

MBMBaM 749: Christmas for Consumers

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

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

Justin: You have failed the—yourself, Griffin. Your job is to stay happy, clown. [titters] Get out there and dance in your big shoes.

Griffin: I'll dance.

Travis: Let's dance.

Justin: Dance in your big shoes, clown.

Griffin: I'll dance. But the dance is gonna be like when someone dances in the background of the big bar in Twin Peaks. Like a lot of—there will be shuffling. And it will be—

Travis: There's joy in that.

Griffin: The performance I give will be arresting. It will be calculated—

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: Hi, welcome. Welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me. An advice show for the modren era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis: Vroom-vroom, ka-chow! It's me, Trav Nation. Your middle is brother, Travis, big dog, woof-woof McElroy.

Griffin: It's Wednesday, February 5th. The morning of Wednesday, February 5th. And I'm Griffin McElroy! That's when we're recording this. I feel like saying that is a good idea. Like holding a newspaper with the sports score is a good idea.

Travis: There's two things, very important things I want to talk about, topical, topical.

Justin: Yeah. Okay, good, let's get—

Griffin: Is one of them that it is Wednesday, February 5th? And that the show comes out on a different day, where we don't—

Travis: Last night.

Griffin: We're not there on that one.

Travis: Well, whenever it was at the Grammys, this past weekend, Vincent Boone performed—

Justin: Yeah, Grammy alert.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Travis: Benson Boone performed his hit song, beautiful things.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And as he did the intro, Heidi Klum and Nikki Glaser tore his suit off.

Justin: Wow.

Travis: And he was wearing a blue, deep V-neck, glam rock jumpsuit. And as this man is singing, he runs up onto the stage and he did a flip off the top of the piano.

Justin: Cool, what's her name?

Travis: And it was gorgeous. And apparently, he does—

Griffin: What's this guy's name?

Travis: At his live shows.

Griffin: What's his name?

Justin: What's this guy's name?

Travis: Benson Boone.

Griffin: Benson—

Justin: Benson Boone?

Griffin: Benson—

Travis: And he does that [sings] these beautiful things that I do.

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Travis: Yeah, that's guy.

Griffin: Oh, yeah! That song always get—that song always gets me going!

Travis: I think it's unfair that he can sing so beautifully—

Griffin: So high up.

Travis: And do a cool flip off of a piano.

Griffin: You shouldn't be able to do both things where you get to sing way high up, which is so fun, and be able to do a flip off of a piano, or any surface.

Travis: That is unfair.

Griffin: That sucks,

Travis: I can't do either of those and he can. And the only way that I can live—

Griffin: How's he look? Is he like wick—is he like wicked ugly?

Travis: No.

Justin: No, he looks cool. He looks so cool. [chuckles]

Travis: He's a cool-looking guy.

Griffin: God damn!

Travis: And the only way I can live—

Justin: It's like if my—if Miles Teller decided to be a little softer and a little curlier.

Travis: A little cooler—

Griffin: Like cooler.

Travis: A little more glam rock, yeah.

Griffin: Damn... Man, God gave with three handed on this one! Damn, Benson Boone. Fuck!

Travis: I can only exist happily by believing that he sings that good because he is fully dedicated 100% of his energy towards that.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: And then seeing that he can also do flips and I'm like, what else can he do? He's probably—

Griffin: Ah, cool.

Travis: A good baker. And then he apologized for aggressively adjusting himself in that jumpsuit during the performance.

Griffin: Oh?

Travis: And I feel like that's unfair, that he should do—should he gently adjust himself? Is that better than aggressively adjusting himself?

Griffin: It's a—it's—

Justin: Travis, that's—can I say something, man? It's such a really good question. Because what happened is, Benson Boone is wearing a tight jumpsuit that is... restricting!

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay?! I'm sorry. It's restrictive. So, it is that question of a fast, aggressive adjustment—

Griffin: Is the best version of—he's not belaboring it.

Justin: It's the best version of it because if you think about a slow, tender adjustment, that's not appropriate—

Travis: With eye contact. [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah, right? Like, that's not appropriate for an audience.

Griffin: And that's his privacy. That's his bathroom stuff. And I, and... and it's—everyone's got 'em. So calm down, sometime—you never have to adjust your bathroom stuff? That's weird.

Justin: Unlikely. Unlikely.

Griffin: I don't believe it.

Travis: The other thing I want to talk about, is this occurred to me. When you guys were children, wee babbies, did you believe that when you grew up to be an adult, that Groundhog's Day would take on a greater significance as a holiday to you? And it's like, oh, this must be a thing that like grownups have built deeply into their psyche, and I as a child simply don't get it.

Griffin: It needs some—it needs a shot in the arm, doesn't it?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It needs something. Because it's not, it's—and I get there's a whole town where they're probably wild about this fuckin' thing. But for the rest of us, the shine is coming off. The apple—

Travis: It just doesn't extend beyond that?

Griffin: No. It's a single—it's a single skeet that I see. It was like, saw a shadow. And I'm like, okay, put him away. And the whole holiday, in my mind, that seems weird. It needs something else.

Travis: There's no other traditions around it.

Griffin: Work off. You get work off. That would be sick. That's a big one. Presents, awesome.

Travis: Yeah. Some kind of feast.

Justin: That's why if you ever see Rod Stewart turn around and do the butt shake, what he's actually doing is like—

Travis: Is seeing his shadow to see if there's six more weeks of winter?

Justin: [chuckles] That's exactly—and each taking its little butt and saying like, "Is that my shadow or not?"

Griffin: There's so much—

Travis: If Rod Stewart can see his butt shadow. If a groundhog comes out of Rod Stewart's butt! [chuckles]

Griffin: Think about this, what's the best part of any holiday? That's right, hiding Easter eggs. Because it's the only part of any holiday where you get to go on a little adventure.

Travis: True.

Griffin: Think about the opportunities that Groundhog Day would provide if we started to include little adventures in it. Because these guys? They bury themselves in the ground like treasure already.

Travis: Ever since David the Gnome, I've dreamed of crawling through an underground-like cavern—

Griffin: Love to.

Travis: And finding—like, why not provide that for me to find the groundhog and ask him like, did you see your shadow?

Griffin: Yeah. Let's go down there once and bring—

Justin: There's a lot of—

Griffin: A camera crew and go down there.

Justin: There's a lot of conversations that would be hard to have with the aliens. But I think this one would be hardest. Because you have to say like, yes, the day is called Groundhog Day, yes. And they're like, "So what's the deal?" Well, we do, every year, ask a groundhog if it's gonna be clod for a while. And they're like, that—

Travis: Oh, the groundhog speaks?

Justin: Huh?

Travis: The groundhog speaks?

Justin: The groundhog—no, the groundhog sees its shadow. That's, it's like—

Griffin: On our planet—on our planet, all the animals can't talk to each other.

Justin: Yeah. So it's like different. And then they're like, "So, that's wild. What's the second most notable thing about Groundhog Day?" It's like, "Sometimes you live it over and over again for 10,000 years." "What? Sorry, speak up again."

Griffin: We know two things.

Justin: Yeah, the up—

Travis: Until you learn to be a good person.

Justin: The second thing about Groundhog Day is sometimes you live it over and over again.

Griffin: [chuckles] The other thing.

Justin: In our culture, that's the second most notable thing about Groundhog Day, is that existentially—

Travis: And for some people, those flip-flops.

Justin: Right. Sometimes that's the most—yeah.

Travis: For some people, the significance is interchangeable.

Justin: So, it's a holiday about living it over and over again—

Travis: No.

Justin: It gets to that point sometimes, it does feel like that a little bit. But yeah.

Travis: It has much more cultural significance, I would say, for a demographic of people. That it's a day where one self-reflects for 10,000 years. To think about—

Griffin: God, I wish.

Travis: Like their life and how—

Griffin: Can you even imagine?

