."

Griffin: Wh— Glued together and everything, that's not a normal part.

Justin: "Glued together and everything. It's been sitting on my coffee table for a few weeks, and I don't know what to do with it. Do I risk breaking it apart and try solving it myself? Do I frame it and hang it up, suffering from the guilt of displaying an accomplishment that wasn't mine? Do I hide it? What do I do?" That's from *Puzzle Trouble in Los Angeles*, and that's one of the wilder things I've ever heard.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Why?

Griffin: Who did his wife get it from?

Travis: I— Oh, I made the assumption that the wife put the post— put the puzzle together.

Griffin: His wife got it and wasn't doing anything with it.

Justin: Be careful. [chuckles] Because my brain is going in a couple different directions. 'Cause when I first heard "and wasn't doing anything with it," I almost chimed in like, "[chuckles flippantly] What else are you gonna do with a puzzle?" Unless.

Griffin: Unless.

Travis: Unless.

Justin: This— Like this object is what she obtained. She obtained a finished puzzle for *Final Fantasy VII*—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: — and her husband's like, "Why did you get that?" and she's like, "I don't know."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "I have a problem. Do you know anybody that has heard of *Final Fantasy*? I don't even know this spiky other guys' deal."

Griffin: [chuckles] "I don't know what's up with Goku with balls for shoulders. I don't know his story."

Travis: "That sword's too big, right?"

Griffin: "That sword's too big."

Travis: "Like I'm no scientist, that sword's too big."

Griffin: "What a goober."

Travis: "The fatigue alone."

Griffin: It is possible that the wife got it and didn't do anything with it because she got a completed puzzle that had been glued together. And with— And she suffered the same exact conundrum that you now find yourself in. She had to pass it off, like the Ring, in order to escape its sort of mind trap that it had.

Travis: There is sometimes— Isn't there like you can get special like uncut sheets of playing cards, and like— So is this a way that po— like puzzles come sometimes? And he's like, "Oh, they never cut this one apart."

Justin: Finished? Pre-finished?

Travis: Yeeeeeah.

Griffin: Pre-finished, pre-glued?

Justin: Glued.

Travis: Well because listen. Tired; puzzles you have to put together. Wired; puzzles you have to take apart.

Griffin: Well yeah, but the glue is what sets it off for me. They have essentially given you a wrinkly picture, at that point. A wrinkly print, a wrinkly photograph, if you will.

Travis: A cracked— Yeah.

Griffin: A cracked and wrinkled and weathered photograph.

Justin: Have you guys ever saved a puzzle?

Travis & Griffin: [simultaneously] No.

Griffin: Way.

Justin: No way, right? No how. [wheezes]

Griffin: I've saved a puzzle to the extent that one time me and Rachel did, during COVID, a like 750- or 1000-piece puzzle that was the cover of the *Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, which is—

Justin: It's tough.

Griffin: — mostly identical looking flowers. Great job, Beatles.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Thanks for setting us up for that. We saved it since—

Travis: I don't think they had that in mind, Griffin, when they designed the cover for the album. I don't think that anybody was like—

Griffin: "This'll make this a hard puzzle."

Travis: — "Do we need to worry about how hard this is gonna be as a jigsaw puzzle later?"

Griffin: Yeah. The white album is— I imagine would also be a tough—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: A tough puzz to solve. But we did— we had like momentum for like two nights, and we started to build the edges, and then we were like, “God, I do not wanna keep doing this, but I also don’t—” The sunk cost fallacy hit so hard—

Justin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Griffin: — that I saved— we saved a puzzle for like three months while— until we finally finished it, and then immediately scooped it into a garbage can, and were free of its curse.

Travis: I think that if I put together like some ridiculous, like 5000-piece big puzzle of a cool picture, I might be tempted to like Shellac that bad boy.

Griffin: You think so?

Travis: Maybe. Maybe. But the same is like I feel the same about LEGO.

Justin: But then what? And then what? And then what?

Travis: Display iiit?

Justin: And then what?

Griffin: This might be—

Justin: Yeah, ho—

Griffin: “Hey, guys.”

Justin: The next thing is—

Griffin: “This my puzzle.”

Justin: — Griffin and Travis and Justin are brothers, so Travis has Griffin and Justin over, and then what do Griffin and Justin say about the puzzle, Trav? I mean if we're taking—

Travis: You say, "Why did you save it?" and I said, "It just seemed like a waste to take it apart, I guess. I don't know man, why do we save anything? Sometimes you gotta just touch a thing and see if it gives you joy."

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: "And I touched this puzzle and it gives me joy."

Justin: But then I would touch it and say like, "Nope." [wheezes]

Griffin: "Nope, nothing for me."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Get rid of it," yeah.

Travis: Then I would ask you to throw it away for me when I wasn't looking, 'cause I didn't have the strength to do it.

Justin: And then I would go to work, and I would find the one guy that [chuckles] knows about that puzzle, and I would say—

Griffin: Mm-hmm.

Justin: — "Do I have some art for you." [wheezes]

Griffin: Right.

Justin: "Do you— Would you like a poster?" [chuckles]

Griffin: Anyone—

Travis: "Would you like a shitty poster?"

Griffin: Anyone who does puzzles when LEGOs is available to you, that's wild, I don't understand that.

Justin: Oh, don't get into the— This is like a— I could see it on TikTok. I'm so tired of this kind of engagement, Griffin, we don't need it.

Griffin: You can't play with a finished puzzle, but sometimes you finish building a LEGOs and then it's like, "And now I have a Millennium Falcon toy." [chuckles] "I have a big spaceship toy now." You finish a puzzle and it's like, "Alright, time to just look at it. Hey kids, come `round, look at the puzzle."

Meanwhile I'm over here, and I'm like, "Hey kids, it's the Millennium Falcon, Daddy built that. He solved that puzzle with his mind. Sure, there was a book that told me exactly where every piece is supposed to go, but now we have a toy."

Travis: You could do a little bit like— What if you put together like, "Starry Night," like a "Starry Night" puzzle, and then you finished it and show people and you're like, "Yeah, this was like a collab between me and Van Gogh."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "We made this toge— Like he kinda set it up and I knocked it down."

Justin: Yeah, you gotta admit he—

Travis: "This was a bonus end swipe—"

Justin: — volunteered the art.

Travis: "— from me and Van Gogh."

Griffin: "Oh, and you're tearing a piece off and sticking—"

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "— a Sonic the Hedgehog LEGO set to it."

Travis: “Ah, cool.”

Griffin: “You’ve improved the art dramatically, ‘Starry Night’ is so much better with Sonic in it. And I do think that if Van Gogh had lived for another—”

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: “— however many hundred years—

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: “— and seen *Sonic the Hedgehog*, he would’ve been like ‘This kicks ass’.”

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: “‘I’ve gotta get this dude in some of my paintings’.”

