

MBMBaM 731: Face 2 Face: Good Face Holes

Published September 30th, 2024

[Listen here on mcelroy.family](https://mcelroy.family)

Clint: 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 know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool babyyyy?

[audience cheers]

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

[audience cheers]

Justin: Kasey. Kasey, I have your water, Kasey. Just run up and I'll toss it to you, Kasey. Kasey emailed and said that they were thirsty and would like a water, no-one's ever... [chuckles] No-one's ever thought to do that before, and we've never really specified that we don't take orders on the show.

Griffin: Hey.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I'm gonna specify it now.

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: Here's the—

Griffin: Thanks, Kasey.

Justin: And this is also a one-time only thing.

Travis: Yeah, that's the secret.

Justin: Assuming it be— I mean, never again, but like.

Griffin: I've got— I made some hamburgers back there, guys.

Justin: [chuckles] Guys.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: No one showed up.

Justin: Don't let my fiddle faddle go to waste, this is homemade fiddle faddle. [pause] Is Griffin in cosplay?

Travis: No, we have to say our names.

Griffin: [cackles]

Travis: You haven't done the name part.

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: What up, Trav Nation? I'm your middlest brother.

[audience cheers and applauds]

Travis: Travis "Big Dog Woof Woof" McElroy.

Griffin: And I'm your sweet baby brotherrrr, Griffin McElroy, hello.

[audience cheers loudly]

Griffin: Hey. Just to workshop something real quick, just to check with you all, when our dad comes out here and says, "We love this city," do you feel anything at all?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Do you feel anything at all when he comes out and doesn't even say "Portland"?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: If he says, "We love this city," do you believe him?!

[audience laughs]

Justin: I'm gonna make Dad start carrying a guitar, so I can write the name of the town on the back of the guitar.

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I'm going to make Dad start being honest about the cities he's in, where it's like, "We think this town is fine."

Griffin: "It's okay."

Justin: Start sayin' that some of 'em are stinkers.

Travis: Yeah, or it means nothing.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Like if you say you love all your sons equally.

[audience laughs]

Travis: There's no way.

Justin: No way.

Travis: I know them, I know myself, there's just no way we're all the same cup of tea.

[audience laughs]

Justin: I had a fun interaction on the show floor today. Real quick, I wanted to mention, with Dan Perrin, who's an artist who's worked on *Archie* and a lot of *Archie*-adjacent material for a long time, Syd's a huge *Archies* fan.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I really wanted to get a commission of Syd, and I was so nervous, 'cause that's not really the kind of thing...

Griffin: You do?

Justin: I do, yeah.

Travis: Talking to people?

Justin: Talking to, yeah, like people.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, like talking to people. So I was really—

Travis: Did you look around to see if I was nearby and you could make me do it?

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Well, it's just like— it's because his attention was anywhere else, which was fair, he shouldn't just be staring off into the middle distance, waiting for me to approach, that's fine.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I know that.

[audience laughs]

Justin: But when it's like—

Griffin: That's Travis's secret, he assumes everyone's just waiting for him to approach.

Justin: Right, and he did have a sign. I kept telling myself like, "He wouldn't have a sign up if he didn't want you to ask, it wouldn't have prices on it and everything if he didn't— if he thought I would be rude for asking."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, finally worked up the courage, waited until he looked out into the seats for a second, and I—

Travis: You waited until like the quarter ran out on the previous person so you could put a quarter in.

Justin: And then I said— And then he said, “Oh hi,” and I said, “I would like a commission.”

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: And he said—

Griffin: “Listen boss, I sold a lot of Chevys this month.”

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: And— [chuckles] And then he said, “Very fair, what would you like [chuckles] me to draw?”

[audience laughs]

Justin: And then I said, again ‘cause I wasn’t expecting a follow-up, I said, “I’d like you to draw my wife.”

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Now.

Travis: “Like one of your *Riverdale* girls.”

[audience laughs]

Justin: Now. [chuckles] To my credit—

Griffin: "You will pay me \$1 million—"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "— to draw my wife."

[audience laughs]

Justin: Now, to my credit, to his credit, he was very cool about this, and he— I got my phone out and I said, "This picture," and he said, "I'm actually not doing any like personalized characters, those take much longer on the show floor," and in my head I thought "[mutters] You fucking idiot."

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I can't believe you fucked even this up."
And I said, "That's no problem, I'll take a different picture."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And then he said, "Of who?" and I said... "Betty Cooper, please."

[audience laughs]

Justin: Because again, I was just flailing, and then he said, "Okay," and he said, "When would you like it?" And then there was a long silence.

Griffin: "When would you like it?"

Justin: "When would you like to come back to pick it up?" Another utterly fair question that I... Fuck, a week? Five minutes? What's the—

Griffin: [cackles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: What's the normal time that people give you to do a picture of Betty Cooper they didn't know they wanted until now?

[audience laughs]

Travis: Did you— Did the phrase “I’ll wait” stick in your head? [chuckles]

Justin: “I’ll wait right here, Dan Perrin!”

[audience laughs]

Justin: “Don’t mind me. I’ll be eight feet away, just waiting.”
But he was— I just wanted to say, he was so super nice, and I managed to get through the entire thing eventually. And at some point tomorrow, that I didn’t want to get to specific tomorrow.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I will swing back by Dan and I will get that picture of Betty Cooper from you. And thanks for being very nice to me, if you’re out there. If you walk by Dan, thanks for being cool.

Travis: It would be wild if he was here right now and didn’t wanna draw Sydnee [chuckles] for you then.

Justin: [wheezes]

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: He’s like, “I’m a big fan of your work. To a point.”

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Justin: It’s not that he didn’t want to, he would love to, he just didn’t have time on the con floor.

Travis: Oh, think how embarrassed he is—

Griffin: Did he say—

Justin: I’m gonna have him do—

Travis: He's a huge *My Brother, My Brother and Me*—

Justin: I'm gonna have him do— I already thought about it, I'm gonna have him do a family portrait of the four of us that I can hang over the mantle, like a classy guy.

Travis: Oh, you don't mean the three of us and him. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I also thought that's what you were saying. I believe it was Van Gogh who did customized family portraits with him fuckin' in them also.

[audience laughs]

Justin: I forget sometimes we are also a family. My real family.

Griffin: [cackles]

Justin: Like, my family family.

[audience laughs loudly]

Griffin: [claps]

Justin: [chuckles] The family ones.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] You know, the ones you don't have to pay me to talk to.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Oh man.

Justin: Okay. This is still an advice show.

Griffin: Yes.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Thank you all so much for being here, this is such a gigonzo crowd, it's outrageous.

[audience cheers]

Travis: I'm gonna do my best to remember that there are human beings over there.

Griffin: Yeah, you're—

Justin: Aw.

Travis: And human beings over there.

Justin: Hey, how's it going? Ey!

Travis: What's up?

Griffin: That's the dog pound.

Justin: How's it goin'?

Travis: What up, dog pound?

Justin: It's nice to see you, I'm gonna try to give you as much show as I can, okay? Don't worry about it.

Travis: Now listen folks, before we get started, I just wanna say something real quick. Sometimes this show can get a little silly, a little puerile, a little childish.

Griffin: This is gonna be a bit, isn't it.

Travis: And I just thought we'd start the show.

Griffin: Aw fuck.

Travis: By injecting a little bit of culture into it.

[audience cheers loudly]

Griffin: Yeah, 'cause— No—

Justin: Do it. Do it!

Griffin: It's the— Honestly Travis, it's the fuckin' stinger that's the worst part of this bit.

[audience laughs]

Travis: So, let's do some *Work of Fart*.

[audience cheers]

[*Work of Fart* stinger plays]

Travis: As you all know—

Griffin: You've done this bit enough that you could've found a higher quality, higher res fart sound effect.

Justin: At any time.

[audience laughs]

Travis: That's— Griffin, you don't understand art. Is what I'm finding out.

Griffin: It sounds like a fart sound clip from the SEGA Genesis game, *Revolution X*. Like it sounds—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: 'Kay.

Travis: This is like if I was talking about like *Hamlet*, and you're like, "You'd think that by now, you'd find a new, high-res version of it."

Griffin: I want fully lossless [chuckles] fart audio please, thank you.

Travis: 4K.

Griffin: [chuckles] 4K, yeah.

Travis: I don't know what the audio equivalent is. Alright, so I'm going to give you the description of a classic work, and you guys give me the title. Are you ready?

Justin: I'm born ready.

Griffin: Yeah, man. [wheezes]

Travis: Okay. An ordinary man, and please let me finish before you guess.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Yeah, okay.

Travis: I worked hard on these.

Griffin: Backstage, I saw you.

Travis: Shut up.

[audience laughs]

Travis: An ordinary man—

Justin: I wasn't expecting you guys to be funny for a sec.

[audience laughs]

Travis: You always gotta expect it, baybee. An ordinary man is stranded alone on a desert island and must learn to survive, while sporting a boner that just won't quit.

[pause]

Griffin: [sighs heavily] Oh my god. I mean, it's *Castaway*, but what sounds like a boner there? *Blast*—

Travis: This classic work.

Griffin: Oh, oh, then—

Travis: Tom Hanks's *Castaway*.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Read it again.

Travis: An ordinary man is stranded alone on a desert island and must learn to survive, while sporting a boner that just won't quit.

Griffin: An ordi—

Justin: Is it *Robinson Blueballs*?

Travis: No, I'm sorry Justin.

Griffin: *Throb-inson Crusoe*?

Travis: There it is.

Justin: Ah!

Griffin: Yeah!

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: *Throb-inson Crusoe*, thank you Griffin.

Justin: *Throb-inson Crusoe*.

Griffin: Fuck. I hate how good I am at this game!

[audience laughs]

Travis: A man decides to murder his roommate, but becomes increasingly paranoid when he can still hear his colon beneath the floorboards.