Travis: They can do better and have a healthier relationship with Andie MacDowell.

Griffin: Can you even imagine? That movie paints that to be like a terrible thing to happen. Can you imagine 10,000 years of free time? Holy shit, dudes! I'm catching up on—

Travis: I would flip off pianos constantly. Are you kidding me?

Griffin: I would do it. It would take 8000 straight years of snapping my spine. And was it worth it? No, it wasn't, because it looks cool, but that was really, really torturous. That is how long it would take.

Justin: One cool—I wish that there was a different version of Groundhog Day where the day fell on the day right before they released the finale of Traders. And so the show is about him trying to like reconstruct how he thinks it's gonna be exactly.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And then film it for himself. Like let him—he wants to film his own finale of like TV shows. He's writing his own endings.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So when the actual finale does come out and he'd be like, "Well, actually, I think this would be more satisfying."

Griffin: It should go a little something like this.

Travis: I think it's a little something like this.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I think it's a little bit more.

Griffin: Wouldn't mind taking a second pass of that Lost ending, right, guys? With 10,000 years?

Travis: Oh, get 'em.

Justin: Wow! This is an invite show.

Griffin: Does it have to be? Because I'm really kind of—I feel good in the vibe right now. I feel like I'm in the pocket of the vibe.

Travis: What if the groundhog came out and aggressively adjusted himself?
[chuckles]

Griffin: That would be cool.

Travis: Does that mean a monsoon's on the way?

Griffin: We haven't even—yeah, that has to have happened in the 100 years we've been doing this thing, that the little guy comes out and then like grabs his bathroom stuff. As animals, most animals are want to do all the time.

Travis: When I was traveling recently, it was very, very early in the morning. It was like an eight AM flight, so I was going through security at like six AM. And I forgot that the boots that I was wearing always set off the metal detector, so I had to get scanned. And I just take the boots off and the TSA agent looked at me as he was like scanning me with the wand and

he said, "Which side is your property on?" And my first thought was, what a cute way to ask me where my dick and balls is.

Justin: That's 100% what I assumed when you said that.

Travis: Thank you! And then I realized he was talking about where which conveyor belt my stuff was on to put my shoes with them. And luckily, both things were true. So when I said the right, that was also where my stuff was. But it was such a cute way—

Griffin: I don't want to know—you—that felt like a long walk to tell your brothers the current state of your—

Travis: It's not always—

Griffin: Balls.

Travis: There, that's just where my property was at the moment.

Justin: A needlessly fanciful walk.

Travis: To talk about my property?

Griffin: Yeah, because now I'm thinking—like I'm thinking about what's going on in there, Trav. You may not want me to, but I'm thinking about what's going—

Travis: Sometimes I split the uprights. Or the downrights?

Justin: That is—

Griffin: That's cool, man.

Travis: One ball on either side.

Griffin: Give 'em the ol' droopy dog. [chuckles]

Justin: Do you know what sucks? Here's what's actually hard.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: Can I tell you guys what actually sucks?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Is that everybody has seen all the new ads. [titters] That's all they're thinking about right now, is they've seen all the new ads.

Griffin: Oh, they know how—

Justin: And it's like a different—

Griffin: Ah, fuck! We forgot the big game! God dang it.

Justin: So the thing is, we can't even talk—

Travis: Did the big game happen?

Griffin: Yeah, it happened.

Justin: The big game just happened yesterday—

Travis: No!

Justin: And we all freaked out about it!

Griffin: God dang. We were spinning our wheels.

Justin: We forgot! We forgot about that.

Travis: It couldn't have. The big game couldn't have just happened.

Justin: Let's hope it happened. [titters]

Travis: Okay, wait—

Justin: Fuck! [chuckles]

Travis: Oh, you're saying it will have just happened.

Justin: But like I think it probably happened.

Travis: Okay, God bless—

Griffin: Wait, why wouldn't it happen, Travis?

Justin: Fuck! Griffin and I don't know—

Travis: No, it will have had happened.

Justin: And it did—

Griffin: I can see a few scenarios where it didn't happen.

Justin: This is what I'm saying, brother!

Travis: You guys broke my brain. And for a moment, I believed that the Super Bowl had come and gone. Last—

Griffin: I could see something happen where the commish would be like, "Let's do it next week!" It is fucking wild out there!

Travis: Hey! You're all—hey, hey, players? Players, coaches, you're not in the mood! Huh?

Griffin: We're not in the mood! We're not in the mood to make a silly podcast joke. I can't imagine these 40 strapping men are ready to catch balls and throw 'em at each other.

Travis: You guys don't wanna play football this week! We don't wanna watch football this week! It's cold!

Griffin: We'll get 'em next time!

Travis: We'll get 'em next time! We're gonna play it out on like a tech mobile kind of thing, and just see how it goes and broadcast that. We're doing the Puppy Bowl?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: We already filmed that.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, that's easy. That's a light—that's a light—

Justin: They're doing the Puppy Bowl for three hours.

Griffin: The puppies don't know!

Travis: Yeah, that's easy.

Justin: Everyone—

Griffin: The puppies don't know!

Justin: Everyone agreed to do the Puppy Bowl—

Griffin: The puppies aren't on Bluesky.

Justin: For three hours.

Griffin: They're not. They're simply not.

Travis: Is there a big Las Vegas style—

Justin: Before we started I said, let's just do a normal one!

Griffin: The guys—

Travis: Is there a betting—

Griffin: The guys aren't into—we'll just run the Super Bowl from two years ago because it was the same guys!

Travis: And no one will remember it already happened.

Griffin: No one.

Justin: Hey, guys, I wouldn't. [chuckles] 100%, that would get me.

Griffin: So this is—

Travis: This is what I'm saying.

Griffin: So this is an advice—

Justin: But if they ran—do you—can I tell you the—

Travis: Can I bet on the Puppy Bowl, is what I wanna know. Who runs... what, Justin?

Justin: I have a bit of frustration I'd like to talk about with the Super Bowl.

Travis: Hey, yeah.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Yeah, this is a safe space, no one's listening.

Justin: It used to be that the Super Bowl was a real buffet for fans of branding. Like if you're a brand fan, you love commercials, you love to see what like Madison avenue has cooked up for us—

Travis: If you love commercials, yeah.

Justin: Right? It's Christmas day for consumers, like—

Griffin: Hey, is that why the show Mad Men is called Mad Men? Because of Madison—

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: Okay. I never knew that.

Travis: I thought it was Ad Men, but they made it 'mad.'

Justin: It's all those things.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: So—

Griffin: They are actually—also, most of the men in that show, from what little I've seen of it, are pretty PO'ed most of the time.

Justin: But now—

Travis: But also, you gotta be a little mad to work here kind of thing, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, it's four—it's working four ways.

Travis: Oh my God.

Justin: Now, these days, though, to rise above the din, you're seeing a lot more brands release their Super Bowl commercial—

Griffin: Oh, man.

Justin: Before the big game, to try to get ahead of it. And this drives me crazy!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Can I have—

Travis: Here you go—go off, king.

Justin: One fucking night that I look forward to, where the real joy for me is getting to see *10 new commercials*? That's what I'm excited for? Getting to see if like they figure out a way to put like Indiana Jones in one or something? Like, that's the one, I'm looking for that, *for weeks*!

Travis: It's the silver lining to seeing a player get hurt. Where you're like, oh my God, I hope he's okay. Oh my god. They will—

Justin: What?! [chuckles]

Travis: They will take a commercial break—

Justin: Sorry, no!

Travis: They will take a commercial break, though.

Justin: No, sorry, this—what Travis is saying is not an A clause underneath my sub point one—

Travis: No, I'm—

Justin: Of commercials are good. [chuckles]

Travis: No, Justin, I'm reading between the lines. You get happy when a player gets hurt—

Justin: You're in a different cage, man.