Justin: When I— When we were kids, we used to be able to play with LEGOs. Like a big box of LEGOs and then you put LEGOs together and make stuff.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I tell you man, I— sometimes I feel bad ‘cause my kids don’t do that much, but you can’t even do anything with LEGO pieces these days, ‘cause they’re all a specific piece of intellectual property. You have a— What, you’re gonna glue together this is Darth Maul’s right leg, [chuckles] and a milkshake from the *Archie’s*, and kind of a truck.

Griffin: Yeah Juice, that’s kinda [chuckles] exactly how it goes down here. It’s— It’s non-stop mad cap *Super Smash Bros*, I feel like, any time we play with LEGOs. Hey, do y’all wanna go to the Wizard?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I would love to.

Griffin: Alright. This one has been sent in by a lot of people, and I haven’t brought it because it’s sort of— I don’t know, it feels a little bit

outside my wheelhouse, I like to sort of be able to add my own skewed view on stuff.

Travis: Yeah, of course.

Griffin: But it is— it's "How to Get Your Dog Into Modeling."

Travis: Oh, thank you.

Griffin: "Simple strategies to get your pooch noticed by pet brands and talent agencies. Your dog already has a starring role in your life, but what if your furry friend had a starring role on-screen, too?"

The world of dog modeling is vast and varied, and commercial directors and product marketers are always looking for the next billboard-worthy pup. But where to begin?"

Travis: Does it clarify, Griffin, in there like what kind of mo— I assume pet-modeling.

Griffin: No. I mean I— What?

Travis: Like there's not like my dog's not gonna be modeling watches or perfumes or something, right? Like...

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Modeling perfumes...

Travis: Yeah, you know when you have a perfume ad, and the dog's posing there, and in the—

Griffin: That would be cool. Yeah no.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: I mean usually a perfume ad is usually just like a wrist near a neck, and there's like silk.

Travis: Or a lot of it's Johnny Depp for some reason. I see Johnny Depp on there a lot.

Griffin: I mean, he's gotta be a fragrant individual.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Talk about dog. [wheezes]

Griffin: [chuckles] I think—

Justin: Talk about an old dog, right?

Griffin: Probably no watches on this one.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: On this dog. I think it's talking about, you know, ads for foods for Purina or what have you.

Travis: Mm.

All: [simultaneously] Heartwarm.

Griffin: I mean if your dog's kinda—

Justin: Whoa, did we just say, "heartwarm" at the exact same moment?

Griffin: We did. We did.

Justin: That's good.

Griffin: Your dog has to be a little bit busted for the Heartwarm medicine ads though.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I think. You never see like a gorgeous, healthsome dog out there for Heartwarms.

Justin: [giggles]

Griffin: It's always like a little scruffy, like looks good.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Sort of like older, good-looking dog.

Justin: But one bad break is gonna set him [wheezes] on the wrong path.

Travis: I don't if you guys—

Justin: Like one hard knock.

Travis: If— I don't know if you guys get these, but all-around Cincinnati there's like billboards like encouraging you to like spay and neuter your pets. And it'll be like pictures of a cat wearing sunglasses, I guess the implication being like, "This cat fucks all over town, my man."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "This cat's gonna fuck your cat and make more cats, and you're not ready for that."

Travis: "You gotta fix the— this cat."

Griffin: "This cat. This rowdy cat's got bad seed."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "He's gonna make some real stinker of a litter of kittens for you."

Travis: And—

Griffin: "You don't want any part of this."

Travis: I don't know what the casting call looks like for that cat, where like a cat comes in, they're like, "Nah, too chaste."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "No, that cat? That cat's pure of heart, we know."

Justin: "Not seductive enough."

Griffin: "No."

Travis: "No. Ohhh, that's a dirty dog right there! That cat? Yeah, that cat— [chuckles] That cat gets around."

Griffin: Says, "If you see this— If you see MC Skat Kat come around, just make sure your cat wears protection."

Travis: "That's all we're saying."

Griffin: "Because you do not want— you do not wanna multiply." Okay, so. What are we talking about? Dog modeling.

"Determine your dog's strengths, like performing tricks or looking cute, and market them accordingly." The tricks thing I don't think is necessary.

Travis: No.

Griffin: I've never seen a commercial or a dog movie where they're like— I guess *Air Bud* was like a pretty acrobatic pup.

Travis: Yeah but that wasn't a model, that was a performance. That was a—

Griffin: I think this—

Travis: Like that dog was acting.

Griffin: Yeah. I think that this article is maybe blending these two sort of conceits.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Which is kind— maybe it's biting off a little bit more than it can chew.

Travis: Oh.

Justin: Scope has expanded a little bit, yeah.

Griffin: The scope has expanded a little bit too much. Okay, so let's—

Travis: I— Do they talk about relatability in there? Because like yeah, I like a beautiful dog, that's great. But I like a dog that I see and I'm like, "Mm, that dog and I both been through life."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "We've both experienced some things."

Griffin: "This dog me" is like a common thing I see a lot.

Travis: "This dog me."

Griffin: On Instagram. So, "Identify your dog's strengths. Is your dog a capable athlete?"

Travis: Nope.

Griffin: "Can they follow commands like a pro? Maybe they're just grade-A cutie. These are all desirable qualities in a dog model, and will lend themselves to different kinds of modeling. Have a good think about what makes your dog model material and which qualities you can emphasize when marketing them."

Justin: Have a good think about it. "Aw man, I'd love to come hang, but I'm actually busy tonight."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Tonight I am havin' a good think about what makes my dog hot." [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: “Not right now, Cassie! I’m thinking about what makes my dog hot! I told you I’d be in here for 15 minutes, thinking about our hot dog!”

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: “Every time—”

Justin: “Yeah, I need to think—!”

Travis: “— I put it in the calendar. I put it in the Google calendar.”

Justin: “Cat.”

Travis: “Every day!”

Justin: “Yeah, I— have a think.”

Travis: “Have a think.”

Griffin: “Why tell me to put my stuff on the Google calendar if you’re not gonna look at it, Cathy?”

Justin: [giggles] “Or will you at least respect it.”

Griffin: “You didn’t tell—”

Travis: “I didn’t tell you to come here when you had your doctor’s appointment on there. So why do you come when I’m havin’ a think about what makes our dog a good dog model? This is for everybody! This is for all of us, if I can figure this out!”

Griffin: “Do you think a list of our dog’s sexiest attributes is just gonna come to me in a dream, Cathy? It takes work!”

Justin: What’s hard about this thought is by analyzing your dog for its most [wheezes] sexy and desirable traits, you are, by definition, going to discover all the things about your dog that are maybe not so appealing. And maybe it never bothered you before.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But then all of a sudden, you're like, "The left jowl, the right jowl."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Uneven, I don't like it."

Travis: You're setting beauty standards. I'm saying that like Buttercup has a Benji-esque quality that you would say like, "I trust that dog."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "That dog's made it through—" And then Lily is a beautiful idiot that you'd be like, "Aw, you goober."