Griffin & Justin: [simultaneously] *Tell-Tale Fart.*

Travis: Ooo.

Griffin: Judges?

Justin: I— Judges?

Griffin: *Tell-Tale Fart*, I—

Justin: Tie.

Travis: That's a tie.

Justin: Yeah, that has to be a tie.

Travis: I guess one point for each.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Okay, that's pointless.

Travis: Two to one.

Justin: Can we just get no points?

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, let's do no points.

Travis: Does that feel better to you?

Griffin: Yeah, no points.

Justin: I'd rather have no points.

Travis: Okay. Salesman Gregor wakes up to find that he has turned into a giant bug that can't stop urinating.

Griffin: *The Metamorpo-piss.*

Justin: *The Metamorpho-piss.*

Travis: I— Griffin got there first.

[audience laughs]

Justin: He didn't— Oh.

Griffin: I did say, "*Metamorpo-piss,*" which.

Justin: He said, "*Metamorpo-piss,*" and unless it's *Metamorpo-piss*—

Griffin: I said *Might Morphin' Piss.* [chuckles]

Travis: *Mighty Morphin' Pissin' Rangers.*

[audience laughs]

Travis: Ah, I'm gonna give it to Justin then, 'cause it's not "*Metamorpo-piss.*"

Griffin: It's not "*Metamorpo-piss.*"

Travis: [chuckles] So that's one to one.

Griffin: *Metamor-porpoise* is the one where he turns into a beautiful dolphin.

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: On land though, so there's some issues.

Griffin: And he's like cool with it.

Travis: I mean, breathes air.

Griffin: Yeah yeah.

Travis: Makes more sense for the dolphin to be on land, really.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: What's it doin' in the water? Get out of there. This— Okay, this is the last one. It's one to one. This Louisa May Alcott novel follows the March sisters Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy, as they age from pooping children to pooping adults.

Griffin: *Shit-tle Women*.

Travis: It is *Shit-tle Women*!

Griffin: Yes!

[audience cheers]

Justin: Griffin, you're profoundly flawed, you're a flawed person.

Travis: I came up with it, Griffin, but you just knew them.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: The faster I get them right, the quicker we get through *Work of Fart*, is sort of my—

[audience laughs]

Justin: It does raise the stakes, yeah.

Griffin: It's sort of like Winston Churchill said, "When you're going through Hell, keep going."

[audience laughs]

Travis: He was talking about *Work of Fart*.

Griffin: [chuckles] I think he was.

Justin: “When I was a kid, I accrued a massive collection of squished pennies from Disneyland and Disney World; pennies that have been mushed through a machine and imprinted with a Disney character.” Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, look at us.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: We all know squished pennies, right? Alright.

Travis: I— What— Might I say also, a timeless thing that my children now, who have access to YouTube, are still interesting squishing pennies.

Justin: It’s amazing.

Griffin: Squished pennies, yeah man.

Justin: It’s amazing, we love—

Travis: Universal. Timeless.

Justin: We love destroying currencies. “I had forgotten about them until I had just moved back to Portland and my parents forced me to go through my keepsakes. I think it’s possible that these might be valuable, and I wanna sell them. Do I hold onto them longer—”

[audience laughs quietly]

Griffin: [snorts]

Justin: “— to add value? Do I post each squished penny individually on eBay? Facebook Marketplace? Also, I have some Beanie Babies.”

[audience laughs]

Justin: “Do they have to be in the packaging for them to be valuable?”

Griffin: [claps once]

Justin: “How do I maximize my fun profit with—” Fun and profit, presumably. “— with these pennies and babies.” That’s from Penniful in Portland.

So I want to return to the first part, but I’d love to know about the second a lot. Because it’s interesting that you’re like, “I don’t wanna Google this, I’m already typin’ to these guys.”

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: “I’ll see if they know before I type it twice into Google. I’ll just toss it on at the end, it’s not relevant to what I was askin’ about, but—”

Griffin: I think— Well at the same time, I think you knooooow. Because you wouldn’t have lumped Beanie Babies in there also.

Travis: As the second half of the question.

Griffin: As the second half of the question, if you didn’t know that the thing in the first half also did not have any value, financially or fungibly whatsoever either.

Travis: But it also says something in your Beanie Baby confidence that that was the PS to squished pennies.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That you’re like, “I’m definitely gonna sell the squished pennies. [mutters] Should I also do the Beanie Babies?”

[audience laughs]

Justin: I think squished pennies, each one of those is a crime. And you cannot put evidence of a crime on eBay.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That’s also a crime. You can’t put crime evidence on eBay.

Griffin: I use—

Travis: Yeah, you gotta sell `em on the dark web. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Yeah, you gotta go to the silk road to sell your frigging Splash Mountain squish penny. "It's a collector's item, man. They shut the ride down."

Griffin: I used to think— [chuckles]

Justin: I saw a news story after they shut Splash Mountain down that said, "They still haven't shut down the Splash Mountain coin machine, everybody. There's a line out the door," and I thought "What the fuck is wrong with them?"

[audience laughs]

Justin: They could've gotten that penny any time in the last 20 damn years—

Griffin: [cackles]

Justin: — and just now, `cause the ride shuts down?

Travis: It says a lot—

Justin: Unbelievable.

Travis: Hey, if you take one thing away from this show, you never know when they're gonna take away that squish penny machine.

Justin: Oh, it's—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: So what's your squish penny machine? Maybe it's that co-worker who you've been meaning to ask out, maybe that's your squished penny.

Griffin: No yeah, jeez, yeah push for that, Trav.

Travis: No, wait.

Griffin: Yeah, harder.

Travis: No no, I can do better! Maybe it's that art school degree. That's better, right?

Griffin: That's way better, my man.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I used to think the squi—

Travis: Well they're both crimes, [chuckles] is what I was going for there.

Griffin: The squished penny machine used to— You had to put a penny in it to be squished, and also you would put some quarters in to pay for I guess [chuckles] the labor? Of the squishing?

Travis: No, you—

[audience laughs]

Travis: That's paying the penny's crossing of the River Styx.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: I— [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: But I did used to think though that it was squishing the quarters in there too, to create some sort of super alloy.

[audience laughs]

Justin: [grunts]

Travis: The quarters are what smushes the penny. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Is you put `em between the quarters, and they bully the penny.

Griffin: I thought it would be a squished penny with ribbons of quarter sort of streaking through it.

Justin: I used to feel bad for those pennies, but that just seems about the best fate they can hope for these days, huh.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Not— They should be— Someone hates pennies.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Thank you for laughing so hard, I hate `em too, man. Alright. [chuckles] I think that it's the only time anybody really interacts with pennies.

Like don't you love when kids are like, "Do you have any pennies for this machine?" like what am I, like a bartender in the 1820s? What am I gonna do with a penny?

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: A penny?

Travis: "Can I Venmo a penny into the machine?" [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Do you wanna— Would you like a hay farthing? Like what's wrong with you?"

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: [away from the mic] A penny.

Travis: No, do five more minutes of penny stuff.

Griffin: Yeah, dude.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Okay, here's the thing. The only reason we haven't gotten rid of 'em is 'cause the minerals that they're made of have a valuable... say in the government. See, pennies.

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I work at a human—"

Griffin: Don't fin— Here's the challenge, you can't finish a sentence during this entire rant.

Travis: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I work—" I'm moving on.

Griffin: "The chemicals inside of 'em—"

Justin: "And the Lincoln!"

Griffin: "You see, when they press the pennies—"

Justin: "See!"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "They caught— They're so heavy, and when you— The truck— "t

Travis: "And they curl, kind of sometimes—"

Justin: "A lot of people think we're on the gold standard, but they're wrong! We're not."

[audience laughs]

[Some audience members cheer]

Travis: "It's Illinois's fault, really."

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: The only things I know about the government are the things I remember from *West Wing*.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Alright? So if it wasn't covered in a *West Wing* episode, I don't really know about it.

Griffin: How about another question?

Justin: "I work at a human tissue library, which entails many types of preservations."

Travis: That was an interesting reaction from the crowd.

Justin: [mildly intrigued] Oh, yeah.

Griffin: Almost an incredulousness.

Travis: "Ugh!"

Justin: Wha?

[audience laughs]

Travis: "One of these again."

Griffin: [scoffs]

Justin: "Which entails—"

Travis: “This old snake oil.”

Justin: “— many types of preservation methods, one of which is liquid nitrogen. I always wanted to do fun experiments with liquid nitrogen at home. Should I steal some?”

[audience laughs]

Justin: “Just a little bit?”

Travis: Just a little bit.

Justin: That’s from Frozen in Rose City.

Griffin: Are you here?

Justin: Hi.

Griffin: Yeah, okay.

Travis: I’m— I think the only thing that off-puts me, hearing it out loud, about the human tissue library is the library part. Because I assume it’s not like a library that I’m thinking of, where you could go in and be like, “Hi, I wanna check out this slice of Pete today.”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] “Could I—”

Travis: “Do you have any Susan I could peruse? To take home, I’ll bring it back.”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I have to think, if I was the boss at the human tissue factory.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: And I—

Travis: [chuckles] Not factory.

Griffin: And I heard—

[audience laughs]

Justin: Not factory.

Griffin: If I was the foreman at the [chuckles] human tissue factory, and someone came to me and said, “Sir, one of our employees has been stealing,” and I— My first reaction would be like, “Oh fuck.”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: But then if you were like, “Liquid nitrogen,” I’d be like, “Well that’s not so bad.”

Travis: “Lead with that!”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Way, way worse stuff you could steal at the human tissue factory, I bet!

Travis: “Why did you pause so long?!”

Justin: I was already—

Griffin: “One of the brains.”
[chuckles] “Fuck.”

Travis: [laughs] “Fuck, one of the good ones? One of the one’s we was gonna use for somethin’ else?!” [chuckles]

Justin: I was all ready to enable you in this question, but when I— when you said, “just a little bit”...