Travis: Because he'll go do a commercial break and you can see—

Justin: You're in the index, this—

Griffin: I'm bummed out by the commercial trailers that we get. One of 'em is a beer. And I don't know which one, so, great—

Travis: It's a trailer for a commercial?

Griffin: It's a trailer for the Dave—David Beckham's got a twin brother. I remember that. I don't remember the product it's advertising, because they don't say it. So, a billion dollars well-spent, Guinness, maybe, I think.

Justin: They do—they did Harry Met Sally. They got Billy and Meg back for it and it's... Miracle Whip. Like, that's why it's so good. Can we—

Griffin: That's good, I could see that.

Justin: That would have been so good though if you—

Travis: Oh, like she eats the sandwich and comes.

Griffin: Save that for me. Save that for me.

Justin: Save it for me on the Super Bowl. I need that. When that pops up, I can't shush my family?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: If it's already been online?

Griffin: If it's streaming—

Justin: That's rude!

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That's why I've been doing an online blackout for the last like three weeks. I haven't—

Griffin: It's [sings] not gonna have any legs!

Travis: Just so I don't miss a commercial. I have no idea what's going on.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Travis: So the commercials will all be a surprise.

Griffin: Look at that bit. He's trying. He's trying!

Justin: You're in for a big surprise. [chuckles]

Griffin: Oh, Juice is on board too! They're trying, guys! They're on one of those things—

Travis: I'm just saying I haven't—

Griffin: On the train tracks—

Travis: It's been three, maybe four weeks—

Griffin: Pumping it up and down. They're trying to get her there!

Travis: Since I've looked online. I have no idea what's happening.

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh-ho-ho!

Justin: Okay, listen, this is an advice show. This first question is about welding, which I never get to talk about.

Travis: It's not even a question, Justin, it's feedback from a previous episode.

Griffin: I love feedback. This should be a new segment on the show.

Justin: Yeah. I'm welder— "I'm a welder by trade, and I wanted to chime in on the question from episode 747. Truthfully, I'm at the end of the—at the end of the day, a welder really just wants commiseration for how big of a pain in the ass it looked to weld. Or if that fails, just say, 'Hell yeah, laying dimes' really loud, and that should cover most interactions." That's from Kevin. Laying dimes is good! I like that!

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: I'm gonna try to say that at least once during the episode because that's—

Travis: Hell yeah, laying dimes.

Justin: That I like. But if you want to appreciate welding, there's an actual answer for you. I don't know why we've been helpful this week, but there you go.

Griffin: Laying dimes is cool. It means when you—

Justin: Laying dimes is cool.

Griffin: When you create a smooth weld without ripples, and it looks like a bunch of dimes laying on each other.

Justin: That's sick.

Griffin: That's fuckin' cool. Welding is so neat!

Justin: Yeah, man.

Griffin: I've done—I did a little—when I was doing my little Game Boy toys, I—

Justin: [in a silly high-pitched voice] My Game Boy toys—

Griffin: I was doing a little—

Justin: [in a silly high-pitched voice] Little do-dads.

Griffin: I was doing soldering, which is kind of like welding. Don't you guys think—agree with that?

Justin: Mm-hm. It's plastic welding.

Griffin: There's little metal. You know, it comes in a little spool and you melt it.

Justin: Actually, I've done plastic—well, it's not actually plastic welding, I guess.

Griffin: No.

Justin: Is it?

Griffin: No, it's real metal.

Justin: I've done fusion welds—

Griffin: I've seized Prometheus's fire and used it to make metal into different shit. So, that's... I'm laying dimes over here myself.

Justin: It's welding for babies, is what you're—is—

Travis: A baby welding.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Babies first welding.

Justin: It's baby welding!

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: "I have an urgent and pressing question. I am a collage artist."

Griffin: You wanted to say college, didn't you? I heard the—I'm not even looking at the camera right now. You did, didn't you? Look at that stinker.

Travis: I was thinking about—I was thinking he was just gonna say college.

Griffin: Stinker.

Justin: "I'm a collage artist, and I'm going to incorporate part of a puzzle into a piece I'm working on. The issue is—"

Travis: Ooh, your diction is crisp as hell, J-Man!

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: Well, I almost got tripped up, so I'm being very careful now.

Griffin: I'm sorry.

Justin: I know that this person is working against me. This question asker has laid many traps, and I'm aware of all of them. I'm unstoppable. "The issue is, what do I do with the rest of the puzzle? It's a puzzle of baby Yoda that I got at my fiancé's family's white elephant at Christmas two years ago. And the part I'm using is the part that doesn't have baby Yoda on it, but it is a fairly large chunk of the puzzle. I obviously can't like donate the puzzle since it's incomplete, but I don't want to keep the baby Yoda parts because it was kind of a sucky—" [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I'm—here's a—I'm gonna tell this person to throw it in the trash. Okay, let's—I'm gonna keep going.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: I'm gonna keep going! "I don't want to keep the baby Yoda parts because it's kind of a sucky puzzle and I only want the chunk I'm using in my painting. But it also feels wasteful to throw in the garbage. Help. How do I best utilize the five-sixths of a puzzle without having to do the puzzle?" That's from Puzzled Puzzler in Peril P's. "I also lost a piece of the puzzle that's not the chunk—"

Travis: That would be PS.

Justin: Oh. Puzzled Puzzler in Peril. PS. [chuckles] "I also lost a piece for the puzzle that's not in the chunk that I'm taking."

Griffin: That elevates it!

Justin: There's enough—

Griffin: That elevates it, actually.

Justin: That makes it even more that I'm gonna tell you to throw this away.

Griffin: Nah. [chuckles]

Justin: What else do you have?

Griffin: No.

Travis: I bet, if you're a collage artist, it's very difficult to throw away flat things.

Griffin: Anything. You gotta always have your head on a fucking swivel looking for flat stuff that would look cool cut up.

Travis: You ever think about how much work kidnappers must put in to finding the right letter?

Griffin: It must take hours.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: To find letters that are that big.

Travis: Because you can't cut 'em all out of the same Cosmo, you know what I mean? You gotta mix it up!

Justin: Wait, yeah! That's a really good point. What kind of a—what kind of a shitty collage artist has a bunch of tiny pictures of parts of baby Yoda and throws it away? Hello?

Griffin: [chuckles] Welcome, Justin—

Travis: You never know!

Griffin: Welcome, Justin, to the other side of the seesaw, buddy.

Justin: Unbelievable.

Travis: Now, maybe you can make a collage. A puzzle is kind of like a do it yourself collage when you think about it. [chuckles]

Justin: It is!

Griffin: Wow, yeah.

Travis: Yeah, man.

Griffin: A solvable collage. For sure.

Travis: [laughs] Have you ever wanted to 100% a collage?

Griffin: I've always wanted to—

Justin: The right way?

Griffin: Get the platinum on an art—on an art piece that I do. I think—

Travis: When you put a—when you put a puzzle together no one's ever like, "You did it wrong."

Griffin: First of all, you have the stuff to make two pieces of art. You've doubled what you have. One is the piece that incorporates the big chunk that you took out of the puzzle. That's cool. I'm gonna sit up. I don't know why I'm like fuckin'—

Justin: You're really like, yeah—

Griffin: Goblined out in my chair. The second one is the rest of the puzzle with the piece missing. And that's saying something, because it's about the Yoda that's not there. But also, from that, there will be a small piece missing. When the people look at that and say like, "But what's the small piece mean?" All of a sudden, they're trying to get to the bottom of your art

story, which is really the secret to art, is tricking people into paying very close attention to it.

Travis: Yeah, into thinking there's meaning in it.

Griffin: Right. They'll see that and they'll be like, "Is this really a piece of artwork about the baby Yodas that aren't there? But wait, what's this little piece missing?" That's the secret. I'm a fuck up. That's the message.

Travis: [laughs] I lost it.

Justin: That's the thing, is I lost it.