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Travis: Right, both of those things I think are marketable.

Griffin: Yeah. Lily would be in a commercial—

Travis: I don't think it has to be societal standards, Justin, of what makes a dog sexy and beautiful.

Justin: Yeah, but even if you discover that you're— But in the process of discovering that, you discover what they're not, right? Like you may have to realize that "My Dalmatian is not very charismatic."

Travis: No that is heartbreaking.

Justin: Now you have to think about it.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: If you learn that.

Justin: [giggles]

Travis: They don't have the "it" factor, that is heartbreaking.

Justin: It's just not a— Like you look at him, you're like, "It's— There's just not a spark."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: There should be a—

Justin: "There's no spark."

Griffin: There should be a dog— [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: There should be a dog that maybe they like bring to the mall one Saturday a month, and it's just like a fucking— like he's got a cigar and a little laptop computer, who can just be like [in a gruff voice] "Next. Sorry kid, you don't got it."

Travis: [chuckles] "You don't got it."

Griffin: Just like can break—

Travis: "Nothin' behind the eyes."

Griffin: [in a gruff voice] "Nothin' behind the— I've seen a lot of do— Turn around for me. [inhales loudly] Nope." Like just breaking your dog's heart right in front of the Macy's one Saturday a month.

Justin: Do you think they do have other dogs in the casting? Where they're like, "I don't know babe, I don't get it, but [wheezes] Rusty's going apeshit."

Griffin & Travis: [laugh]

Travis: Oh, like a focus test?

Justin: Yeah, exactly!

Travis: A focus group?

Justin: An instant like, “Rusty’s been trying to rip off his leash since they walked in. We are— This is our dog.”

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: “And I— So listen, owners aren’t gonna click with this dog, but the dogs are gonna go shit about— Like the dogs are gonna crave this food because that’s our surrogate.”

Justin: “You need the Blippi of dogs. Obviously.”

Travis: “Yeah, I don’t get it, but they love it.”

Justin: “They love it.”

Griffin: I don’t think of... Blippi as a natural model. I don’t think I’ve ever—

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I don’t think I’ve ever seen anything Blippi has worn or endorsed—

Justin: I guess what I’m saying is—

Griffin: — and been like, “If he’s into it, I’ve gotta get there!”

Justin: [wheezes] I guess—

Travis: You’re reaffirming Justin’s point.

Justin: I guess what I’m saying Griffin is Blippi is something the kids like that adults don’t get, and this dog in our joke was something that dogs like, but their owners don’t get. So that was the parallel that I was drawing, not that—

Travis: Not that Blippi is a model. [chuckles]

Justin: — not that Blippi is the standard— [wheezes] Not that Blippi is the standard of physical attractiveness.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Or like a kind of a professional model.

Griffin: Okay, I understand the joke now.

Travis: Is that clear?

Griffin: I understand the joke now, and I thank you both for being so patient with me.

Justin: [chuckles] You're so welcome, Griffin.

Griffin: While you explained it.

Justin: I like to think that we can't all be superheroes like *The Crow*, but we can be heroes—

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: — [chuckles] in our day-to-day life.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: And I think that's what *The Crow* would want us to do if he was watching us right now.

Griffin: Thank you, Crow.

Justin: Thank you, Crow, our hero.

Griffin: [sings] "Our Crow is an awesome Crow."

Justin: Huge.

Griffin: I wanna send you guys maybe the best picture I've ever seen on wikiHow, and we're gonna need to figure out how we can share this with our audience. The next subheader is, "Test your dog's temperament in a modeling setting," this is the photo that has accompanied this— this subheader.

[pause]

Griffin: I've texted it to you.

Justin: Oh, it's a text, okay.

Travis: Oh boy.

Justin: You have so many ways of sending me pictures. Wooow, that's really good.

Griffin: Can we describe the image, please?

Travis: Well that's a—

Justin: Do you know the kind of dog it's supposed to kind of be, Travis?

Griffin: Looks like a terrier of some sort.

Travis: Yeah, looks like a bichon frisé.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay, it looks like a bichon frisé, it's on— and it's got four little cowboy boots on and a little cowboy hat.

Griffin: And he looks so stoked to be there.

Justin: And his head is square.

Griffin: It's a really powerful dog.

Justin: Its head is a square.

Travis: Now they put so much work though into the dog and dog accessories that then when it came time to indicate in any way what environment he was in—

Griffin: No.

Travis: — they said, "Oh, I'm not gonna do that."

Justin: Here's what I can say, they found a picture of a dog they could trace, they found a picture of a hat they could trace, they couldn't find pictures of boots on a dog they could trace.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: So that is— It gets pretty wet and wild in there.

Travis: And then it looks like a concrete wall, and like a brown concrete floor.

Justin: Yeah, it's like a prison.

Griffin: Yeah, and you would— I would not— This does not seem like a reputable casting situation.

Travis: No, not at all.

Griffin: Not at all, you have to be wise about that shit. "Even if your furry best friend has the goods, they also need to deliver."

Justin: The "it" factor.

Griffin: "Meaning the fr— they need to be friendly and even-keeled around strangers and other dogs, and sit patiently for a camera. They also need to consistently perform commands without much fuss in a variety of settings." Can you have a dog sexy enough that it can be a piece of shit in the room, and the casting director's like—

Travis: Yup.

Griffin: — "I'm not looking forward—"

Travis: "This is my dog, Jared Leto, and—"

Griffin: "I'm not looking forward to working with dog Jared Leto, [whispers] but he's so fuckin' hot."

Travis: [wheezes]

Griffin: “[whispers] Did you see how hot that dog was? My goodness.”

Travis: And to be fair though, it’s way more acceptable when dog Jared Leto leaves dead animals around for the other actors.

Griffin: That’s expected of dog Jared Leto! [chuckles]

Travis: Makes a lot more sense.

Griffin: May— Is it possible that Jared Leto is just a tall dog in a—

Travis: [chuckles] “Why haven’t I slept, or whatever the version of a dog *Trap?*”

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Jared Leto’s a tall two— bipedal dog, and he doesn’t know why people get so mad about his antics. This is a gift that he has gotten for anyone else in that movie, man. Shit... Will Smith?

Justin: Had—

Griffin: He probably didn’t bring Will Smith dead birds.

Justin: *Morbius* was half-man, half-dog, half-bat, all hero.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Basically.

Griffin: All hit-maker. “Train your dog in basic obedience commands.” I’m gonna skip this because it’s boring. Hey. “Building a portfolio and social media presence.

“Take professional headshots of your dog. Just like a human model, dog models need their own portfolio to show to agencies and directors, and a portfolio begins with a headshot.” The dogs probably aren’t showin’ the portfolios though, huh?

Justin: No, probably.