[audience laughs]

Justin: I got more concerned, and less likely to wanna trust you with this. Because the idea that you would ask “just a little bit” lets me know you know you shouldn’t have a lot.

[audience laughs]

Justin: You need to limit your own amount for your own sake, and the sake of your friends and family.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Do it.

Griffin: I think it's one ounce of liquid nitrogen, and it's just a misdemeanor at that point.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I do think that— I do think it's important to qualify, because if someone said like, "They've been stealing from our business," and I was like, "Throw 'em in jail," and they were like, "Yeah, it's just 55 cents," I'd be like, "Oh, that's fine. [chuckles] That's actually okay."

Griffin: How much does liquid nitrogen cost? We don't know. Can you replace it with solid or gaseous nitrogen instead? Just do a quick swap, one for one.

Travis: Yeah, and—

Griffin: Technically there's gaseous nitrogen everywhere, so this is barely even a crime, if you think about it.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Or—

Travis: Or liquid nitrogen, I can give you hydrogen and oxygen in the same weight right now.

Justin: Just return it in a different state.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Then it's not theft.

Travis: [gasps] [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: I'm pretty sure it's in the air, right?

Justin: It's in the air.

Travis: Right? [chuckles] Guys, is there nitrogen in the air?

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: I think there's more of that than oxygen, believe it or not.

Travis: Is that true?

Audience: Yeah.

Travis: There you go.

Griffin: That's so fucked up, man.

Travis: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: And another thing about the government and the way they control our nitrogen!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Who does your— Who's your boss to tell you it's not yours? That's part of Mother Earth, man, take it back.

Justin: I didn't know they used it for stuff other than experiments, so I— that is very interesting to me.

Travis: Yeah, they use it to make weird food and stuff.

Justin: I only know about it from Mr. Wizard and stuff, so I just assumed it was a Mr. Wizard type thing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Sorry, I saw it at COSI, where they'll put the hotdog in there and smash it, that's hilarious.

Travis: They do— I've mostly seen liquid nitrogen used to shatter things [chuckles] that shouldn't be shattered.

Justin: That's the main thing I know about it, for sure.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I would say, between COSI and *CSI*, which is close to COSI if you think about it, just take the "O" out of there.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, sure.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Is I spent a lot of my younger years terrified that I would someday have it spilled on me and shatter, like Boris from *Goldeneye*.

Griffin: Yeah yeah, sure.

[audience laughs]

Justin: You're right, that's very fair. You know it's like when you get the dry ice in a shipment and it says all over the dry ice "Don't touch this. Throw it away right away."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I'm like, "Uh no." [chuckles]

Travis: No.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Or—

Travis: Yeah, I'm gonna need to pretend to be a witch real quick, so.

Griffin: [cackles]

Justin: Yeah, let me see how fun this stuff is.

[audience laughs]

Justin: But I got a laser pointer, so I think I'm actually kinda good right now, playing with it.

Griffin: I'm gonna turn my toilet into a spooky cauldron.

Travis: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: So. Yeah, I think definitely will. You don't want me to waste this, do you?

Griffin: But then I think your toilet explodes, you're like, "Damn."

Justin: Dang.

Griffin: "They should put a fucking warning on this!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: Spell went wrong, I don't know what to tell yah.

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: That would be— That, man, I don't wanna explain that to a plumber. [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I super don't.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Like, "Yeah, so it was... You ever pretend to be a wizard?"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "How much toilet magic do you deal with in your..."

[audience laughs]

Justin: "These darn kids, I gotta talk to 'em about it."

Griffin: "I saw on your Angie's list that you've worked with toilet magic in the past."

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "And you won't talk to other plumbers—"

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: "— if a client does something very bad or wrong."

Griffin: It said on your—

Travis: "Promised plumber client confidentiality."

Griffin: "It said you were very discrete."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: "I need a discrete plumber, experienced with toilet magic."

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs] "And you're from another state, right?"

Griffin: [giggles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "You don't know anyone I know? Perfect."

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I am currently at a sushi conveyor belt place, and I just fell over and ate shit while walking to my seat."

Griffin: [wheezes]

Justin: "I'm in heels and it was very slippery. The waiter seated me, solo diner, opposite two women. They're about my age and absolutely saw me eat shit, and every time a waiter interacts with me, they stop talking and look at me."

Is there any way to make this less awkward? Am I meant to say something, or should I keep [chuckles] looking down at my phone and pretending they don't exist?" That's from *Bothered in Birmingham*. Okay, so you gotta acknowledge that you eat shit.

Travis: First, get up off the floor.

Justin: [chuckles] Yes.

Travis: Then come to the show.

Justin: You have to acknowledge that you ate shit immediately, because if in 20 minutes you're like, "God, do you guys remember when I ate shit earlier?"

[audience laughs]

Justin: [chuckles] "That was so fucked up, I just fell right over."

Travis: Yeah. "I— Oh, I can't eat any of this delicious sushi, I already ate shit."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: If I did that, not a joke, I would stand up and walk out.

Griffin: Walk right out of the restaurant.

Justin: Walk right out.

Griffin: I would sit down on the conveyor belt.

Justin: Not to be, not to be today. Not to be.

Griffin: I would sit on the conveyor belt and let it take me back into the parking lot.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Here's what I would actually do, now that I think about it. I would continue my journey up to the front, I would look at it for seven seconds and go "Eh."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: And turn around and leave.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "It costs how much? No."

Justin: "Oh no, this is too expensive for me, a falling guy."

Travis: "I don't eat at a place with slippery floors."

Justin: "Who do—"

Travis: I know enough about myself to know that if this happened to me, I would be less embarrassed about eating shit than I would be whatever weird whimsical noise my body would make coming out of my mouth.

Griffin: Whoa! Yeah, sure. [chuckles]

Travis: Whoa! Ha-ho!

Griffin: Ya-ya-ya-ya-ya-ya-ya-ya-ya.

Travis: Woopie! Whatever noise that my brain goes "I know how to make this less awkward."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "We'll make a noise that acknowledges we didn't intend to do this."

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: "But how can we do it brain?"

"I know, make the noise whimsical, and nonsensical. Maybe a 'Ha-ha-hwey!' when you do it."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I mean there's another way to go with this, and it's as you fall go like, "Oh no!"

Travis: "Not again!" [wheezes]

Griffin: So that everyone sees you, and you look so— Just while these two people are talking and just trying to have a [chuckles] quiet meal together—

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: — while a stranger has been sat across from them, for reasons beyond my comprehension.

Travis: I assume the conveyor belt's in between. That you're not sat at the same table.

Griffin: That's what it sounded like, but I— We don't really know what the layout of this was.

Travis: [chuckles] The waiter was like, "I was gonna sit you by yourself, but I think you need some company right now."

[audience laughs]

Justin: I would stand up and immediately piss my pants.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Immediately. No hesitation.

Griffin: Why? To what end?

Justin: Solidarity. Now it's the both of us here.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Justin: Now we're both here.

Travis: You're not saying—

Justin: They fall over.

Travis: You're not saying— You're saying— Okay.

Justin: I stand up and I'm like [sings] "Do you hear the peop—" And I piss my pants.

[audience laughs]

Travis: I thought you were saying if you fell down in a sushi restaurant—

Justin: Nah.

Travis: — you'd stand up and you'd be—

Justin: No, if you see—

Griffin: "Yeah, as long as I'm doin' this thing."

[audience laughs]

Justin: If you see a fam— another family member [chuckles] in God's love across the room fall over.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You gotta piss your pants right then. And then somebody else should like empty out their pockets and a bunch of stuff they're embarrassed of falls out. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, [chuckles] it's beautiful.

Justin: Like we should all make a mistake.

Travis: If you were—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: If you— What if you ate shit.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And then you pointed at anyone else in there and you say like, "And you didn't catch me."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "We were filming this whole time."

Griffin & Justin: [simultaneously] "I'm John Quinonez, get out—"

Justin: "— of here." [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: Could you round to everyone in the restaurant and just [mutters] "Hey, look, that's a— it's a wet floor over there."

Travis: [chuckles] "It's a wet—"

Griffin: "Wet floor."

Justin: "And I don't know if you noticed, but we have a sign for wet floors."

Travis: "It could've happened to anybody."

Griffin: "And I'm so sorry for falling down. I'm normally not like this, and I promise I'll be on better behavior before—"

Travis: Yeah. "I'm actually a surgeon, I have very steady hands."

Griffin: [wheezes]

Travis: "This isn't like me at all, and I'm gonna give you this coupon for one free surgery to make up for interrupting your meal."

Griffin: I would show everyone how good I was with the chopsticks.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Just "Everyone watching?"

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: Very, very delicate.

Travis: Very steady.

Griffin: Very steady.

Justin: "I would like you two to know that it also hurt a great deal."

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: "So while you're laughing over here, you should know that I'm in a great deal of physical pain."

[audience laughs]

Travis: "It also hurt that neither one of you has asked how I'm doing."

[audience laughs]

Justin: “I’m a costume designer—”

Griffin: Do you think they’re gonna do an episode of *Mr. Bean* where he’s in a conveyor belt sushi restaurant? I think it’d go a little something like this. I’m not actually gonna do it.

Travis: Do it!

[audience laughs]

Justin: You see the train moving out of the station, and you’re like, “Wait! Wait! Wait!” And then you kick the train off the rails.

Griffin: Alright, but think about Mr. Bean in a sushi conveyor belt restaurant.

Travis: He ends with it on his naked body.

Griffin: Guys.

Travis: How’d we get to there? He’s a human platter, we can all agree to that.

Griffin: It’s a fuckin’ life hack, if you’re ever on stage at a live show.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Don’t listen to this—

Travis: Shh, shh, shh. No, wait.

Griffin: Here on—

Travis: You could make a lot— No, wait.