Travis: That's my favorite thing about art is that when people say like, well, it means this to me or it means this to me, you say, it means different things to different people.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And that means you didn't know what it meant when you made it. You just thought it looked nice.

Griffin: It would be sick if the water lilies just had a big hole in it. And they're like, "What happened?" And it's like, "He put his elbow down and it went through the painting." I see that and I'm like, wow, artists are just like us.

Travis: We're all fallible.

Justin: Yeah, we really are all just people.

Griffin: We all make mistakes and mess up sometimes. And you don't—gotta let it not bring you down.

Justin: This is, this puzzle... this puzzle question is a good, good example of why I am so happy I recently discovered burning things.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Oh, sure.

Justin: I got a... you know, it's cold weather outside, but it's been a little bit more temperate.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And it's a great time to go outside and start a fire.

Travis: Burn your puzzles.

Justin: And I think—and I hate wasting stuff. Really, I do. I hate wasting things. I have a big problem with that, right? If I have something, I don't wanna waste it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But here's what I've recently discovered. Because a lot of the waste that I have and been struggling with lately does happen to be woodworking waste. So that is—

Griffin: Some of God's most burnable stuff.

Justin: Right, so what I've decided though is that if you burn it, you didn't waste it, because you got enjoyment from the fun and warmth.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So you're not wasting it. If you—what I'm saying is, if you burn this puzzle and then you watch this puzzle of baby Yoda warm, and you take pleasure in like the warmth of baby Yoda and the—

Griffin: It's not waste.

Justin: The visual, just like watching it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: It's not a waste! Like, it was—

Travis: Well, in fact, I—

Justin: It was good you did that!

Griffin: I was good that you did that.

Justin: It was good. Like, it was good.

Travis: And I'll take it a step further, Justin. I recently saw a physicist—

Justin: Don't huff it. [titters]

Travis: No, don't huff it.

Griffin: Do not huff this baby Yoda.

Justin: Don't do this indoors. Did I say that?

Griffin: No.

Justin: I should have started with—

Travis: I saw a physicist talking about that if you were to burn like a piece of paper, you can't create or destroy energy. So hypothetically, if you collected all the warmth and ash and water and everything that was made by that fire, you could put it back together. So you're taking this sucky puzzle and you're making into a much more challenging puzzle.

Griffin: What the fuck did you just—what the fuck did you—

Justin: What you just said made not a damn lick of sense, Trav. Not a lick of sense.

Travis: Oh, but history will prove me correct.

Griffin: If you collected the ash—if you—if you grabbed all the—if you siphoned the paper energy. The paper energy?

Justin: The light energy? Like what are you saying?

Travis: Yeah, man, all of that stuff still exists. You didn't destroy any of the stuff that made the paper.

Griffin: No, I know, but I transformed—I burned the paper and it created heat, which is a type of energy. Before that, it didn't have—

Travis: So hypothetically, all the pieces of the paper still exist!

Griffin: May I please! May I please!

Justin: May he please?

Griffin: Before that, it didn't have paper energy. That's crazy.

Justin: [chuckles] It was a picture of baby—it was a part of a picture of baby Yoda.

Griffin: It was a part of picture of baby Yoda. It was paper and paint.

Travis: Every picture of baby Yoda has... has stored energy.

Griffin: Has... what energy?!

Travis: The energy that's—

Justin: The baby—

Travis: The energy that's holding the molecular bonds together, you cretin!

Griffin: Is that puzzle of baby Yoda vibrating on the table?

Justin: That's what the fire is, Griffin!

Griffin: Holy shit.

Travis: When you burn baby Yoda, you are releasing the bonds that hold the molecules together.

Justin: Every picture of—

Travis: Creating energy!

Justin: Every picture of baby Yoda is energy and dirt. It's just fire and dirt smushed together.

Travis: Yes! What do you think Gambit does when he picks up the puzzle pieces of baby Yoda and he turns them into little bombs?

Justin: Voulez-vous coucher avec moi, he turns it into fire and dirt!

Travis: Yes!

Justin: That's his power.

Griffin: Right but, what energy could the paper possibly have—if I plug my phone in—

Justin: Fire.

Griffin: But it doesn't...

Justin: [titters]

Griffin: If it did, I would be in some real trouble, because I got some envelopes on my desk.

Travis: You're lucky—

Griffin: I'm looking at 'em.

Travis: That I can't remember the opposite of kinetic energy. Because that's what it is, but I can't remember.

Justin: Potential.

Griffin: Okay. Well, let me—

Travis: Potential energy! Thank you, Justin.

Griffin: Sorry, guys! I just got a notification, a low battery notification on my phone. Let me plug it into my... books!

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Oh my God, Griffin. It's potential energy and you need Gambit to turn it into kinetic energy!

Griffin: I know about—

Justin: Travis—

Griffin: Potential energy. It's when you look at a rock and you're like, I could throw that. It would go so fuckin' fast. I'm turning arm energy into throw energy into move energy. I understand all that. If I look at a piece of paper and say, "If I burn that, it'd be hot," that's not energy. It's an idea.

Justin: This is the times when science lies to us. What Travis is saying is that if you burn all the stuff from baby Yoda, and you put it all together—

Griffin: Picture! Picture! Picture of baby—a picture of baby Yoda.

Justin: [chuckles] A picture of baby Yoda. What I'm saying is, if you burn a picture of baby Yoda, you get ashes and nothing. And that's the truth.

Griffin: You get—

Justin: That's the truth of it.

Griffin: I'm not gonna short sell here to Travis here, you do get the heat.

Justin: Heat, ashes and... yeah, heat and ashes.

Travis: And what's heat, Griffin?

Justin: Baby Yoda! That's the picture of it, that's the joy of—

Travis: No, heat is energy!

Griffin: It's energy that comes out when it gets too hot.

Travis: Why does it get hot?!

Griffin: The temperature moved up too much and the thing freaked out. And it created an incredible fire from the energy stored within it!

Justin: Right.

Griffin: Am I energy?

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: Your star stuff, baby!

Griffin: I know that I'm—I know I'm stuff, like I think about that... all the time.

Justin: But you're also energy. This is what I'm saying.

Griffin: That's cool, man!

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: Yeah, dude, science rocks!

Justin: Yeah! There's fire inside you.

Griffin: You don't need to be like that to me. This is a moment of wonder and excitement and I—

Justin: He's not stupid. He's not the quarterback. You know what I mean? Like we don't have to—[chuckles] He's not the wood shop teacher. Like, we don't have to like—[chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: You don't have to be a dick about it, he's not a lacrosse coach.

Griffin: This is a cool—

Justin: For fuck's sake. [chuckles]

Griffin: This is a cool moment for me to like—

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I wanna alienate—hold on, there's gotta be somebody I need to alienate. Hold on. [laughs]

Travis: Yeah, come on, you got it! You got it! You got it! You got it! Volleyball coach—

Justin: It's not a geologist!

Griffin: A geologist, wow. [chuckles]

Justin: That was a bad pull. [chuckles]

Griffin: Rock scientists. We were all thinking it, Juice.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I have energy. That's gonna get me—

Travis: You have energy.

Griffin: That's gonna get me through today, Trav. I do appreciate that.

Justin: You are. You're just fire and ashes.

Griffin: I hope when we clip this, because sometimes they clip ones we don't want them to clip, and I'm not excited about people getting in the comments and telling me the things I don't know about middle grade science.

Travis: Does that mean—could Gambit touch Griffin and turn him into a human bomb?

Griffin: I think that's—

Justin: Gambit should be doing that more. He doesn't talk about it, but like the other thing he could do is melt your fucking clothes and blow you up.

Travis: Yeah, he could just blow up Magneto's whole clothes. [chuckles]

Justin: "One thing I didn't try that I could try, everybody."

Griffin: [titters]

Justin: [chuckles] "One thing I could try is touch that dude—"

Travis: "I'm gon' blow up his pants, mon chéri."
"Wait, sorry, what?"