Travis: But do be careful about letting your dogs have access to social media, because eventually if they do get famous, people are gonna start scrubbin' through like their old tweets and stuff, lookin' for anything.

Griffin: And I will also say this. It's gotta be a tough road to hoe, because we're been doing this show for about as long as a dog can live.

Justin: [wheezes]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: And so if we—

Justin: And we're still—

Griffin: If we—

Justin: And we're still honestly— [chuckles]

Griffin: We're crushing.

Justin: We're honestly scra— Well, yeah.

Griffin: We're crushing, we're crushing.

Justin: Or we're—

Travis: We're crushing it. Not as—

Justin: But like we're still fighting for every scrap, you know what I mean? Like we have to— we have—

Griffin: What I'm saying— And I'm saying that—

Travis: The level we are is still lower than like really famous dogs, you know what I mean?

Justin: Yeah, it's right.

Travis: Right.

Griffin: Oh my god, Travis. It's adorable that you think we're even approaching the level—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: — of very famous dogs.

Justin: The—

Griffin: Did you see *Deadpool*?

Travis: That dog.

Griffin: That's got a very famous dog— We'll never be Deadpool Dog. No fucking way.

Travis: No that's aspirational for us.

Griffin: That's aspirational, absolutely.

Justin: Have you guys discovered, while looking for things on the Cameo service, how many pets there are?

Griffin: Yeah, there's a lot.

Justin: That's a go— If you wanna build your brand, you could just put your duck on there, and for \$8, your duck'll stand in front of a sign of your name or whatever. That's a great way to start gettin' the word out.

Griffin: Yup.

Justin: 'Cause then friends show friends, like, "Hey, this duck stood in front of a name— a sign with my name on it."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And that's gonna blow it up.

Griffin: My point is we've been doing this show for 14 years and change, and we have built ourselves an empire on hard bedrock.

Travis: Unshakable.

Griffin: When you start a cat or dog social media website, you are building your house on sand, to quote the Bible.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: That's all I'm saying, best case scenario. You're not going to get two decades. You're not going to vest, do you know what I mean? Like it's— You're not gonna have your IPO probably in that window of time.

Justin: Yeeeeeah, but the other thing I'll say is that if one of us kicks at 10AM, you can't have another one of us Instacarted to the house by two PM.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: You know what I'm saying?

Travis: That's an excellent point!

Justin: Like.

Griffin: [through laughter] Are you saying you're gonna Instacart a new—? Like, "Aw man, this one stopped." Fwip! [imitates tapping on a phone] "Oh shit, PetSmart just delivers dogs! Amazing."

Travis: I am saying Griffin that if you have a famous Dalmatian and that Dalmatian beefs it, it would be way easier to replace that Dalmatian—

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: — than to replace me in a way [chuckles] that people wouldn't be like, "That's not Travis." [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay, now hold on. Because when you say, "replace," are you suggesting that you just do a *Indiana Jones* schwoop, dog swap without mentioning like, "No, that's a—"

Travis: If I have a successful Cameo business going where people are buying Cameos from my duck to stand in front of their name, and I've got a backup of orders, and that duck beefs it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: [squeals]

Justin: I think— Yeah.

Griffin: Duck's eas— All ducks look pretty much— You can get an identical looking duck. I feel like dogs would be more difficult to replace.

Travis: We've stepped on a lot of toes in the past, Griffin—

Griffin: I really did.

Travis: — with stupid comments and everything, do you really wanna upset duck friends?

Griffin: I love ducks, I think ducks are great. They're not— They're better than geese, by a huge factor. You want—

Justin: And now geese people, now geese people. Thank you, Griffin, that's great.

Travis: Yeah, there's not geese people.

Griffin: I do not think we could get them on Instacart, but I bet we could swap— People say that I look like a lot of dudes, so if I beefed, I bet you guys could get someone in here, and that would take—

Travis: That's why I didn't say you, Griffin. I specifically did say myself.

Griffin: Yeah. No, you're one of a kind.

Travis: Thank you.

Griffin: So let's— I look like a lot of the characters in *Arthur*. Which is heartbreaking to me.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't—

Travis: Now is that your own judgment, or have you been told that?

Griffin: I've gotten a lot— I've been told that by— I've seen multiple screenshots of the sh— of the characters from the show *Arthur*, or people saying literally just like, "Dis you?" and me saying like, "That hurts." [wheezes] I don't think that—

Travis: It hurts 'cause it's true.

Griffin: And I— when I say *Arthur* I mean the cartoon about the aardvark, and not like the British man who's like— gets so sexy. "Create a resume and an online portfolio for your dog." I think we did that. "Create social media accounts for your dog and engage with other users." That's weird.

Travis: As a dog? As the dog?

Justin: As the dog?

Griffin: Yeah. That would be cool if someone was like, "Cute puppers," and then you just responded like, "ojhfwedijnaldsfjiosd," just like a string of letters, just like, "Yeah, the dog typed on the keyboard for that one."

Travis: Oh okay, I thought you were gonna say like a, "Woof woof," like, "Bow wow" response. "Bark bark."

Griffin: Mmm... Yeah, that could work.

Travis: We're using text to speech. [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay, then that would make sense.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, I got myself really good with that one, I thought that was really funny.

Justin: I could tell, yeah.

Griffin: "Post sponsored content on social media. Once your social media page is off the ground, you'll get approached by smaller brands that will offer to pay you in exchange for posting a picture of your dog posing with their product, or a similar situation." They will?

Justin: When will that happen for us, is what I would like to know.

Travis: Well, now here's the difference though. The leeway, the leniency that one is willing to offer a dog should they partner with what turns out to be a very problematic company.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I bet that there's a lot more leeway given to a dog when the dog's like, "Oop," and they're like, "Yeah man, it's a dog. What's it gonna do?"

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: "What, was he gonna get online and do some deep research? He's a dog."

Griffin: He's a dog, you can't get mad at a dog. Look at him. "Browse and apply to canine talent agencies."

Justin: Ohhh, gotta be careful there.

Griffin: Okay, do we— Okay, there's some— Okay. I'm looking at the names of some actual industry-leading pet talent agencies. We got Top Dog Talent Agency.

Travis: Sure.

Griffin: That kicks ass, man.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Fucking kudos to...

Travis: Slam dunk.

Griffin: Whoever founded that company, and named it, that's great.
"What's our company gonna be called? We're gonna work with dogs."
"Top Dog Talent Company."
"I love it."

Travis: Now that could be misleading though, because if I'm looking for a talent agent for myself, I'm like, "Oh, they're the top dog in the business."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "I wanna work with them."

Griffin: We've got frickin' Hollywood Animals, we go ACGS, but the best, Pawsitively Famous. You gotta get in there—

Justin: Sorry, one more time.

Griffin: — the profit margins on these are so huge.

Justin: Sorry, Pawsitively Famous?

Griffin: Pawsitively Famous. Paws, paws.