Griffin: If it feels like the energy’s flagging on stage at a live show, you just say, “Imagine if Mr. Bean did this,” and then the audience is gonna have their own jokes that they do in their head for a while.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: And it's like *Inception*, they put them there themselves, it's the best kinda jokes.

Justin: [giggles] If you are not thinking about Mr. Bean while you are watching our show also—

Travis: [wheezes]

Justin: — you're really only getting half of the experience.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: This is a dual—

[audience laughs]

Travis: You know—

Griffin: This is a dual screen experience.

Justin: It's only half as funny as it could be if you were also imagining Mr Bean getting into hijinks

Travis: You know how scientists believe that human beings only use 10% of their brains to watch *My Brother, My Brother And Me*?

[audience laughs]

Travis: We here at McElroy Enterprises have a pill that's gonna let you use the other 90% to imagine what Mr. Bean would be doing at a conveyor sushi restaurant.

Griffin: He eats a ball of wasabi, imagine his fucking face, guys.

[audience laughs]

Travis: The chopsticks alone are gonna give you 20 minutes of material.

Griffin: Oh my god, so much good stuff.

Travis: He goes to snap `em in half, and like one and a half goes, and he's just got half of a chopstick in one hand.

Griffin: That's funny.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Let's keep workshopping. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "I'm a costume designer in theater. Throughout my job, I've found myself frustrated when the adults I work with do not understand basic concepts of how to care for their clothing.

I often have to explain over and over what can and can't go in delicate bags, or their costumes will not be washed if they don't put in the laundry basket, et cetera. I even had an actor recently try to steam a shirt while he was wearing it."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: That's good.

Justin: That seems—

Griffin: That sounds good to me.

Justin: Seems okay.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "I—"

Travis: What? You wanna try to steam it while it's wadded up on the ground? Come on.

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: “How can I gentle parent my adult coworkers into understanding basic laundry and clothing care?” That’s from Consumed—

Griffin: Confused.

Justin: Confused, not Consumed, that would be terrible.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Confused Costumer in Multnomah County.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah, it’s hard— [sighs] Can we just— Can once a year, can the President come out and say—

Travis: The President of what?

Griffin: America, come out and be like, “What’s up, gang? This is how we’re doin’ laundry now.”

[audience laughs]

Justin: ‘Cause I remember early on, everybody was wild about separating whites and colors out. And then I did that for a couple of times and I didn’t really get it, so I never did that again.

Travis: We got better at making clothes that weren’t wet— I think we got better, it’s not just throwing some dye at it and hoping it stays on there for the rest of time. I think we got better at it.

Justin: I recently saw on— Then I’ll get a TikTok from some competent-seeming person who’s like, “You’re still using fabric softener, pervert?!” and it’s like—

Travis: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: “What’s wrong? I thought we liked that.”

Griffin: So I need the President to come out and be like, "If you're still using fabric softener, by the way, you're a fucking pervert."

[audience laughs]

Justin: We're all on the laundry rinse now. I never even knew that was an option.

Travis: I would like to get like a PDF printout of what can go in the drier and what I need to hang up.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That I can reference every time.

Griffin: Every shirt should just have a big design on the front of it that's like, "Go for it" or "Nah."

Travis: Yeah, "Small as it's gonna get."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Sorry man."

Justin: I recently had to replace my washer, and it has AI functionality built into it.

Griffin: Why not?! Yeah! Fuckin' sure.

Justin: Wait. But like seriously though. Do we need 'em for this one? I mean.

[audience laughs]

Justin: If they're dirty, we clean them. If they're wet, dry 'em. I mean I don't know—

Travis: The only—

Justin: — what intelligence we need in here, right? If the clothes are dry—

Travis: The only thing it's gonna like learn and refuse, like, "These are getting grosser." [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "Hey man, I'm worried about you."

Justin: "These are starting to smell, you have—" [wheezes]

Travis: "You have made a lot of choices I can't agree with."

Justin: "You've done the hot tumble button like 20 times to avoid having to fold them. Are you sure you're doing okay?"

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "You keep throwing in a wet towel and drying them all again. Are you alright?"

Travis: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: "Please, clean my lint trap, I'm so full."

Justin: "Please."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: I think that the problem is when you're a theater costume person and you're dealing with this, the problem is that in the show, the person's character doesn't do laundry.

Justin: Oh.

Travis: And they're so deep in character—

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: — that they're like, "What even is this?"

Griffin: Yes, that's a good point.

Travis: "What do I do with these socks?"

Griffin: "This is *Little Women*, we didn't— This is *Sh*— We're putting on *Shittle Women* tonight."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "And back then—"

Travis: "Also we're getting shut down tomorrow." [chuckles]

Griffin: "Also, we're getting shut down, this is not—"

Justin: "Nobody bought any tickets at all, actually."

Griffin: "We used— They washed their clothes with like a big, sharp, metal board, and they would dunk `em in poison and stuff. That's all I know."

Travis: [chuckles] "It's all I know. You must do these for me while I sit on my iPhone."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: "Backstage, not worrying about it anymore."

[transition theme music plays]

Travis: Justin.

Justin: Travis.

Travis: Look in front of you right now, what do you see?

Justin: Computer screen.

Travis: Yeah, that's right. You know why?

Justin: Uh, readin' an ad?

Travis: Well, I mean, yes, but more so I was gonna say 'cause like so much business if done online these days.

Justin: I'm doing my business right now. This is— You caught me in my office, listener. This is my office.

Travis: You've caught Justin—

Justin: This is work.

Travis: — doing business, like a real business grown up. That's right, we're business grownups and you can't take that away from us. And—

Justin: You know when it really became real to me, Trav?

Travis: When's that, Justin?

Justin: The day that we opened a website. That was the day, once we finally had a website, that was when my dream of having my own podcast.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I feel like it finally started to become real.

Travis: Okay, I mean we'd done a lot of episodes before that.

Justin: Mm.

Travis: If I remember correctly.

Justin: It's impossible to say, but the important thing is a website, and Squarespace is gonna help you make a website that makes your dream into a reality. So you can live your dreams like podcasting superstar Justin T McElroy.

Travis: That's right.

Justin: They have world-class designers that are gonna help you have a website that you are proud of, whether or not you think you deserve that or not. And yeah, I see you. [chuckles] And I know you think you don't, but you do.

Travis: And listen, our computer overlords, they're coming in, right? They've got cutting edge AI technology. Over there at— design intelligence, right?

Justin: Mmmm.

Travis: So just another thing that robots can do for you, as we lose the ability to do it ourselves.

Justin: Fantastic.

Travis: So there, you got that.

Justin: That's huge. So go to [squarespace.com](https://www.squarespace.com) for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, go to [squarespace.com/mybrother](https://www.squarespace.com/mybrother) to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Travis: Justin, have you ever thought about how, when the robots take over, phrases like, "Get off my nuts" or like, "Huff my nuts" will like be like a whole new meaning for them?

Justin: I think—

Travis: Like it'll be funny 'cause they'll have like nuts and bolts and stuff.

Justin: I think the place that's really gonna mess 'em up the most is Chip Drop. Because Chip Drop is—

Travis: You don't even wanna play in the space with me of like talking about like robot nuts?

Justin: I was doing it, I was doing it.

Travis: Or if they said like, “I gotta bolt.”

Justin: No, Trav, I was doin’ it, ‘cause Chip Drop.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: They would be like [in a robotic voice] “Why do you want to drop your chips?” [chuckles] You know what I mean?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [in a robotic voice] “You need them for processing tasks.”

Travis: Uh-huh. And like truck nuts—

Justin: And that’s—

Travis: When they’re building a truck, they’d be like [in a robotic voice] “I do not get it. All trucks have nuts.”

Justin: But it’s not just that kind of chip, it’s the kind of chip that’s made from wood. This is a really—

Travis: That would blow a robot’s mind.

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah. That would actually.

Travis: Are you kidding me?

Justin: Yeah, that would actually freak them out so.

Travis: If you’re— Maybe if you’re building a steampunk wooden robot.

Justin: No, this is a—

Travis: Picture it. Justin, picture it.

Justin: I’m tryin’ to tell you about Chip Drop, which believes in empowering people to do cool stuff, [chuckles] like growing food for the first time, chopping firewood, planting a flower garden where there wasn’t one before.

It encourages people to transform their yards and communities by providing free wood chips! And information about how to use `em. This— That's the whole thing.

Travis: I do like that, that's great.

Justin: The chips are free for gardeners. Comes in a little swep— saves some cash. Chip Drop saves small business owners thousands of dollars a year in green waste management. Amazing. Wood chip mulch is awesome for your garden, it turns into soil like magic. Fantastic.

Travis: It turns dirt into soil.

Justin: It turns dirt—

Travis: The wood will not— Justin, the wood will not turn into soil like magic.

Justin: It turns dirt into soil like magic. That would be incredible wood.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You know what I mean? Like there's just— But you could sign up for free wood chip delivery at chipdrop.com. Arborists, if you're out there, sign up at chipdrop.com and start saving your business all kinds of money.

Alexis: Hi, I'm Alexis.

Ella: And I'm Ella.

Alexis: And we're the hosts of *Comfort Creatures*.

Ella: We could spend the next 28 seconds telling you why you should listen, but instead, here's what our listeners have said about our show, because really they do know best.

The show is filled with stories and poems and science and friendship and laughter and tears sometimes. But tears that are from your heart being so filled up with love.

Alexis: A cozy show about enthusiasm for animals of all kinds, real and unreal. If you greet the dog before the person walking them, or wander around the party looking for the host's cat, this podcast is for you.

Ella: So come for comfort, and stay for Alexis's wild story of waking up to her cats giving birth on top of her. So if that sounds like your cup of tea.

Alexis: Or coffee, Ella, we're not all Brits.

Ella: [chuckles] Then join us.