Justin: One—one thing I—one thing I can try—

Travis: "I'm gon' blow up Magneto's pants."

Justin: [chuckles] "One thing I could try, mon chéri, is touching his helmet and blowing his fucking brains up."

Travis: "What? Gambit... don't do that!"
"I'm just saying I could."

Justin: "He wouldn't see that shit coming, mon chéri." Why doesn't—why isn't Nightcrawler's like, "I could teleport inside of him."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Just once. It would be so bad for me, but like—"

Griffin: I don't know who gets—

Travis: "I can hold a big stick, teleport so I land kind of in front of him, so the stick is through him."

Justin: Magneto might be—by the way, it's Wednesday, February 5th. We don't read the comics—

Griffin: It is Wednesday, February 5th today.

Justin: So Magneto might be good right now, I don't actually know. But if Magneto is bad, that's—

Travis: A Sentinel. Well, yeah, couldn't... couldn't Gambit just touch a huge Sentinel and then like, okay.

Griffin: What if he touches the ground?

Travis: What if he aggressively adjusts himself? [titters]

Griffin: What if he aggressively adjusts himself on the Grammys stage?

Travis: Oh, no. [chuckles]

Griffin: On nights—on music's—

Travis: My balls.

Griffin: Music's biggest night, Gambit makes his balls explode on stage.

Justin: [titters]

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: We're all excited for Sabrina Carpenter, but I just watched Gambit, you know, Remy, blow his balls up on stage. Really overshadows Beyoncé's accomplishment if you ask me, when we had to watch Gambit blow up his balls on the Grammy stage, music's biggest night.

Travis: [chuckles] And then weep.

Griffin: Did he weep?

Travis: For an hour!

Griffin: Of course he weeped! Like, yeah.

Travis: He probably died.

Griffin: I think Gambit died on stage at music's biggest night.

Travis: Unless it cauterized.

Griffin: Let's go to the Money Zone.

[theme music plays]

Travis: This podcast? This one right here? Why, it's sponsored by Squarespace. Come on in. Have a seat! Welcome to Squarespace presents My Brother, My Brother and Me, a Squarespace endeavor.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Justin: Whoa.

Travis: What do you guys think about this? I'm thinking if I say Squarespace enough, they'll have to pay us more.

Griffin: That's, yeah, I mean, that is—

Justin: I love that.

Griffin: We've literally never talked to our ad people, but I do think that that is an unwritten rule of advertising.

Travis: We were created by Squarespace.

Griffin: We came out of Squarespace.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: We were—

Justin: We were birthed.

Travis: A dream that Squarespace had and made real.

Griffin: One big egg.

Justin: It cried a single tear.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: The tear became an egg. We all three came out of it, six years apart.

Justin: The egg's name was Thought. [titters]

Travis: Yeah, man.

Justin: And we leapt from the egg fully-formed.

Travis: And we suckled at the teat of Squarespace.

Griffin: This is cool. This is a cool ad.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. It's a cool legend.

Travis: Yeah. And that's how we became—

Griffin: I'm like willing to let my brain go to more out there places now that I know I'm made of energy. Like, that's sick.

Justin: It's huge.

Travis: Did you know Squarespace is made of energy?

Griffin: It is. It's made of internet energy. And it can share that with you. You can harness it. You can grab it with both hands and harness the power Squarespace.

Travis: And accept payments the easiest—like, the easiest way possible.

Griffin: Yeah, with all the different payment methods.

Travis: Because Squarespace payments puts the energy in your hands.

Griffin: That's right.

Travis: You can get started with just a few clicks and give your customers more ways to pay, with popular payment methods like Klarna, ACH and Apple Pay. You can grow credibility and engage visitors! What?

Justin: I want to grow my visitors. [chuckles]

Travis: I want to grow—yeah, okay, I want to engage credibility and grow my visitors.

Griffin: I bet they can do that too.

Justin: This new ray.

Travis: Within—

Justin: My credibility has never been better and my audience is bigger than ever, with my incredible ray!

Travis: "Whoa, you have so many people in your audience?"

"No there's five of 'em, but they're all 12 feet tall." And they have an unrivaled suite of visual design effects built in and ready to go on any Squarespace website. Go to [squarespace.com](https://www.squarespace.com) for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, go to <https://www.squarespace.com/mybrother> to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Griffin: I don't want to do this ad, because I don't want a bunch of people out there who chomp my flavor. Because I got these glasses at Warby Parker.

Travis: Oh, okay?

Griffin: I did get these glasses—and I've gotten a lot of compliments on these glasses. They are assertive. They're statement glasses. They are saying, yeah, I need corrective eyewear in order to party in this world, but I look good doing it. But if there's a bunch of people out there walking around with these Lisa Loeb beauties on their—

Travis: In the land of the blind—

Griffin: Well, those are more of a cat's eye.

Travis: Griffin has glasses and he's king. And he doesn't want to stop being king, is what he's saying.

Griffin: No, I'm not saying that. Warby Park is great. The app is genuinely—I have fun when I use it, which sounds like bullshit.

Justin: Yeah, it's a buzzing experience. Yeah, I gotcha.

Griffin: But when you use it, you see like all these different style opportunities. And you press a button and then you can see what they look like on your face. It's magical! It's—and then you get the five pairs of the home try-on program so you don't buy a pair of shitty glasses. It's—

Travis: Well, they have a ton of options, Griffin. Just tell people not to get your specific glass.

Griffin: I won't even say—nice try. I won't even say mine. Good luck, treasure hunters. It's out there. It's—they just got some new frames in also, for the new year. I'm not even reading—gang, I'm not reading the copy points. I just like Warby Parker. Let me make sure I didn't skip anything though. No, okay, we're good.

Get started with Warby Parker's virtual try on. You can try on glasses and sunglasses, seeing the realistic color, texture and size of each style right from home, right now. Or head over to warbyparker.com/mybrother right now to take the home try on quiz and pick five pairs of frames to try on at home for free. That's warbyparker.com/mybrother.
[Warbyparker.com/mybrother](https://warbyparker.com/mybrother).

It's a shame I'm a little bit under the weather, because I feel like that one was pretty solid and the kind we could send to like one of our companies to advertise for—

Travis: Or that could have been—

Griffin: See? Sometimes we do it good. Sometimes we do it... we really do it.

Travis: That could have been in our highlight reel when we win the iHeart podcast best ad read award.

Griffin: We are never, ever, *ever* gonna win that award.

Travis: Not if people don't vote for us.

Griffin: No, I don't even actually want people to waste their energy on it.

Travis: What?

Griffin: There's nothing you can do.

Travis: I would just love to earn Conan's respect for once.

Justin: Never happen.

Griffin: Never happen. There's simply—

Justin: Never happen.

Griffin: Audience, we love you. There simply isn't enough of you to move the needle on this one. So save your—

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: Save your efforts for other stuff.

Justin: Don't even try it.

Griffin: Please. Thank you.

Travis: Yeah, what are you gonna do, prove us wrong?

Justin: I know what you're thinking, that maybe you're gonna try anyway and get everybody together and—

Travis: And embarrass Conon.

Justin: Work really hard. Yeah—

Griffin: Dead ass!

Justin: Embarrass Conon—

Griffin: Dead ass. Don't bother.

Justin: But don't bother, there's no chance. I know! I know. I know. It would be pretty cool.

Travis: And we're an underdog, and sometimes people root for those.

Griffin: This is, I'm not, I'm on—

Travis: I get it.

Griffin: I'm going to the other side of the seesaw and I know it's a futile effort.

[break]

Travis: Well—

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Griffin: Fuckin' hell, man.

Justin: [continues riffing] Breakdown in the system.

Griffin: Holy—

Justin: It's Valentine's Day.

Griffin: Holy shit.

Justin: [chuckles] Happy Valentine's Day, everybody. It's February 5th, but by my calculations, it's also our Valentine's Day episode?