Travis: Paws. Pawsitively.

Griffin: Like a dog paws.

Justin: Oh wow.

Griffin: I gotta— Now I'm—

Justin: Supplying the animal stars of tomorrow today.

Griffin: Guys, I'm lookin' at some of these— I'm looking at ACGS, All Creatures Great and Small.

Justin: Uh-huh.

Griffin: And I'm looking at a fucking just list of dogs. I— Sometimes when I'm looking at— wanna look at a cute animal, I just like Google "cute animal." This is foolish I'm realizing, because now— Guys, they rep the Afflack duck!

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: Whoa, that's huge.

Griffin: This is fucking huge! I think... I am not... a dog guy. I like `em. I'm always like— It's always— When they're around, I'm like, "Oh cool," as long as they're not like jumpin' on my children and getting them like super freaked out.

Justin: Yip.

Griffin: I've never thought about them as a revenue stream, or a way to diversify our own sort of portfolio of entertainment products. Travis. Your dogs are all three of ours now.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: You haven't done a good enough job getting Lily and Buttercup out there.

Travis: Now, to be fair, a big part of that Griffin is I had a website for buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com and I fully intended to set up a similar website for Lily when she came into my home, and Justin did swoop that URL before I could get to it. So that is kind of on Justin that he didn't monetize that in an effective way.

Griffin: Well, it looks like he's given it back, `cause I just went to that URL and it is just a picture of your dog.

Travis: But—

Griffin: You could've trimmed— If this is the headshot— Are you taking notes on the headshot for Buttercup?

Travis: Yeah, is that on buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com or lilysaverygoodgirl.com?

Griffin: Buttercup.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Oh no.

Travis: She's relatable.

Justin: Lilyisaverygoodgirl.com redirects to my X page, so I do need to update that, I will say.

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh, your page on X, yeah get that— [laughs]

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: What are you— Oh, Juice is churning out the good content over there.

Justin: Oh yeah, he's—

Travis: If you look at that picture of Buttercup in front of that Christmas tree and you tell me you're not buying somethin' from that dog.

Griffin: Ummm... Yeah no, that's a great picture. I'm talking about the header picture, Travis. It's a little—

Travis: It adds relatability, Griffin.

Griffin: It's a little— It's cruff.

Travis: It's relatability.

Griffin: It's a little scruffy, I've just saying you— Like if you— You gotta take your dog to the groomer before you take them in for the headshots.

Travis: No, but her whole deal is that she's a scruffy puppy.

Griffin: What is this picture communicating to me? As a casting agent for dogs?

Travis: "Oh, this dog's seen some shit."

Griffin: Yeah, I don't know that that's necessarily gonna move product, Trav.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: You don't wanna be grim

Travis: But maybe you'd wanna cast her in a thing like a she crosses the country to find me. She finds it harrowing.

Justin: Oh, post-apocalyptic.

Griffin: People don't want *Homeward Bound* anymore.

Travis: Aw man.

Justin: Yeah, we're over that, we're over that.

Griffin: [chuckles] New *Homeward Bound* would be—

Justin: And we're not doing post-apocalypse anymore.

Griffin: New *Homeward Bound* would be so fast. It'd be like— They would just like get on an Amazon truck and get there in like no time.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: They would get there in an email.

Travis: Okay, well I'll see what I could do Griffin, and maybe get [sighs] some new headshots of my 14-year-old dog.

Griffin: I'm already on it, Travis. Your dog is all three of our dog now, so. [chuckles]

Travis: Oh yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Sure.

Griffin: We'll take— We'll handle some— pick up some of your legwork here. Of course there will, we will need to have a talk about profit-sharing.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I'm just saying that maybe what we wanna do is to get like a puppy now.

Griffin: No no no no no.

Travis: And build— Okay.

Griffin: No no no no no. Too much work. Have you seen *The Social Network* movie?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: I live my life by it, Griffin, are you kidding me?

Griffin: [cackles] Okay.

Justin: [wheezes] It's his Bible.

Griffin: Yeah, okay, cool. It's— Okay. I was gonna say, we're gonna Eduardo you pretty good, I think, out of your dog. Eventually, once it really pops off.

Justin: Once she's—

Travis: Okay, that would be an honor.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Just to feel like I'm finally living a scene from *The Social Network*, it would be amazing.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Justin: We'll let you do the costumes and stuff like you're always asking.

Travis: Thank you so much.

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Justin: It's no problem.

Travis: It means the world to me. You know what's even cooler? Money Zone.

[transition theme music plays]

Travis: Drop the "The."

Griffin: Travis sometimes has arguments with Rooney Mara in public places.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: Just to feel like he's in *The Social Network* movie.

Travis: But I pay good money for those Cameos. It's like a Cameo kinda deal and her argue with her over my phone, I script it all out.

Griffin: Yeah. She's busy, man.

Travis: She is busy, but she makes the time, and that's one of the things I appreciate about her.

Justin: You know what I appreciate? Havin' meals. And not havin' to make 'em myself. Hi. [chuckles] My name's Justin McElroy, and I'm a paid endorser for Factor.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: If— [chuckles] If you want to. But I am not— I'm not just sayin' this because they gave us money, I'm saying this because they gave us a meal.

Griffin: Your— You're talking like—

Travis: Yeah, but you wouldn't be saying it— Hold on. But you wouldn't be saying it here in this moment—

Justin: You're right.

Travis: — if they hadn't given you money.

Griffin: Otherwise yeah. You're also speaking in a tone that suggests that the three of us were having a conversation, and then me and Travis suddenly froze.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And you turned and walked toward the camera in a single spotlight.

Justin: Have you—

Travis: "Has this ever happened to you?"

Justin: Guys, we should be able on this show to try somethin' new, without havin' to build a whole proscenium around it.

Travis: "So there I was."

Justin: Accept that we'll take—

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "Having a conversation with my brothers on a podcast. And then."

Griffin: "Grumble grumble."

Justin: We—

Griffin: “Oh, my tummy’s—”

Justin: We should be able— This should be a space for experimentation. It’s both a lab and a factory, do you understand that?

Griffin: Sure sure sure.

Justin: This is both a lab and a factory!

Griffin: It’s a lab, a factory, and a restaurant. [laughs] It’s all three things. We think it, we make it, you have it.

Justin: Factor will sell you food! [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: That’s— They’re legally required to!

Griffin: Oh boy.

Travis: They have to sell you food!

Justin: No, if you want something that actually tastes good, and you’ll feel good about eating good, doesn’t take a bajillions years to make, then that actually exists, even though it doesn’t seem possible. It’s Factor.

These are no prep, no mess, never frozen meals, and they’re ready to eat in two minutes. And they’re genuinely really good, it doesn’t feel like you’re eating, you know a— some prefab thing, it feels like a real meal that you’ll really like. How about blackened salmon?

Travis: How about it?