Alexis: Every Thursday at maximumfun.org.

Mike: Hey, this is Mike Cabellon.

Ify: Ify Nwadiwe.

Sierra: And Sierra Katow.

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

Sierra: Where we are currently using fantasy sports rules to watch *Great British Bake Off*.

Ify: Or *The Great British Baking Show*, as it's known here in America.

Sierra: We've drafted the bakers onto our teams, and now those bakers are earning us points based on how they're doing on the show.

Ify: And at the end of the season, one of us will win the prestigious *TV Chef Fantasy League*... trophy, crown, what is the—?

Mike: I don't know, I keep forgetting to order something. Probably just dinner. Anyway, subscribe to *TV Chef Fantasy League* and play along with us at home.

Sierra: Or just listen in as we cry over our bakers' [in a British accent] soggy bottoms.

Ify: On maximumfun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts.

[pause]

Justin: I gotta grab a charger, will you guys start settin' up the live questions? We're gonna do live questions.

Griffin: Sure, Juice. Absolutely, we're gonna jump over and start doing some live questions, while Justin apparently goes and grabs a charger [chuckles] for his ailing laptop. We have asked for these ahead of time, so please—

Travis: And we've also chosen them ahead of time, so like if we don't say your name, please don't come up.

Griffin: Please don't come up, it would be so bad and so uncomfortable, and don't fall down when you come up to the micro—

[Richard Stink theme music plays]

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: I didn't like the walk in. I didn't—

Richard Stink: What's going on, guys? My name is Richard Stink, I'm like a scent influencer about fragrance.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience cheers]

Travis: Richard, Justin's gonna be so sorry he missed you.

Richard Stink: Yeah, he always misses me, it's so weird how it happens.

Travis: You could wear his hat if you— What do you think of that hat, Richard?

Richard Stink: [blows a raspberry] Shitty.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh.

Richard Stink: No, I'm a man, I wear a man's clothes.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: I smell like a man, I wear a man's clothes, and now these days, here at Rose City Comic Con in Portland, Oregon, I am—

[audience cheers]

Richard Stink: I love this town.

Griffin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: I am— I'm excited to announce here that I am branching out from just being a excellent fragrance guy and loving Jesus a lot.

Travis: You're branching out from that.

Richard Stink: I'm branching out, guys. I gotta get different revenue sources. Everybody gets this, I understand. So I've become a novelist, I'm writing. I'm a writer now.

Travis: Huh.

Richard Stink: And I'm excited—

[Some audience members cheer]

Richard Stink: Oh, I got some fans already. I'm excited—

Griffin: No, they just like books.

Richard Stink: I've been doing signings of all the books. I'm getting pretty deep now.

Travis: Wait, how many books have you written?

Richard Stink: That's an excellent question, Trav, thank you so much, man. I thought it would be a really good time to like go through some of the books I'm writing.

Travis: It's been like three months since last time we talked to you.

Richard Stink: Yeah, I've been busy.

Travis: You've written plural books.

Richard Stink: Uh, yeah let's— It's a series, right? Like it— You guys got the omnibus. Did I sent you omnibus.

Griffin: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: The what?

Griffin: I love the way you say that word, Richard.

Richard Stink: The omnibus.

Griffin: Yeah, no I got it.

Richard Stink: I sent you omnibus of all of 'em.

Griffin: I got it, yeah.

Richard Stink: Oh you did— Did you—

Travis: How many omnibi did you make?

Richard Stink: Well you opened the box, from me, that I sent you.

Travis: I—

Richard Stink: How many were in there?

Travis: The last time I opened a box from you, I was knocked unconscious for three days by the scent.

Richard Stink: Well I—

Travis: I didn't open it.

Richard Stink: I'd love to show you the cover reveals for— A lot of these aren't out yet, but this is early sneak preview if you wanted to see.

Travis: NDA, NDA.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Richard Stink: NDA, NDA, friend DA, right? Friend DA, you're not gonna blab about it on X, the everything app.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: Okay, let's go.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: Book— [chuckles] Book one, let's go pal. So.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Okay, so hold on.

Richard Stink: This is the first book in the series.

Griffin: Yeah, man.

Travis: I wanna— Listen, there's so much to talk about. The "Richard Stinkman."

Richard Stink: Right, it's a pen name. Ha ha.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: In case I ever mess up too bad, I can still be the book guy.

Griffin: [cackles]

Richard Stink: If Richard Stink ever mess up really bad, Richard Stinkman a different guy.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Seems fair.

Richard Stink: Unfindable.

Griffin: Or if the book guy messes up too bad, Richard Stink can keep on power— It's a good idea.

Richard Stink: A lot of people never think about this, but that's the first gate, *Aroma Gate Opens*, it's— As you can see there it says, right on it, "The grand beginning of the *Aroma Gate* saga."

Griffin: Okay, that looks like a Stargate, kinda.

Travis: But it also kinda looks like Xena's chakra.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: Well, it's—

Travis: Chakra?

Richard Stink: Hey listen. The other thing about this that was so important to me is that I wanted to use zero AI. So this is— I woke up at five this morning and learned how to do Canva. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: So be patient, 'cause Canva's alright for some things but not so great with others, and sometimes they try to trick you into using AI, and I hate that. Let's see the second book, Paul.

Griffin: Oh god.

Richard Stink: *The Aroma Gate Closes.*

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: Now this is book two of the *Aroma Gate* saga.

Griffin: Yeah. Is this the last?

Travis: Now it says at the bottom here "Richard Stinkman, author of... book—" But it's like—

Richard Stink: Number one.

Travis: "Number one book, *The Aroma Gate Opens.*"

Griffin: Does that mean number one in the series, the *Aroma Gate* series? Or did it—

Richard Stink: Yeah, but you can put number one there if it is also the first.

Griffin: Okay, cool. Good trick.

Travis: People will buy the book.

Richard Stink: But they'll think it's a big seller.

Griffin: Can you give us like any kind of plot sort of like—?

Richard Stink: I don't— I have not gotten... It's just like whatever. You get— Like it's *Aroma Gate* stuff. Like it's aroma fantasy.

Griffin: What's the aroma gate in it?

Richard Stink: You guys do the nerd stuff, you should know about— It's a magic spells, I don't know.

Travis: Just, it's—

Richard Stink: You get so hung up on details.

Travis: Did you say, “spells” or “smells?”

Richard Stink: Third book, you're probably guessing what it would be already, but yes.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: It's *Brink Lords: a Scent Files mystery*.

Griffin: [cackles]

Travis: And it's soon to be a major motion picture, you say?

Richard Stink: Yeah, I actually went ahead and mocked up a cover for the adaptation.

Griffin: This looks really—

[audience reacts in surprised amusement]

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: It still says Richard Stinkman on it.

Richard Stink: That's the author. This is the book version of the movie version of *Brink Lords: a Scent Files mystery*.

Griffin: Can we see—

Travis: Soon to be—

Griffin & Travis: [simultaneously] – a major motion picture.

Griffin: Yeah.

Richard Stink: Next one.

Travis & Griffin: [simultaneously] Now a major motion picture.

Griffin: Excellent.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: I did both, guys.

Griffin: Yeah, for sure.

Travis: And what is a brink lord?

Richard Stink: I don't know, like sci-fi. There's a cat in it.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: Space cat, I don't know.

Griffin: Yeah, alright, yeah.

Richard Stink: *The Brink Lords: a Scent Files mystery*, it's different from *Aroma Gate*.

Travis: Right.

Richard Stink: But it's still like part of it. It crossover.

Travis: Okay, but scent—

Griffin: Oh, that's cool.

Travis: "Scent" down there is S period C period. What do they stand for?

Richard Stink: I don't know like... You guys get so hung up on this stuff. Like I want you to leave the audience a little room to fill in between blanks.

Griffin: Did you just get a bunch of book covers made, Richard?

Richard Stink: Next cover, we're back to the *Aroma Gates*, everybody. But listen, it's— the top sets this one up, if you look at the top of this one, it says, "What if one gate was just the beginning?"

Griffin: Okay.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Now this is— This says, "The third movement of the *Aroma Gate* saga."

Richard Stink: Yes.

Griffin: That's so interesting, that they're movements now.

Richard Stink: Yes, this is the— Well that's a different gate.

Griffin: Yeah, no.

Travis: Yeah no, but this one looks like it was drawn by *Harold and the Purple Crayon*.

Richard Stink: Did you expect— Did you expect there would be a second gate?

Griffin: I guess not, no.

Richard Stink: Hoooo.

Griffin: But not knowing what the first—

Richard Stink: What other surprises could be in store if I give that away on the cover, you know?

Griffin: Yeah, I don't know if you know the answer.

Richard Stink: People like.

Travis: Who is your co-star there?

Richard Stink: A lady.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Travis: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: [chuckles] I don't know if it's a romance or a sister or what, like.

Travis: An a-romance.

Richard Stink: People buy a cover.

Travis: A-romance, like aromance, like 'cause it's aroma.

Richard Stink: Oh, that's good.

Griffin: I think if you—

[Some audience members cheer]

Griffin: You don't need to do that.

Richard Stink: That's good. Next up.

Travis: I'm givin' away gold.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: Now.

Griffin: Oh shit, yeah man!

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Holy shit, yes! Yes!

Richard Stink: Now you're gettin' it?

Griffin: Now you got me, yes!

Richard Stink: Now you're getting excited by this crew.

Griffin: Fuck yeah. Yeah.

Richard Stink: You're getting excited by this team.

Griffin: Fuck yeah I am.

Travis: What— Okay wait, I'm in it?! Wait fuck, I'm in it?!

Richard Stink: I thought you'd like that, it's your guy Magnus.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: The guy you pretended to be!

Travis: I fuckin' love it!

Richard Stink: He's in the book too, man!

Travis: Hell yeah— Wait, her— Okay, wait.