Travis: Yeah, man. And our Groundhog's Day episode.

Justin: And our Groundhog's Day episode, isn't that something?

Griffin: It's a lot, man.

Justin: We got a lot going on.

Travis: And our Super Bowl and our Grammys.

Justin: I'm actually pretty mad about this first one because I completely missed the opportunity to buy this Dunkin' capsule collection for Valentine's Day. You know what? I'm not even gonna give them a satisfaction. Fuck them.

Griffin: Fuck those guys!

Travis: Yeah, dude, fuck—

Griffin: That's awesome, Juice.

Travis: We need more energy like that.

Griffin: Do that more of just like, that's right, KFC has got a new chicken pizza. You know what? Fuck those—

Justin: Fuck KFC! [chuckles] I don't mean that, KFC. No, I wanna tell you—

Travis: All they're missing—and you know what? To fuck KFC, all they're missing is you.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: True.

Justin: No, I just wanted to—

Travis: Because there's a K, an F and a C in fuck as well, but not a U.

Griffin: Okay, okay, okay...

Justin: No, no, it's good. It's good, it's good, it's good. No, I just wanted to, real quick, mention that for the big game, BW3s is doing it again, probably. It's kind of—this is one of the weirder press releases. I don't think I've ever read a press releases that's kind of as equivocating. "Even after paying up on the deal. B Dubs once again offers America free wings if the big game goes to overtime. Now, for a little context, last year, there was this contest that BW3s did where—not really a contest, but like a promotion where if the game went into overtime, everybody gets free wings. And you know what happened? The game did good over time so everybody in the world ate free wings there the next day.

Griffin: How did they stay extant as a—

Justin: It's a miracle. "You read that right. Football fans can rest assured that Buffalo Wild Wings is bringing back its iconic overtime deal for the seventh consecutive year. When the thrilling big game went into overtime in 2024, fans across the nation were able to celebrate with free wings. After making good on its promise last year, Buffalo Wild Wings is daring to once again put a wager on the line." If the big game goes into OT, B-Dubs is ready to do it again. Free wings.

Travis: Now, what I love there is that they talk about it like there's a risk associated with it. As though like, "Yeah, man, listen, it fucked us up real bad last year. Oh my God, we had to lay off half of our employees. But—"

Griffin: "We had to drop the weck. We're just BWs—twos now."

Travis: "But now, man, we just can't help ourselves. Like, we're doing it again."

Griffin: "It's the only way we can get our rocks off, is by almost blowing it, big time."

Travis: "And do we win anything if they don't go into overtime? No."

Griffin: "You guys have to—maybe you guys would come in and buy some wings if they don't go into overtime. You ever think of—"

Travis: "You give us free wings that then we sell back to you."

Griffin: "We like wings! We don't get... we don't actually get to eat that many wings here. Which is fuck up."

Travis: "Especially since we gave so many of them away."

Griffin: "Because we gave 'em all away. We like wings, but we—"

Travis: How about—

Griffin: "Don't get to get 'em."

Travis: If it doesn't go into overtime, you have to come work one shift unpaid at—

Griffin: At the wing factory. It's spicy work, gang.

Travis: Everybody. "The air is full of spices, the ground is slippery with salt! Oh, sauce. We have in—we have constant injuries here. Please come."

Justin: So, last—so, here's the quote. "Are we crazy for bringing our overtime deal back after last year's turnout? Maybe."

Travis: What?

Justin: "After giving away 2.5 million wings last year, we know it's a bold move to bring it back." Said Tristan—

Griffin: That's 1.25 beautiful birds.

Justin: Now think about this for a second. Okay, wait, let me finish the quote. "For us at B Dubs, it's all about the thrill of the game. And we're

pumped to give all football and wing fans another chance of scoring big. No matter who they cheer for." So, here's—my question is this. Each chicken is going to give you four wings, by my math.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: So 2.5 divided by four—

Griffin: Oh, you're right.

Justin: It's like 600,000-ish, right? Six...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: 625. 625,000 chickens. How is mist your moms and his friends supposed to handle the pressure—imagine you're a kicking guy.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Right? You're gonna kick it for the tie. And if you kick it for the tie, you're killing over half million chickens to death. So here's the stakes!

Travis: Now to be fair, kicking guy—

Justin: Either you get your duckets, or you send 625,000 fuckin' chickens to the cemetery!

Travis: Kicking guy—

Justin: Or—

Justin: For Kansas City has some questionable opinions. He might fuckin' hate chickens.

Griffin: [chuckles] He might actually want very badly for this to happen. Oh, fuck, man.

Justin: It's huge stakes.

Griffin: Huge, huge, huge stakes.

Travis: Here's what I'm gonna say. If BW3s had had the sheer power to be willing, they should take it a step further and include a lot of side bets. Where it's like, "If the first thing is a field goal, the first point scored is a field goal, then we will cover the windows with sauce." Right? Have more—

Griffin: Get crazy.

Travis: Random bets, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Everybody gets like a beer mug full of ranch if, you know, if the game is tied at halftime. They need to go further with this.

Griffin: "If it's tied at halftime, our VP has to get its butt out."

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Something like really like fun, low stakes.

Travis: Yeah. "Whoever our mascot is will eat a whole live chicken—"

Griffin: Yeah, it's a chicken. It's a chicken.

Travis: "If Patrick Mahomes cries."

Justin: Once, out loud. [chuckles]

Travis: Once, in his life.

Justin: On camera.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Out of sadness!

Griffin: Out of sadness.

Travis: It can't be a happy cry!

Justin: No.

Griffin: Can't be "I just won the Super Bowl for a night time in a row." God, what a boring fucking sport. Are you kidding, guys, with this stuff?

Travis: "My hands are so heavy. Too many rings." They should make—if the quarterback has won before, he should have to wear his Super Bowl rings during the game.

Griffin: During the game.

Travis: To hamper his abilities.

Griffin: I've always fucking said that. I have always said that. Let's see if—let's see if superstar Tom Brady can get out there and take home another one if every time he throws it, a couple of his rings go off and they have to go find 'em in the grass.

Justin: Yeah. That's the future the liberals want for you.

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: That one sounds good, though. That one sounds really good, though.

Justin: It's really—

Travis: If you get 10 of 'em, can you cash 'em in for a bracelet?

Griffin: You should be able to get one big—like a girdle. Something big.

Travis: Or a belt! I mean, at that point.

Griffin: Yeah, cool.

Justin: I'm gonna complain about this one real quick. Hungry Howie's, this is a press release on qsr magazine.com. The number one spot. Hungry Howie's launch a secret menu for big game.

Travis: For big boys. [titters]

Justin: "Hungry Howie's is kicking off National Pizza Day and the big game with a new addition to its secret menu, the Hangry Howie pizza, perfect for game day gatherings and pizza parties. The Hangry Howie is packed with bold flavors and toppings designed to tackle even the fiercest hunger and cravings. Starting February 9th, fans can order the Hangry Howie exclusively through the secret menu for delivery and carry out." What the fuck do you think a secret menu is?! Because I'll give you a hint, it's not thing you write press releases about!

Griffin: No...

Travis: All it is is—

Justin: That's not a secret menu!

Travis: We didn't print off new like, you know, plastic whatever signs to go in the lighted things that you see behind the counter that tell you what it is.

Griffin: Yes. This is a good point, especially when McDonald's used to really iterate fast and hot, and would just toss shit on the menu. They did effectively have a secret menu, in so far as every time I went to McDonald's and was like, "Yeah, let me get that bratwurst. Let me get that bratwurst that hits so good." Most of the time they're like, "What do you fuckin' talk—you can't order a hot dog in here. Are you out of your mind?" You do have them back there, I promise.

Justin: "At Hungry Howie's, we know that National Pizza Day and the big game are sacred occasions for pizza fans." Says Jeff Rinke.