Griffin: Oh.

Justin: You guys ever heard of a little thing called [pronounced phonetically] fillet mignon?

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I haven't, but it sounds delicious. And—

Griffin: My dentist is Phillip Mignon. [chuckles]

Justin: [giggles] You don't have to shop, you don't have to prep, you don't have to cook, you just have to enjoy the food.

Head on over to factormeals.com/brother50, use code "brother50" to get 50% off your first box, plus 20% off your next month. That's code "brother50" at factormeals.com/brother50 to get 50% off your first box, plus 20% off your next month while your subscription is active.

Griffin: No—

Travis: Do you wanna monetize your dog?

Justin: Sure.

Griffin: Trav, I wanted to talk about— You know what I'm doin' right now, while we're supposed to be doing this ad?

Travis: What?

Griffin: [chuckles] I'm playing a game that you have put up on buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com. There's interactive elements to this on this powerful website that, if I'm reading this correctly at the bottom of the page, it is powered by Squarespace.

Travis: That's correct.

Justin: You've put games into it, and so no-one's going to do the ad. Is that what I'm hearing?

Travis: No sorry, these are—

Justin: These guys are just sitting in silence.

Travis: Hey, Justin, sorry, it's just one game. I don't wanna get people too excited.

Justin: [chuckles] It's not an arcade. It's a dog website.

Travis: It's not an arcade.

Justin: Right, please.

Griffin: Juice, you're gonna have to do— I'm trying to get the high score with this fucking dog.

Justin: But I just did— [chuckles] But I just did my job, you have to do part of the work too, or I'll tell Dad.

Griffin: Oh, man.

Travis: That's fair, okay.

Griffin: Calling Dad, alright.

Justin: I'm calling.

Travis: Squarespace is an all-in-one website platform—

Justin: I'm calling him.

Griffin: Don't call Dad.

Travis: — for entrepreneurs looking to monetize their dog, and maybe also like their business or whatever. And Squarespace makes it easy to create a beautiful website, engage with their audience, and sell anything from products to content to time, to dogs.

Oh well not do— I meant— I don't know, maybe you could sell dogs, meh. All in one place, all on your terms. Well adopt. You could, I don't know, rent out dogs?

Justin: I don't adopt a do— It's a— We knew each other before we met, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: It's just like refind, that's what it is.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's re— How about find the other half of your heart?

Travis: Oh yeah! So, start a completely personalized website with a new guided design system Squarespace Blueprint. Choose from professionally curated and layout styling options to build a unique online presence from the ground up. Now listen, I was gonna say if you wanna see what Squarespace could do, go to buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com.

Griffin: Don't.

Travis: I do not think buttercupisaverygoodgirl.com is perhaps the best showcasing of what you're able to do on Squarespace. So maybe there's probably a lot of better examples, because you can make—

There's so much you could do, including making checkout seamless for your customers with powerful tools, you can accept credit cards, PayPal and Apple Pays in eligible countries, all kinds of different options including Afterpay and Clearpay.

You can upload content, organize your video library, and showcase your content on beautiful video pages. You can even set it— sell access to your video library by adding a paywall.

So, go to squarespace.com for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, go to www.squarespace.com/mybrother to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

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Austin: Have you been looking for a new podcast all about nerdy pop culture? Well, I have just the thing for you. [in a dramatic reverb] *Secret Histories of Nerd Mysteries*.

Brenda: *Secret Histories of Nerd Mysteries* is a weekly pop culture history podcast hosted by me, Host Austin.

Austin: And me, Host Brenda. We've already tackled mysteries such as what happened to the puppets from *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*? Is Stimpy Mexican? And why do people hate Barney so much?

Brenda: From theme parks to cartoons, to '80s, '90s, and 2000s nostalgia, we tackle it all.

Austin: Check us out, every Tuesday on maximumfun.org, and wherever you get podcasts.

[rock music plays]

Mike: Hey, this is Mike Cabellon.

Ify: Ify Nwadiwe.

Sierra: And Sierra Katow.

Mike: The hosts of *TV Chef Fantasy League*.

Sierra: Where we apply fantasy sports rules to cooking competition shows.

Ify: We're not professional chefs, or fantasy sports bros.

Sierra: Just three comedians who love cooking shows and winning.

Mike: We'll cover *Top Chef*, *MasterChef*, *Great British Bake Off*, and whatever's in season really.

Sierra: Ooo, you know chef's love cooking whatever's in season.

Ify: We draft a team of chefs at the top of every series.

Sierra: And every week we recap the episode and assign points based on how our chefs did.

Mike: And at the end of the season, we crown a winner.

Sierra: You can even play along at home if you want.

Ify: Or you can just listen to us like a regular podcast about cooking shows. That's cool too.

Mike: Subscribe to *TV Chef Fantasy League* on maximumfun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

[rock music fades out]

--

Justin: [from a distance] [imitates rock guitar]

Travis: Oh.

Count Donut: [imitates rock guitar] [sings] [in a Dracula voice] "I want to munch."

Griffin: [gasps] Squad! [giggles]

Count Donut: [imitates rock guitar] [sings] "I want to munch."

Travis & Griffin: [simultaneously] Squad.

Count Donut: [imitates rock guitar] Welcome to *Munch Squad*, it's a podcast within a podcast.

Travis: I'm so excited to see you.

Count Donut: Profiling the latest and greatest in brand eating.

Griffin: Hi Count Donut, it's—

Count Donut: I'm finally able to return to it.

Griffin: What happened? Why were you away?

Count Donut: I was held captive by the evil Count Dracula.

Travis: Oh man.

Griffin: Sorry.

Count Donut: But as he has recently been slain, I find myself free again.

Griffin: Okay, did you see Thracula?

Travis: Crossover.

Count Donut: Dracula.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah. Yeah, so you listened to the podcast? Listen to *TAZ*?

Count Donut: I'm not familiar with what you—

Griffin: We just did a very Dracula-inspired season, we just wrapped it up. I wanna say—

Count Donut: Where was it set?

Griffin: So it was set in a fictional sort of spooky land called Ahngrave.

Count Donut: That's where I live.

Griffin: So, hold on a second.

Count Donut: Canonically.

Griffin: So you're from— But we met you before we started doing *TAZ Versus Dracula*, which is an actual play storytelling—

Count Donut: Correct, and I was free to roam the land, and then once Count Dracula appeared, I was imprisoned. And now that Count Dracula's slain, I'm alive again.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Huh.

Count Donut: Yeah.

Griffin: Pretty sure you were on the show during while *TAZ Versus Dracula* was on the air.

Travis: Can I just say, you're rich—

Count Donut: He let me out.

Travis: You have a rich fiction, a canon that has to change and flow like the sea. And I'm deeply impressed with it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Count Donut: Time out.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Count Donut: Time out?

Travis: Okay.