Griffin: Wait! Wait! Wait! What the fuck?!

[audience laughs]

Griffin: What just happened?

Richard Stink: Well, Paul ruined my joke, but...

Travis: "Fight together or die alone."

Richard Stink: Wilson the football's not really in it, that's a joke for you guys. It's actually Hercules.

Griffin: [chuckles] Alright.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: And it's— The cat is back, 'cause people actually liked the cat a lot.

Travis: Oh, from *The Brink Lords*.

Richard Stink: *The Brink Lords* cat crosses over into this.

Griffin: Yeah. Who's the guy in the middle?

Richard Stink: That's Armando Mario.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: Sorry, he's the nose behind CK1.

Griffin: Okay, yeah, I didn't—

Richard Stink: Marc Jacobs "Daisy," it's Armando Mario, one of the greatest stinkers there is.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Bottom left there is?

Travis: Which king is that?

Richard Stink: He's just a old king, man.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: You guys get so hung up, he's like a fantasy king.

Griffin: That's—

Travis: And who's that in the top left?

Richard Stink: What? That's me.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Is it possible to do another swap and get the Wilson volleyball back in it? 'Cause I was way more excited.

Travis: Ah no, I actually feel way better about that.

Richard Stink: Well, you guys don't like incredible strong man, Hercules?
[winces]

Travis: I wouldn't say my problem with it is Hercules, but maybe with the actor I'm a bit disappointed!

Richard Stink: Okay.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Richard Stink: Now, we'll skip ahead.

Griffin: Next. Joke. F— Oh, yeah!

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: So this is a back to the beginning of the start.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Or "Every origin has a beginning."

Richard Stink: That's true.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: You can't argue with it. And then this is the first *Aroma Gate*.

Travis: But now it's the *Aroma Gate* cycle.

Richard Stink: Well first I wasn't counting the *Scent Files* one—

Griffin: Okay.

Richard Stink: — but then I thought it would be better if I had more.

Griffin: Yeah, but one issue I'm seeing here is it does say, "The *Aroma Gate* cycle, book six." I do think this is the fifth *Aroma Gate* book.

Richard Stink: Sorry no, you're— That's the fifth *Aroma Gate* book. That's the sixth one.

Griffin: I—

Richard Stink: The fourth one is the— [chuckles] Sorry, you're so confused.

Griffin: That says, "The fourth part of the *Aroma Gate* saga."

Richard Stink: Right, that is before we started counting the *Scent Files*!

Travis: Which made it into—

Richard Stink: The *Scent Files* made it—

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: — 'cause I thought it would be better if I had more.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: This is the publisher, it's not even me, Griffon!

[audience laughs]

Travis: Are—

Richard Stink: I'm not even making these decisions anymore.

Travis: Are you holding a disco ball?

Richard Stink: Next!

Travis: Ha.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Now hold on, Richard.

Travis: Now.

Griffin: Hold on, Richard. [wheezes]

Richard Stink: This is a good one, man. This is the one I got rich off of.

Griffin: [chuckles] That's not surprising.

Travis: "Jesus rules all, especially on his birthday" is the tagline at the top.

Griffin: Can we see the top of the page, Paul? "Jesus rules all, especially on his birthday." *The Scent of Christmas*, a *Scent Files* mystery, book seven of *Aroma Gate* is— Both! [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: It's both. [chuckles]

Griffin: Now who is Eliza?

Richard Stink: I pretend to have a wife, 'cause people love that, the family audience.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: I'm trying to sell a lot of Christmas books, I thought it'd be better. Like James Patterson does it, Richard Stink does it too.

Travis: Oh, there he is.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: That's a cameo for the fans. [wheezes]

Griffin: Did you get a little bit of advice from Hercules to find out how to really appeal to this particular audience?

Richard Stink: No, I just love Jesus so much, I want to celebrate his special day. Next book.

Travis: Huh.

Richard Stink: Okay, I don't wanna talk about this one. I changed my mind about *AG 50,000*.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: I regret *AG 50,000*, I don't wanna talk about this one at all.

Griffin: Who is that?

Richard Stink: I don't wanna talk about this one.

Griffin: But who is that?

Richard Stink: I don't wanna talk about *AG 50,000* at all, Griffin. Please, I don't have any answers for you.

Travis: [laughs]

Richard Stink: I don't have answers, don't ask. Next book.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Travis: Now.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: What do you wanna know about, Travis?

Travis: Well, I think it would be book— "The ninth chapter of the *Aroma Gate* myth."

Griffin: Yeah yeah.

Richard Stink: Yes?

Travis: Let's start there.

Richard Stink: Okay, it's the ninth book.

Griffin: Oh Richard, you're— I didn't even see that you're in there, that's cool.

Richard Stink: Which is—

Griffin: A lot of authors don't do that.

Richard Stink: She's a giant.

Griffin: Is this— Do you know about— Is this like the *Dune*? Is it like a *Dune* sorta thing? Like a *Dune*— Do you know *Dune*?

Richard Stink: Yeah, I know *Dune*, Timothee Chalamet's in it. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: I mean, that's true.

Richard Stink: Obviously.

Griffin: So this is—

Richard Stink: And he absolutely, when we were out there, guys like last month or two months ago, before it came out in theatres he was like, "You gotta see this, Richard. This is gonna blow your mind."

Griffin: You know Timothee Chalamet.

Richard Stink: I said, "I haven't seen the first one, is that cool?" and he was like, "Absolutely, no problem."

Griffin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: I didn't get it, [wheezes] for real.

Travis: Is that Evangeline Lily?

Richard Stink: It's just a lady in a desert, man. I don't know, it's just a giant lady. I did— I went ahead— I got the novelization for this one all set too.

Griffin: This is a novel.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: So the movie, when they do the movie, this'll be the book of the movie.

Travis: Yeah.

Richard Stink: Last book in the series.

Griffin: [sighs]

Richard Stink: This... is where it all ends.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Now hold on—

Travis: Completed— Now hold on. Hold on. Hold on.

Richard Stink: You've noticed. You've noticed my marketing I came up with.

Griffin: So.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: My w— My wife, Eliza, actually came up with this.

Travis: My wife.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: She did most of the editing, it's amazing tribute to me and my legacy and our love.

Griffin: That's really—

Richard Stink: It's compiled posthumously from the notes of, 'cause I pretend I died.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. [chuckles]

Richard Stink: More people buy it, they get sad, they heard about it on news or TikTok or whatever, they go buy it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Richard Stink: No problem. And that's—

Griffin: I see no problems with this plan whatsoever, Richard.

Richard Stink: I— Do you— Okay, well there— You wanna see the last one, or can you see—

Travis: What?

Richard Stink: Well there's one.

Griffin: You died, Richard.

Richard Stink: Well.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: [blows a raspberry]

Travis: Well. I like—

Griffin: Okay, Richard. So this is obviously great. Another— [laughs] I didn't see Jesus at first.

Travis: Yeah, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

Richard Stink: Right.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: This is a super team of kids.

Griffin: Yeah.

Richard Stink: That picks up right where the 10th book left off. It is 780 pages.

Griffin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: But that is the entire franchise. I'll be signing books all the time forever, to catch up.

Griffin: Where do you think— Where should I start with the *Aroma Gate* myth sage?

Richard Stink: Ah, excellent question, Griffin. It is a dark fantasy, so if you're not into that, I don't think you're gonna love it. It's very dark, your favorite characters die all the time.

Griffin: [laughs]

Richard Stink: They turn bad, they turn back to good, and back bad again. It changes.

Griffin: Alright. So you're saying don't read these books?

Richard Stink: Well I didn't write 'em yet, but when I get goin'. [sighs heavily]

Travis: What would you compare like the tone of them too? What is the—

Richard Stink: I didn't write 'em yet.

Travis: What do you think they'll be?

Richard Stink: Dark fantasy. Uh, whatever's sort of like hot right then. Like I feel like whatever's on trend. The series is kind of a multi-generational spanning eras, except for *AG 50,000*. That one you shouldn't be pretend exists.

Griffin: [wheezes]

Richard Stink: That was—

Griffin: But you haven't written it yet, Richard!

Richard Stink: It's stupid, I hate *AG 50,000*, it's stupid.

Griffin: You haven't written it yet!

Richard Stink: Right, but if I could go back in time and not even come up with it, at—

Griffin: [wheezes]

Richard Stink: — at once, I would.

[audience laughs]

Richard Stink: 'Cause I don't have anything to support it.

Griffin: I'm not too late, is what I'm saying, you haven't made *AG 50,000*.

Richard Stink: They're already putting this on X, the everything app. The cat's out of the bag.

Griffin: Fuck man, I'm— Thank you.

Richard Stink: Please don't tell anybody, okay, promise? Thank you.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Thank you so much. Richard's just leaving the stage now.

[audience cheers]

Griffin: Okay. This time for real, we're gonna call people down to the microphone and it's here, house left, sort of in the middle. When you come down to the microphone, if you wanna tell us your name, your pronouns, if you'd like, and then what your question is. Hello.

Hope: Hi.

Griffin: Hi.

Hope: My name's Hope, my pronouns are she/her.

Griffin: Hi Hope.

Hope: So yeah, no, I'm an embryologist, so I help people that are struggling with infertility have babies. [chuckles] And—

[audience claps]

Hope: Thank you. [chuckles]

Justin: And I do podcasts.

Hope: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: If we're all applauding.

Hope: Yeah.

Travis: We—

Justin: For equally cool jobs.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: We—

Hope: Same, help people, yeah.

Travis: We help people go “Oh, I get it.”

[audience laughs]

Hope: [laughs] Yeah, so part of my job is that I get to be the person that the guy, after collecting the semen sample, they get to hand me the cup.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Now twice there Hope you did say, “you get to do it.”

[audience laughs]

Hope: [chuckles]

Travis: Are you sure that’s the verb you want to go with?