Travis: Sacred?

Justin: What?

Travis: Sacred?

Justin: Sacred, Travis. Sacred. Much like—

Travis: Sacred?

Justin: Language is sacred to those of us that care—

Travis: Oh, see, I thought—

Justin: And Jeff Rinke—

Travis: You were saying secret menu. But you've been saying sacred menu this whole time. Okay.

Griffin: That's right.

Justin: Sacred menu. Right, passed down on tablets.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "As part of our sacred menu, it highlights our commitment to the sanctity of marriage." No, that's not what it says.

Travis: [chortles]

Justin: It says—[chuckles] "Hungry Howie's began as a thousand square foot hamburger shop in Taylor, Michigan." And now, here it is.

Travis: "We ran out of buds." [titters]

Justin: [chuckles] Making a mockery of the word secret. "My partner and I received a fancy milf-k frother for Christmas." I'm—man, I said milf..

Griffin: I know.

Justin: And—

Griffin: No one said anything, though.

Justin: I'm sorry.

Griffin: Did you catch that? How me and Travis are growing?

Justin: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. "I'm very excited about it and I've been making frothy milk drinks at home. When we have friends over, I make frothy milk—I offer to make frothy milk drinks for them, but they often turn it down. I worry this is because they're worried it'll be too much work for me. I want to share froth with the world. How can I encourage my guests to accept a frothy drink and what should I try frothing next?" That's from Frothing in the Big City.

Griffin: Man, we—it's been a while since we've had a full-blown mad person up in here.

Justin: Yeah, like a—

Griffin: It's been a while since we've had a real wild one like this.

Justin: I would like to—I would like to try to help this person.

Griffin: Please.

Justin: Because I feel like I have often been the person in their situation, right?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: I'm excited about something like that I think is very fun and decadent, that maybe others aren't as like necessarily charmed by. And like recently what a lot of people in my life, sort of like friends and family, have—around me have started to communicate is that they do not like this.

Travis: Oh?

Justin: Like that they—

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Right, so this is an unenjoyable way for me to be behaving.

Griffin: Right, sure. [chuckles]

Justin: Friends who I try to like—who I'll maybe like—to use this example, I'll make a frothy milk drink and just shove it in their hands. Stuff like that. They've expressed to me, sort of everybody I know is like, that's not something that they enjoy or indeed will continue to tolerate.

Griffin: Right. Yeah.

Travis: So you're—

Justin: So my—

Travis: Working on my new friends? Or...

Justin: I don't think you came to me for me to say stop it, but I have learned recently from a lot of people around me that the answer might be—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Stop. [chuckles] Just stop it.

Griffin: That's cool. Like, it's like the welder—

Justin: Just like relax, just like cut it out.

Griffin: It's like the welder thing. Like you have experience with this specific thing, so you can give kind of like evidence of the best course of action.

Justin: A younger me might have had some different advice, but this new me has had his eyes open quite a bit. [chuckles]

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: And... yeah.

Travis: See, this is fun, because in many ways I am a younger Justin and I was going to say a different thing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, let's hear your thing, Trav.

Travis: My thing was about—

Griffin: And I'll like judge as like sort of third party. But I don't—

Travis: My thing was a—

Griffin: I don't give a fuck! So I'll judge for both you guys.

Travis: Here in the Midwest, we have kind of a secret menu of conversation.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Where like you offer once, and then they say no because they think it would be an inconvenience. And then you offer again.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: And then they say yes.

Justin: That's when it's clear you need it.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] When you—yeah.

Travis: "No, it's really no trouble."
"Oh okay."

Griffin: If someone—

Travis: Sometimes three times.

Griffin: If I was a guest in someone's house and they said, "Do you want a frothy milk drink?" First of all, my answer would be, of course, no. I don't want to drink any milk drink, but especially one that you... thickened? One that you sort of carbonated a little bit. That's going to be a no for me, dog. If they offered it to me a second time, I would leave. That is... that person hasn't... has a bad relationship with the thing that they're trying to give you. And I want to be out of—I want to get out of that. I already did say no, I have to get out of this house.

Travis: One time for Christmas, I think Teresa got like one of those like whipped cream canister things where you put like the CO2 cartridges in and make—and like we were so excited and like we got people over. And like had made like pie and like hot chocolate and stuff. And we were like, "And we have this thing." And I believe it was only used to buy Teresa and myself. And it was like an audition for the whipped cream canister to become a permanent fixture in our lives, and it failed the audition. And it was like, well—

Griffin: Oh, as it often does. Yeah, whenever—

Travis: In the cabinet you!

Griffin: My—

Travis: Goodbye forever.

Griffin: My favorite game is watching Top Chef when someone pulls one of those out, and being at home like a wise asshole just like, "That's gonna fuckin' explode." And it does every—it never works, it explodes—

Justin: It doesn't work!

Griffin: Every time.

Justin: Don't work. It's a pain in the ass and then at the end of the day, no one is trying to solve the problem like, "I'm really not getting enough whipped cream."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Like, you're not making—I need to get better, higher volume whipped cream day to day in my life.

Travis: Have you noticed that when someone uses the—even like just a can of whipped cream. There is a second of such terror as you push on the nozzle of like what pressure is about to spray out of here and just fling hot chocolate everywhere. Or get like—it's never like a gentle build up. It's like, psheew! Right? The first time. And it—like you—everybody gets nervous for a second.

Griffin: I think... I think you can't—you simply can't offer it a second time, I'll leave the house. I'm your guest now, in this instance. That's wild, you don't ask a second time. You need to work on your first sales pitch. You can only really get this question out the door one time. I'm kind of a tea guy now. That's like my new thing. I get nice teas and I have a fancy pot for making it. And I like it, I drink it every night. Love a tea. And so when someone comes over and I want to give them tea, I'll be like, "Do you want some tea? I got the really good shit." Or like I'll say something to let them know like—

Justin: That's nice.

Griffin: It's gonna be good tea.

Justin: That's a better pitch.

Griffin: So, what could you say sort of about frothed milk?

Justin: One thing is like I'm doing one already. Like I'm already frothing—

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Like you could be mid froth like, "Whoa, this is looking pretty good, do you want one?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Like that. "Here, take this one."

Griffin: You say, "Don't make me be the only one frothing over here."

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Peer pressure.

Justin: I'm frothing at the mouth.

Travis: Also, you could just go ahead and have a barista like outfit on and like have a counter set up with like a register. And write their name on a cup and be like—

Griffin: That's fun.

Travis: "What do you want?"

Griffin: Yeah. That's cool.

Justin: One thing I've tried is if they say no the first time, kind of being pouty and petulant for an hour.

Travis: Ooh, I like that.

Justin: That's one thing you might—

Travis: Show me how that works, Justin?

Justin: Well, here's what you do. You do that and then every 20 minutes or so, your wife will ask if everything's wrong. You say, "No, no, no. Seriously, nothing. It's fine."

Griffin: Awesome. Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. And then eventually you snap out of it, I don't know. Something else catches your attention.

Travis: And you kind of spin the frother sadly in the air just like, "Hm, lonely."

Justin: Someone quietly knocks on your bedroom door and says, "Actually, you know what? I'm actually kind of jonesing for some frothing, if that's still—"

Griffin: It's way too late. It's way too late at that point.

Justin: It's too late, no. I threw that thing away, no.

Travis: Yeah, that is stupid.

Griffin: Juice, I—

Justin: No, it's stupid. I didn't even actually have one. [chuckles]

Griffin: Based on what you said earlier, Juice, I didn't know that this was an option to do what I'm about to do. But I don't like when you do that.

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: I don't like when you do that.

Justin: I know!

Travis: I do, it makes—

Justin: But I'm saying—here's—

Travis: Me feel superior to you.