Justin: [chuckles] So, I didn't wanna do a bunch of Dracula guys [chuckles] at the same time.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: In our shows, so I didn't do it—

Griffin: Oh, is that true?

Justin: — while Griffin was doin' Dracula.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Except for maybe once. I did it like one time, it felt weird. So then I didn't do him again, and so I tried to come up with a reason that was like canonical or whatever.

Griffin: And so he lives in the podcast.

Justin: And then he lives in the podcast. But it doesn't need— You don't need an explanation. The real thing is like I just didn't wanna have a bunch of Dracula guys around.

Griffin: Yeah. I get it.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: It would be confusing for the— Yeah.

Justin: It's time out.

Griffin: And time back in.

Travis: Yeah, time in, time in.

Count Donut: So, can I tell you what I've recently learned—

Griffin: Yeah.

Count Donut: — about the world of donuts?

Travis: Well I wanted to talk some more about how you were trapped by Dracula in Ahngrave during the podcast.

Griffin: Yeah, where did you live? It would be crazy if we ran into you.

Count Donut: Quick.

Griffin: Okay.

Count Donut: Quick time out.

Travis: Okay yeah, time out.

Justin: So guys, obviously that was my way of not having [chuckles] to talk about that anymore.

Travis: Got it, okay.

Justin: So clearly I wanted to move on from that, okay?

Griffin: Trav, can we respect that?

Justin: Time in?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Before we get back into that, can we respect that and not do—

Justin: Is that okay?

Travis: I have so many questions.

Griffin: I know comedy rule of threes feels like— Yeah.

Justin: This is actually exhausting, so.

Travis: Okay, yeah yeah yeah.

Justin: Okay, so alright.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Time in.

Griffin: Time in.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: I promise it.

Count Donut: Would you like to hear what's new in the world of donuts?

Griffin: I want that, yeah I don't wanna hear any more about the— about *Adventure Zone*.

Travis: Yeah, I'd love that.

Count Donut: Well good news, because Krispy Kreme is back, and their teaming up with Dr. Pepper.

Griffin: Okay, Dr. Pepper is kind of big—

Count Donut: For the first time.

Griffin: Okay.

Count Donut: To kick off football season.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Count Donut: With all new donuts. Now when I have donuts and Dr. Pepper around, I'm thinking football.

Griffin: [giggles] I usually don't have—

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: — those two things remotely near each other. Okay.

Count Donut: They're very football, laces out and the donuts in, that's what I say.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Uh, Count Donut?

Count Donut: Laces out, donuts in.

Travis: Count Donut?

Count Donut: Yeah.

Travis: You're a donut expert, obviously.

Count Donut: Ah, thank you, Travis.

Travis: I have noticed that the speed at which places like Dunkn and Krispy Kreme are constantly introducing new iterations of donut, that's not necessary, right?

Count Donut: Oh.

Travis: Is that a thing that donut fans are looking for the latest and greatest in donut technology?

Count Donut: Well, obviously our society is built—

Griffin: Sure.

Count Donut: — to reward novelty. And in these days of Instagram.

Griffin: [snorts] You said that crazy, man.

Count Donut: It's all high impact visuals, and big brands are more impactful than quality, which has led to a gradual downturn in the American fast-food industry.

Griffin: Is this in the press release? 'Cause if so, that's wild.

Count Donut: "Huddle up and hurry up! Krispy Kreme is partnering with Dr. Pepper!"

Griffin: [giggles]

Count Donut: "For the first time ever to kick off the—"

Travis: Are you okay, Count Donut? [laughs]

Count Donut: I just don't know who Dr. Pepper is.

Griffin: Oh.

Travis: He's a medical doctor.

Griffin: No, it's a drink. It's a drink. He's not a medical doctor, don't let Travis trick you, you're not..

Count Donut: What does it taste like?

Travis: Oh.

Count Donut: Answer at the same time.

Griffin: Okay, three, two, one.

Travis: [simultaneously] Spices.

Griffin: [simultaneously] Dr. Pepper.

Count Donut: Dr. Pepper, and did you say braces?

Travis: I said spices, but...

Griffin: Okay, hold on, what fucking spices does Dr. Pepper taste like, Trav? Give me one spice.

Travis: I would say a little bit of cinnamon in there. Maybe some... dried... raspberries.

Griffin: It's like mulled Pepsi.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Imagine that.

Travis: Yeah!

Count Donut: I want to tell you that, "Beginning Friday, August 23rd, for a limited time at Krispy Kreme shops across the US—"

Griffin: So around the— Oh around the— Okay.

Count Donut: "— doughnut lovers and football fans alike can enjoy the Krispy Kreme..." There is an X here. "Krispy Kreme x Dr. Pepper."

Travis: It means it's multiplied by Dr. Pepper.

Griffin: Yeah, which is 23.

Count Donut: So they are teaming exponential. I love it. It's a "doughnut that delivers the refreshing experience of the iconic 23 original flavors of Dr. Pepper."

Griffin: How can that— I—

Travis: Does it?

Griffin: I've never eaten a refreshing donut. I've never eaten a donut and been like, "Nom. Ahhhh."

Count Donut: Yeah. It's challenge. It's a challenge to think of. "Dr. Pep— it's an Original Glazed Doughnut piped with Dr. Pepper flavored frosting, featuring a Burgundy Sprinkle Blend, and topped with a white chocolate Dr. Pepper logo."

Griffin: Yeah, that is what I'm going—

Count Donut: Yumma yumma, can I say?

Griffin: [giggles]

Count Donut: Let me eat all the logos you have, daddy. I am salivating over here. Pile the logos into my mouth, Kreme Man.

Griffin: [laughs]

Count Donut: Slide as many as you can for as many different brands.

Griffin: I—

Count Donut: Ah ah ah ah ah ah.

Griffin: Now I feel like if I ate— This would be the thing I would need to be refreshed from.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: This is going to make me unfresh, this donut, and then I will need perhaps a cold and crisp Dr. Pepper to get myself out of whatever this donut's gonna do to me.

Count Donut: There's a new Buttercreme Goals Doughnut. "An Original Glazed doughnut dipped in green icing, topped with colorful sprinkles and a yellow buttercream flavored goal post."

Griffin: [sighs]

Count Donut: Definitely one of the funnest things in football.

Griffin: I—

Count Donut: I think you boys will agree, we all love to see that giant fork.

Travis: That's not a new donut. We can all agree to that, right?

Griffin: That's a new one. I—

Count Donut: A new donut.

Travis: They piped—

Griffin: Al—

Travis: — a goalpost on it.

Griffin: I also thought you said, "ghost."

Count Donut: So no, it's goals. And there is the last one, it's not only a crème filled football donut, it's "an unglazed doughnut filled with white KREME, dipped in delicious chocolate icing and decorated as a football."

Griffin: You liked that, it seems, or did that hurt you? I couldn't tell if you liked that or didn't like that.