Hope: Well, they pay me to do it.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Nice.

Travis: Right.

Justin: That’s cool.

Hope: But I never know what to say. Like.

Griffin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Hope: Whether that's, you know, "Thanks for cumming," or—

[audience laughs loudly]

Justin: It's— Like...

Hope: [chuckles]

Justin: If you can deliver it absolutely 100% down the middle straight, no cracking at all, and then just barrel them. Just stare straight at them and dare them to break, that's really good.

Travis: Yeah, that's pretty good.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Or hit 'em with a full fuck Charles Nelson, like, "Thanks for cummiing!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Is the other option, one of those two different sort of pulls are the ones you wanna navigate.

Justin: What about, "Ooo, hot. Ah, hot. Why is it so hot??"

[audience laughs]

Justin: "It's not supposed to be hot."

Griffin: "What did you do? It's so hot."

Travis: "Ooo, ow!"

Justin: "It's burning my fingers."

[audience laughs]

Travis: What if you swirl it around, you go, “Look at the legs on this one.”

[audience laughs]

Justin: No.

Hope: [chuckles] “Ah, the notes, it’s amazing.”

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: You go— Can you go, “Water bottle flip challenge, yo!?”

[audience laughs]

Travis: “So much.” [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Hope: I have had people say, “It’s usually more. I don’t— I’m sorry.”

Travis: “Then go back in there and do it again!”

[audience laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: “Don’t bring your B game to this!”

[audience laughs]

Hope: So, one guy did think that he had to fill up the whole cup.

[audience reacts in sympathy]

Hope: This—

Travis: He came out dried out like that one *SpongeBob* picture.

[audience laughs]

Travis: [raggedly] “Is this enough?!”

Hope: He was in there for like an hour and a half.

[audience laughs]

Hope: He felt so bad that he couldn’t fill up the cup, and you’re like, “It’s... okay.”

Travis: And was there not a point in that hour and a half—

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: — where somebody thought, “We should check on him?”

[audience laughs]

Hope: I don’t wanna be that person.

Griffin: Yeah, that’s a good—

Hope: Do you?

Griffin: Yeah Travis, do tell me how you’d lead that conversation off.

[audience laughs]

Justin: “Hey.”

Travis: You would think that there is one highly paid but hopefully under used person.

Hope: [chuckles]

[audience chuckles]

Travis: Who has the role of “Person Who Knocks On Door.”

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It would be a sick place to hide a body, if you think about it, [chuckles] right?

[audience laughs]

Justin: `Cause nobody's gonna barge in there.

Travis: "They just need some more time."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "They'll find it. They'll find their rhythm."

[audience laughs]

Justin: I would just...

Griffin: Can you go, "Yuck!?"

[audience laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: No, don't do that!

Travis: "Wait, what's this?"

Griffin: "Why would you hand me that?!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: "You put what in here?!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: No no no.

Justin: When I had to do the tests, they had a ledge and you would flip a switch to turn the light on and just leave it there. To let `em know it was there, and they said, "And you just flip it on and leave." And then they

had to call me 'cause I sprinted so fast, they were like, "We don't mean leave the building, you just—"

Hope: [giggles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Just the room." [chuckles] So I kinda did like a reverse bank job there, just kinda— I—

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I also—

Justin: Just busted out.

Griffin: I also had to do this once, and I had to leave it in its sealed cup, with the little sticker you put over it that— [chuckles] that says like, "Grade A stuff."

[audience laughs]

Travis: [chuckles] "My best—"

Justin & Travis: [simultaneously] "Michael's Secret Stuff."

Griffin: "Michael's Secret Stuff."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: And then I left it there, they had this wire like shelf that I recognized as IKEA furniture.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: And it felt like a weird place to leave my seed.

[audience laughs]

Travis: The la— The last time I did it, we— they couldn't use it, 'cause I just blasted a hole straight through the bottom of the cup.

[audience laughs]

Hope: [laughs]

Justin: Hey.

Travis: And they got very concerned.

[audience laughs]

Justin: I—

Travis: For a lot of reasons.

Justin: I know this— none of this has been helpful, but I need to do anything I can to move on right now. Do you understand?

[audience laughs]

Justin: Thank you very much for understanding.

Hope: Yes. Thank you.

Griffin: Thank you.

[audience applauds]

Griffin: Hello.

Cameron: Hello, I'm Cameron, he/him.

Griffin: Hi Cameron.

Travis: Hello.

Cameron: So my question was I'm an electrician, it's what I do for work. My question was are there any cool things I can say when I got shocked at work that aren't "fuck."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Cameron: [laughs]

Travis: That was gonna be my first suggestion, so I'm glad—

Cameron: I wanna do something cooler, everybody does that, that's old hat.

Griffin: So are you in the field during your— Are you in someone's home?

Cameron: Ye— I do commercial, so like in people's businesses.

Griffin: Okay. Okay.

Cameron: Yeah.

Griffin: That's slightly different, I would say.

Cameron: [laughs]

Griffin: 'Cause I don't wanna hear basically anyone scream in my home ever, for any reason.

Cameron: [laughs]

Justin: I mean... You wrote in the email, "Obviously anything other than 'bazinga,' because I always say bazinga every time."

Travis: Yeah.

Cameron: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "I get shocked."

Cameron: Of course, yeah.

Justin: So you meant other than bazinga.

Cameron: Yeah.

Griffin: I don't know what you would yell. Do you try to move things with your mind after you do it every time?

Cameron: Every time.

Griffin: Yeah.

Cameron: Every single time.

Travis: Maybe you could like—

Cameron: That's why I became an electrician.

Griffin: Sure.

Cameron: [laughs]

Griffin: You saw *Zapped*—

Cameron: Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin: — and you were like, "That seems good to me!"

[audience laughs]

Travis: Maybe you could get shocked and then fall on the ground, and just within a second stand up and say, "Where did I go?"

[audience laughs]

Cameron: [laughs]

Travis: "It's been— It feels like a year for me, how long was I out?" And start telling a whimsical tale about the other side.

Justin: You're a pro though, you gotta play it off. You gotta be yelling about it literally anything else.

Cameron: [chuckles]

Justin: Like, "Ah dang! Gas prices! Shoot!"

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Shoot! Stubbed my dang toe."

Cameron: I've—

Travis: "I live on this stuff! Hit me again, daddy!"

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: "Ah ha ha!"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I think the only way to do it is to play it off like you're the fucking Shocker—

Cameron: [chuckles]

Griffin: — and you're just like, "Ooo yeah!"

Justin: "Oh yeah!"

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Mama Volts is hitting tonight!"

Travis: "That's why we do it! Ha ha ha!"

Justin: Yeah.

Cameron: [laughs]

Justin: "That why I'm alive."

Griffin: Is there— Hey, can I ask? Is there an element of truth in the joke we've just made?

Cameron: Oh yeah.

Griffin: Okay, I have to imagine.

Justin: Oh yeah yeah yeah.

Cameron: [laughs]

Travis: Were you a kid that used to lick 9-volt batteries? I guess is what I'm asking.

Cameron: I have to say that here, in front of all these people?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Okay, fair enough.

Cameron: [laughs]

Justin: Fair enough.

Travis: You could just yell "This is your fault!"

[audience laughs]

Cameron: [laughs]

Griffin: How often is this happening?

Cameron: I mean, a few times a year at least.

Griffin: That's pretty good! That's—

Travis: Hey, turn off the power before you work on it.

Justin: Oh, that's for wimps.

Cameron: Ohhhh. Okay, I didn't know. [chuckles]

Travis: We did one time have a thing where I was trying to put in a ceiling fan in my house, and it turned out that whoever like wired up our house previously had mislabeled everything in the breaker box.

Justin: Oh fun.

Travis: So we had a very fun experience of me just like gently touching the like voltmeter or whatever to a thing and like— and my— and being like, “No, not that one, turn off another one. Yeah, still on.” And I could feel the story of my life wrapping up.

[audience laughs]

Cameron: [laughs]

Travis: “Well, we’re gettin’ to the last couple pages here.”

Griffin: [cackles]

Justin: Yeah.

[audience laughs]

Justin: Travis died as he lived.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Kind of being sort of careful.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, I’m no— Have we helped you at all, Cameron?

Cameron: Yeah, a ton.

Griffin: Would you say? Okay, great.

Justin: Yeah.

Cameron: So much, thank you.

Griffin: Okay, thank you so much.

[audience claps]

Travis: Hello.

Justin: Hey, how's it goin'?

Kate S: Good, I'm Kate S.

Griffin: Hi Kate.

Kate S: And my husband has the face shirts.

Griffin: Yeah, so let's hear about that now.

Kate S: [chuckles] So it started because I sleep with the TV on and he has to have zero light, so he gets a shirt and he places it over his face—

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Kate S: And— [chuckles]

Griffin: It's not—

Travis: This is so different than I ever could have imagined.

Kate S: [chuckles]

Travis: All the email said, all it said, was "Husband face shirt, how do I get rid of them?"

[audience laughs]

Justin: Okay. I— Can I ask you a question?

Griffin: No, I wanna hear the end of this question first.

Justin: [sadly] Yeah, but then I'll ask my question.

Griffin: Yeah

Travis: You ask your question, then Justin'll ask his.

Justin: Yeah, you ask yours, then I'll do mine.

Travis: Then you ask another question.

Kate S: So, it turns into if it falls on the ground, it's then a dead shirt. They fell behind, he can't find them. It's been a five-year battle now.

Griffin: Yeah.

Kate S: And so I just need to get rid of them.

Griffin: The face shirts that go on your husband's face—

Kate S: [chuckles]

Griffin: — while they are sleeping.

Kate S: Maybe the laundry too that is like being created of it, so.
[giggles]

Griffin: That is the traditional sort of home of shirts. [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Hey, I'm lost on the "it falls on the ground and it's a dead shirt."