Griffin: I don't say that enough to hope for—hope that you change. And so—

Justin: But the reason that I know that I have this insight is that I have started to become, in this year of our lord 2025, my... my way that I'm being faster than fear and I'm kind of—like I know we're getting ahead of things a little bit with the finale. Because it's like, I'm just telling people what's happening up there now. I'm just—

Travis: Whoa!

Justin: Telling people—

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: *Exactly* what's happening.

Travis: You're sharing thoughts and feelings with people?

Justin: Not sharing.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Travis, you're doing the energy thing! Don't do the energy—

Travis: No, that was an honest—

Griffin: This is a moment of wonderful growth.

Travis: See, that was a sincere ask!

Justin: It's like, we hate that, yeah. No, what I'm saying is that I'm just telling people that like, for example, in this milk frother, I—if I were in this

situation I would say, "Hey, can I froth you milk drink? It's really all I think about anymore. And if I don't make someone a milk frothing drink, I'm gonna actually think about it all day." And you will say—what that frees people in your life to say is, "Yeah, I will take one. For future reference, I don't like this." Right? And that frees me from ever having to think about it again, because they have said, "I don't want it." And I'll say, "Okay! Sounds good." But they didn't know to tell me to cut it out, unless I told 'em how weird I was being!

Griffin: That's awesome.

Travis: This is something I started doing with my wife, because there are many TV shows and books and things that I enjoy that she does not. And I desperately need to talk about them... with someone.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I will say, "Hey, I know you don't care about this thing. I just need to like say my feelings about—"

Griffin: Get this out.

Travis: "It out loud for like two minutes. And then I won't bother you about it again." And she was like, "Okay, go." And she'll listen and go, "Oh, cool. Whoa, that sounds nice." And then we're past it.

Griffin: So you're saying next time I offer someone tea, I should walk in and be like, "Hey. I say I'm kind of a tea guy now, but I feel like such a fucking phony about it."

Justin: Yes. Okay, good! Griffin!

Griffin: I feel like—

Justin: You're so close, keep going.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: Hey. I say that I'm kind of a tea guy now because I buy it, but I buy a lot of shit. And I feel like a total phony. I think the tea is really good, but if I don't get someone to mirror me a little bit and tell me if my judgment about the tea is accurate or not, I'm gonna feel like this for as long as I drink tea. Which may be a minute and it maybe the rest of my life, I don't know. Will you help me? Help me drink this tea and tell me if I'm full of shit or not. And if you say I am? Cool, man. I'm next hobby. I'll get back into candy making or some.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Authentic—

Justin: Or whatever!

Griffin: Authenticate—

Justin: I mean, whatever the thing is, it doesn't have to be a hobby. It can be like literally anything. You just say... just say how you're feeling.

Griffin: Do we—yeah.

Justin: I know, I know, yeah. But like—

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: Honestly saying it, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Like not in a way where you think people are gonna be scared. Because a lot of other people are thinking pretty wild stuff too, you'll find.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Whoa.

Justin: But once people just start saying it all the time, it's pretty liberating.

Griffin: That's the energy, huh? That's the energy—

Justin: That's my energy—

Griffin: I finally figured out that—

Justin: Is I just tell people—

Griffin: That's all the energy.

Justin: Just tell people, hey, here's what's going on. And I'm honest with myself a lot more in that sense, too. Because, hey... it's been this way upstairs the whole time.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I have no reason to think—

Griffin: They didn't bring—

Justin: I might as well start—listen, listen! If the landscape ain't gonna change, I better start printing maps!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Because it seems like things are gonna—

Travis: That's beautiful.

Justin: Be this way for a while!

Travis: I love that, Justin.

Griffin: They might—they might add new guys to the Inside Out movie, but the old ones are still there!

Justin: They're still gonna watch 'em!

Travis: Hey, where's the hyper fixation guy, by the way? I want to see that guy in my brain, in my Inside Out brain. That guy who's just like, "Man 3D printing, though. Like, it's all we've ever loved, right? It's all we've ever talked about."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "We can go broke on filament, right? Right? We all love this."

Griffin: Do the Inside Out guys—

Justin: We all love this. This is good.

Griffin: Have littler Inside Out guys inside their heads?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: I didn't see Inside Out 2.

Travis: It's the Cars universe. [chuckles]

Griffin: Wait...

Justin: Yeah, the cars are inside the Inside Out guys. [titters] Cars is happening inside one of the Inside Out guys.

Griffin: And it's telling them how to feel?

Travis: Yup.

Griffin: And what to think?

Justin: Yeah, it's Miles Teller... telling them how to—

Griffin: Got him stuck in your craw, huh? What a weird one to get stuck in your craw.

Travis: Inside the Cars guy?

Justin: [chuckles] Miles a lot. Miles and miles today.

Travis: Inside of Lightning McQueen is WALL-E, telling him how to feel. And inside of WALL-E is Joseph Gordon Levitt trying to get him out of there, trying to give him the kick to get him back up to the surface.

Griffin: That's awesome. And the surface is the little girl in Inside Out.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: Okay, cool.

Justin: Yes. Hey, thanks for listening to our podcast. Another great, normal one. We really appreciate you being here with us. If you want to come laugh together, February 20th and 21st, we're going to be in Tampa with My Brother, My Brother and Me and TAZ respectively. First TAZ live in Florida. And we got—that's going to be TAZ versus Romeo versus Juliet. That's going to be really good. February 22nd, we're in Jacksonville with My Brother, My Brother and Me. For more info and ticket links, go to bit.ly/mcelroytours.

Travis: Also, right now, we've got just a few more cabins for Champions Grove available now. That's going to be Memorial Day weekend in May. I believe it's May 22nd and 23rd—or 23rd and 24th, 25th, 26th. We're doing a four day weekend. Come hang out with me and a bunch of other great role play—actual role play creators. And a bunch of wonderful people playing games in a castle in Ohio. We also have the scholarship application form up now at championsgrove.com. Come check it out. Get your tickets, get your packages before it's too late.

Griffin: We got some new merch over at the merch store, over at mcelroymerch.com, for you to peruse. Also, if you missed our Candlenights special last year, you can still watch it video on demand. It's pay what you want. All proceeds go to Harmony House. And 10% of all of our merch proceeds this month will be donated to World Central Kitchen over at mcelroymerch.com. Thank you to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. It's a fantastic one with a steady beat that you can really bop to.

Travis: Now, Justin, we had a listener-submitted faster than fear. Would you read it this week?

Justin: Yes, I would be happy to.

Travis: Should we make some like vroom-vroom noises or like a drum beat in the—

Griffin: I'll be honest, doing noises last year really got played out for me real fast.

Travis: Okay, yeah, the Justin, just read it, baby.

Griffin: Let's play with silence.

Justin: Whoa, Griffin, say that again. Play with silence.

Griffin: Let's play with silence. Did you like that?

Justin: That's... I think there's something there.

Griffin: I say shit like that all the time, man. I gotta start wearing one of those little recorders.

Justin: Yeah, I love that. Hey, listen, in this the year of our lord 20-thunder-drive, "I'm releasing my fear of birds. Just because a parrot cussed me out at a pet store when I was seven doesn't mean all birds hate me. It just means that local hooligans taught the parrot how to cuss."

Griffin: That's a good fear to have. I actually wish you did still—some birds are out to—

Travis: That you're afraid that all birds hate you and wanna cuss you out?

Griffin: Some of 'em are out to get—

Justin: A little bit of that.

Griffin: Some—

Justin: A little bit of that is good.

Griffin: Just a little bit. A little bit of that's good—

Travis: But not to cuss you out, birds—

Griffin: It's the salt that makes the chocolate taste sweeter.

Justin: Just a little bit of—my name is Justin—

Travis: Birds have to have their own—

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: Cuss words that we don't know about.

Griffin: I—

Justin: [mumbles] My name is Justin McElroy.

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

Travis: [spoofs bird sound] Ba-ka.

Justin: [spoofs bird sound] Ba-ka. [chuckles]

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

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