Count Donut: [in a forced American accent] "Two of America's most loved flavors are about to become one amazing gameday sensation to make this the sweetest kickoff to football season ever. This Dr. Pepper collection is a must-add to your gameday lineup, whoever you're cheering for," [regular Dracula voice] says Dave Skena.

Travis: Oh, Dave.

Count Donut: "Global Chief Brand Officer for Krispy Kreme."

Travis: So as I understand it, this Krispy Kreme Dr. Pepper X crossover event is one donut that is—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: — entirely Dr. Pepper themed.

Griffin: And a couple football ones.

Travis: And then two donuts, one that is piped to kinda look like a football, and one donut where they've piped a—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: — goalpost on it.

Count Donut: I— Yes, that's right.

Travis: Why not just the one donut?

Griffin: The one Dr. Pepper— Yeah.

Travis: You could've just got this done.

Griffin: Had that one.

Count Donut: Well, here's the problem with that. Look at this darling goalpost donut.

Griffin: Okay.

Count Donut: It look— they've made little hundreds and thousands out of the people.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, like they're people.

Count Donut: Yeah, like there's people with the hundreds and thousands.

Griffin: That's cool.

Count Donut: It's like they're people—

Griffin: There's also—

Count Donut: — with numbers, it's adorable.

Griffin: Yeah.

Count Donut: And I love the crunch! If I were allowed to eat them at all, I would love the crunch.

Griffin: You're not allowed to eat them? 'Cause it's only blood. I got you.

Travis: No, he can't, he only eats blood, yeah.

Griffin: Can— In that image—

Count Donut: Yeah, vampire. [laughs] Don't forget.

Travis: Well don't say it out loud. Do you have like a lord vampire that's like, "No no no man," or you just don't like it?

Count Donut: Are you allowed to eat batteries? I would guess a—

Travis: When you were in Dracula's castle in Ahngrave—

Count Donut: No-one is telling you not—

Travis: — would he not let you eat donuts, was that the problem?

Griffin: You promised.

Justin: You said, outside of the jokes, outside of the jokes, we paused the jokes.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: You promised.

Justin: You said you wouldn't. You said it.

Travis: But it came up naturally. That wasn't—

Justin: [chuckles] You said— Trav, you said you wouldn't.

Travis: But I felt like I came up organically, I wasn't trying to derail, I was trying to engage.

Justin: I had like—

Travis: I wanted to be interesting by showing interest, Justin.

Justin: I'm do— No, you know what?

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: That's the end of the podcast.

Travis: Aw man!

Justin: That's it—

Griffin: You did it, Trav.

Justin: Sorry! Sorry! Look, I'm puttin' my collar down. No more jokes.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: You'll never— I had two more jokes written about that.

Travis: Aw, can you do one of `em?

Griffin: [giggles]

Justin: [groans]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I guess.

Griffin: Here it comes. Right now, don't wait.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Just shoot it, don't wait.

Justin: I guess.

Griffin: Shoot it, don't wait.

Justin: What?

Travis: Straight from the hip.

Justin: Griffin, Griffin, I have never done a joke under pressure in my entire—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: — fucking life. If William Tell was gonna shoot an apple off my kid's head if I didn't tell him a joke right then, I hope they know how to duck, 'cause I can't—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Ooo.

Justin: I can't do a joke for you. I was in— I have characters who do do jokes.

Travis: Doodoo.

Justin: I'm not the jokes guys.

Griffin: Yeah yeah yeah.

Justin: One of my cavalcade. [chuckles]

Griffin: One of your Jeff Dunham—

Justin: They're the jokes guys, you know.

Griffin: — shelves of—

Justin: [cackles]

Griffin: — of the mind iterations.

Justin: Where is that— When am I gonna get that icon [chuckles] of the head exploding, and like all the characters coming out of the guys' head? I need that, where is that imagery? Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. There wasn't anything else to that press release though.

Travis: What?

Justin: It— I— Yeah, it was— that was all there is for jokes.

Griffin: If I've learned anything about this podcast, guys if we say that we have jokes we're not doing, it becomes the only thing that our audience cares about. This would be the new Gushy Tapes I think if we really didn't clarify there's no more jokes today, we are plum out.

Justin: I really wanna eat these donuts.

Travis: But there's— There is something I do wanna clarify.

Griffin: What, Trav?

Travis: Next week, September 6th and 7th, we're gonna be in Portland, Oregon doing *My Brother, My Brother And Me* and *Adventure Zone* and Rose City Comic-Con, so make sure you get your tickets for that, don't miss out.

If you have questions that you want answered, or a wish to Fungalore that you want read out loud, you can email it to mbmbam@maximumfun.org and put the city that you'll be at the show in the subject line.

And we're also going to, coming up September 21st and 22nd, we're gonna be in Orlando and Atlanta respectively. And also coming up soon we're gonna be in Denver, Phoenix, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee. So go to bit.ly/mcelroytours for tickets and more information.

Griffin: Hey, we are running a back-to-school sale, if you can believe it, over at mcelroymerch.com. Now through the end of September, you can get 20% off fanny packs and backpacks, as well as *TAZ* notebooks, so... I mean show off and show out at your school, and let people know that you listen to a podcast.

Justin: If you find yourself with some free time on Tuesday at noon eastern, or you know any time really with the power of streaming, head on over to the McElroy Family Clubhouse, at the McElroy Family YouTube channel. It's a live show, this last week's was utterly unhinged, and you never know—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: — how wild it will get. Get in there.

Travis: It's both like a show that we do, and like a gaming stream that we do.

Griffin: Yeah, it's everything to us.

Travis: So check it out.

Justin: It's everything.

Griffin: Thank you to Montaigne for the use of our theme song "My Life (Is Better With You)." It is my favorite song, and...

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: And when I think about it, I... I feel... nourished. Can we do the wish to Fungalore?

Travis: Yeah, Justin do you wanna read this one?

Griffin & Travis: [vocalize softly]

Justin: "I wish I would stop saying 'Yabba-dabba-doo.'"

Griffin: Do you wanna try it again in a Fred Flintstone voice?

Justin: I'm Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis Mc—

Justin: "I wish I would stop saying [in a Fred Flintstone voice] 'Yabba-dabba-doo!'"

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: I think the whole thing could be in the Fred Flintstone voice.

Travis: That was really good!

Justin: [in a Fred Flintstone voice] "I wish I would stop saying 'Yabba-dabba-doo!'"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] I'm Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

[theme music fades in]

Griffin & Justin: [chuckle]

Travis: Fred, you gotta get that hernia checked out!

Justin: [laughs] [imitates Fred Flintstone in gruff, garbled speech]

Griffin: [imitates Fred Flintstone unintelligibly]

Justin: Griffin, just say your name.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin: Set us free. This has been *My Brother, My Brother And Me*. Kiss your dad square on the lips.

[outro theme music plays]

[ukulele chord]

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