Justin: What does that mean?

[audience laughs]

Justin: Speak on that.

Travis: I guess if I'm hung up on one thing.

Kate S: You'd have to ask him. If it falls on the ground, then it's—

Griffin: You don't wanna put a dirty shirt on your face, I get that.

Kate S: [chuckles]

Travis: No, but you could—

Kate S: It's our floor! [giggles]

Justin: Right.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But you could wash it.

Kate S: [wheezes]

Justin: So, when we read the question, we kinda assumed that you had a bunch of shirts with your husband's face on `em.

[audience laughs]

Justin: So my question is if you were to have a shirt with your husband's face on it, and then have a bunch of `em, what you think you would put on it.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Kate S: I—

Justin: `Cause I thought that you would have that, and it's not my fault that you don't have that problem.

[audience laughs]

Kate S: [laughs]

Justin: Really.

Travis: And in fact, if I may, what Justin's really opened up here is an opportunity to combine the two things. What you need is some shirts with

pictures of your husband's face on the inside, matching up with where his face will go.

Kate S: Right.

Travis: When he puts it over.

[audience laughs]

Justin: "Place face here."

Travis: And what's that? You put some Velcro, one side on his face, the other side on the shirt face, it's not goin' anywhere now.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Boom. Maybe tie it around his face as tightly as you can.

[audience laughs]

Kate S: That's the problem.

Travis: All around.

Kate S: He doesn't like things tied on his face, so thus the face shirt was born.

Travis: Maybe—

Griffin: Now hold on, no!

Kate S: [laughs]

Griffin: What you just said is nutrageous!

Kate S: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: We've figured this one out already. We've figured out when the light gets in the eyes and it keeps you from sleeping, we have a few options honestly to handle this problem, and none of them is face shirts.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Because face is also where most of the breathing work happens.

Justin: Lot of the holes are in the face.

Griffin: Lot of the good holes are up in this zone.

[audience laughs]

Griffin: That I don't necessarily want a shirt on. I don't know that I could sleep with a shirt on my face.

Travis: No.

Griffin: So I applaud you for recognizing that you need to get rid of these fucking shirts to save your husband's life!

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: What I would do, could you get a shirt with a tiny TV on the back of it?

Kate S: [laughs]

Travis: That drapes over your face?

[audience laughs]

Justin: I think you should not watch TV tomorrow and see if he needs the shirt to fall asleep regardless.

Travis: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Kate S: He still uses them.

Justin: He's become dependent on the shirt. "No, I need shirt!"

Travis: Oh no.

Justin: "How many shirts did you pack, sweetheart?"
"Twice as many as I'm gonna need."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "That's how many. 'Cause I gotta have a sleepin' shirt every night."

Griffin: Is it a different shirt every night? Or— Okay, that's awesome.
[chuckles] That's so great.

[audience laughs]

Justin: We gotta get through the rest of these, I'll just say I don't think your husband should be allowed to sleep anymore.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Just an option. Just an option. Does that help?

Kate S: Yes.

Justin: I mean, if it would fix it.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I think it would fix it pretty quickly.

Justin: Inarguably.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Awesome, thank you.

Travis: Hello.

Griffin: Hi.

Elliot: Hi, I'm Elliot. I use he/they pronouns.

Justin: Hi Elliot.

Griffin: Hi Elliot.

Elliot: And so my question is about my mom's present.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Elliot: So me and my sister, we live in Oregon, and we—

Travis: Love this city.

[audience laughs]

Elliot: Love the city of Oregon. It's a great city.

Griffin: It's not the first time he's done that either.

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: [wheezes]

Elliot: [chuckles]

Griffin: He's done it in other cities before and it's noth— it's a nothing burger!

Justin: [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Sorry, anyway.

Elliot: It's okay. So, we're from Missouri and we both have birthdays in the summertime, so we went to visit my mom in the summer to see the family, and she wanted to give us our birthday presents in person.

So she gave us a few different presents and it was great, but one of the presents that's me and my sister both got were her prescription bottles that she'd spray painted black.

Justin: Yeah.

Elliot: As a— Just for us.

[audience laughs]

Elliot: Yeah.

Griffin: If I could read the question out loud.

Elliot: So yeah.

Griffin: [chuckles] Your mom painted the prescription bottles black and gave them to you to quote "put some things in."

[audience laughs]

Elliot: Yeah, 'cause I think it's also important to note that she gave us four each.

Travis: Whoa.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: Four each?!

Elliot: Yeah.

Travis: So she wants you to become geocachers, or what?

Elliot: I don't know. So my question is, if possible, how do I tell her that this is not okay? And if I can't do that, then what do I do with eight spray painted prescript— I have my own prescription bottles, but these ones are black.

[audience laughs]

Travis: "I spray paint my own prescription bottles, Mom."

Elliot: Yeah, so.

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Travis: Did you— At the time, when she was like, "You know, to put things in," did you say, "Like what??"

Elliot: I did, and she said, "Like your dice," and I went—

Griffin: Ahhhh.

Elliot: Or no, like—

Justin: It would be actually extremely good to wa— It's a shame they're painted black, 'cause it would be extremely good to be like, "Oh nice, what is that? Mahogany?"

[audience chuckles]

Justin: "A beautiful case indeed. Ah yes, I have my dice right over here. It's in my mom's pill bottle."

[audience laughs]

Travis: [chuckles] "Shook-a shook-a, ha ha ha."

Justin: "I find this imbues them with just the right hint of mana."

Griffin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: So they're— I mean, is— But it's— [sighs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: Was there any suggestion of illicit substance being— That's what I assumed is like, "Put your stash in here."

Elliot: See, I don't know, because like the dice was for me, but my sister's 17.

Justin: Right.

Griffin: Okay.

Elliot: And she doesn't play *D&D*, so I have no idea what she would do with these.

Travis: Do you or your sister have a lot of small pets that are maybe near the end of their life?

[audience laughs]

Travis: That your mom was like, "Eventually, you're gonna need somethin' to bury them in, here you go."

Griffin: That's awesome.

Justin: "This seems useful."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [cackles] "I made you fish coffins."

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "Happy Birthday!"

Travis: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Griffin: "Happy Birthday, I got you future lizard coffins."

[audience laughs]

Justin: "They're more like the torpedoes they shoot Mr. Spock out of, you know?"

[audience laughs]

Griffin: I would've sworn on a stack of Bibles, Elliot, that this was a drugs thing. That your mom was like, "Heeeey."

Travis: Well it is, but not how you'd think.

Justin: It's prescription bottles.

Travis: It's a used up—

Justin: Yeah, 'cause they're prescription bottles.

Griffin: Use— Did you keep them? Did you keep these bottles? Have you— the bottles?

Elliot: My friend told me that I needed to get rid of them quickly before I like have to do something with my house, but I do still have the four that my sister has, because my mom made sure to pack them into her suitcase.

Justin: Ahhhh.

Griffin: Okay.

Elliot: So they're at my house.

Travis: Then you're gonna need to write little notes in them, and then throw 'em into the nearest body of water.

[audience laughs]

Travis: Until somebody else finds 'em.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Write sweet notes in— to your mom, put 'em in there and then give 'em back next year. [wheezes]

[audience laughs]

Justin: "It's filled with all our great memories of the past year, Mom. It's a special gift just for you. Now it's your trash."

Elliot: [chuckles]

[audience laughs]

Justin: This—

Travis: "As it once was, now it is again."

Justin: Just at home.

Elliot: That helps.

Griffin: The note could just say, "Put whatever you want in here, Mom."

Justin: [laughs]

[audience laughs]

Elliot: Your dice.

Griffin: "Anything stuff that you think."

Justin: The last note is like, "Please fill these back up and treasure them." Does that help, Elliot?

Elliot: So much, thank you.

Griffin: Thank you so much, Elliot.

Justin: Thank you.

Travis: Yeah.

[audience applauds]

Griffin: Wrap up?

Justin: Mm. We can go ahead and turn the lights back off, right? That's all I think.

Griffin: Yeah, thank you all so much for coming.

Justin: Thank you.

Travis: Bye.

Griffin: We have some—

Travis: Please turn the lights off. Please bring the lights down.

Griffin: It's so bright and there's so many of you.

Justin: Thank you. Get those closed—

Travis: Oh, thank god.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: Thank you all so much for coming, thank you for having us here at Rose City Comic Con.

Justin: Thank you to our ASL interpreters.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: For being so kind.

[audience cheers loudly]

Griffin: Thank you Paul for keepin' this train on the tracks. Thank you to our dad, we love this guy.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And uh—

Travis: I just wanna—

Justin: Before we wrap up the show—

Griffin: Thank you to Montaigne.

Justin: — that's pure Griffin bullying. I have to live so close to Dad, I want it super clear.

Griffin: [laughs] Thank you.

Justin: That's Griffin's pure bullying.

Griffin: Thank you to Montaigne also for the use of our theme song "My Life (Is Better With You)".

[audience cheers]

Travis: Woo!

Griffin: It's a great tune.

Travis: We also wanna say thank you to Rachel, our sound person, couldn't do it without Rachel.

Griffin: Yes, and Amanda, our business manager who came out here with us.

Travis: They came out.

Griffin: Thank you all so much. Okay. We're gonna give a wish up to Fungalore. Long may he reign. If you all could just help us read with just a pleasing sonic bath, and then Travis, would you like to read the wish?

Travis: I'd love to, yes please.

Griffin: Okay, so just—

Justin: So just wherever you're— wherever your frequency.

Griffin: Whatever feels right.

Travis: Wherever you're at.

Griffin & Justin: [vocalize discordantly]

[pause]

Travis: "I wish more dive bars would turn on the disco ball."

[theme music fades in]

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

[audience cheers loudly]

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

[audience cheers]

[outro theme music plays]

Maximum Fun.

A work-owned network...

Of artists-owned shows...

Supported directly by you.