

MBMBaM 85: Candlenights 2011 Special

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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 plays]

Justin:

Hello, everybody, and welcome to, um... our Yuletide, sort of, flowed into Boxing Day.

Travis:

Don't miss it, or Yule be sorry!

Justin:

Okay, well... it's our Yuletide, uh, observation of Candlenights. I am your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Travis:

I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy, and I'm already embarrassed by that joke I just made.

Griffin:

I'm a baby.

Justin:

Baby—

Griffin:

I'm a bab— I'm a man-sized baby, and my name is Griffin McElroy.

Justin:

Baby G, Big T, Daddy J. Here with you again.

Griffin:

[makes grossed-out noise]

Justin:

My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modern era. This is a time for you to gather with your family and say, "Hey, I got this show." Um...

Griffin:

"It's for you, sometimes."

Justin:

"It's for you, sometimes. Once in a great while, it's for you."

Griffin:

There's 51 episodes in a year that you should not listen to, 'cause it gets coarse, I would say. The subject matter and language that we use.

Travis:

It gets quite blue.

Justin:

It's blue and coarse.

Griffin:

Hm.

Justin:

But not this time! This time, it— this weekend, it's...

Travis:

Red and smooth.

Justin:

It's nice and smooth.

Griffin:

Most of the time, it's like a rough blueberry bramble patch, and you don't wanna go through that bramble patch, 'cause it's sharp. There are sharp edges, and it's blue.

Travis:

Where this is like a raspberry pillow.

Griffin:

This is a raspberry pillow for you to sleep on. Come with us.

Justin:

No curse words. Here we go.

Griffin:

No curse words in this episode. Merry Candenights to all, and to all a good episode.

Justin:

[laughs] Yeah, we'll see if we do it without cursing. I don't hold out a lot of hope.

"Hey, guys, my girlfriend and I were debating about giving children gifts early. I believe giving kids [stumbling over words] grifts—" [pauses]

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

"I believe grifting my kids..."

Griffin and Travis:

[laugh]

Justin:

"...is wrong, because the long con rarely works on four-year-olds. Uh, it doesn't do any detrimental harm to them, and is perfectly fine, as long as it's approximately by the holiday they were going to get the presents for anyway. She thinks it would make the kids impatient, and possibly demean the holiday. We would appreciate your help in deciding who is right." Feuding Face-Off in Florida.

Griffin:

How're you supposed to get all excited for Christmas Eve and for Ho-Ho to come, if Ho-Ho already came on, like, December the 20th?

Travis:

Well, here's a solution. What if they got to open their presents, but then you're like, "Okay, that's what you get!" And then you re-wrap it, and then they open them again on Christmas?

Griffin:

Travis, I don't think, outside of some, like, wacky *Memento*, or, if you will, *Clean Slate* scenario, that that goof is gonna work.

Travis:

What if you offered them, like, an envelope full of money, or they can take what's in box number two?

Justin:

Hold on. I need a paper towel.

Griffin:

Did you spill coff— Justin! This was supposed to be an edit-free episode.

Justin:

[walking away from microphone] It will be! [laughs]

Griffin:

Uh, Justin has spilled coffee all over his charger. Um...

Travis:

[laughs] We have moments left before the computer shuts down.

Griffin:

Before the house burns all the way down to the ground, with all of our gifts down inside of it.

Travis:

"Hey, did you guys listen to that Candlenights episode?"

"Yeah, it was real good, 'til they all died in a fire."

Griffin:

I think we're not the right people to talk to about this, because we decided—we elected to save our Candlenights episode for the day after Candlenights happened.

Justin:

[back at microphone] No, Candlenights is a long celebration. It goes—

Travis:

It's like two months.

Justin:

It goes until, like, mid-February.

Griffin:

Oh, my God.

Justin:

I know.

Travis:

Um, but when it starts is always the question.

Justin:

Yeah, that's the question. Well, it doesn't start until we do this episode, so...

Travis:

Oh, okay.

Justin:

Right. Um, so, I think it's bad, because kids— in this world, in my life, as a 31-year-old man, I don't have to wait for anything anymore, you know?

Griffin:

I don't get excited about anything.

Justin:

I don't get excited about anything, 'cause I just get it. If I want a new Rachael Ray 12-inch skillet with nonstick coating, I just buy it on Amazon. I get it the next day.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

For \$2.99. I mean, I miss looking forward to something that much. And, like, your kids are gonna be older. And then next year, after December 12th, we're all gonna be dead, so why not let 'em look forward to Christmas one more time?

Griffin:

Um, I think it's December 20th. So don't rob us of those precious eight days...

Justin:

Okay.

Griffin:

...that we're going to— also, as a parent— I am not a parent. *Yet*. Big announcement, everybody.

Travis and Justin:

[laugh]

Griffin:

But I imagine, as a parent, you get drunk on that power of your kids are *powerless*. They can't buy *anything*.

Justin:

Oh, yeah.

Griffin:

Your kids are poor, and they can't buy anything. But you can buy everything, 'cause you're rich.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Um, so, why not lord that power them? Like, "I know what you got, and you don't, 'cause you're a kid, and you've never bought anything for yourself in your life."

Justin:

Unless I give you, like, an allowance, and you go to KB Toys and buy yourself a Super Soaker, or something.

Griffin:

I'm saying, drink in that power.

Justin:

Just enjoy it. Ride that wave as long as it'll take you.

Travis:

What if you convince your kids that, like, "Yeah, you can open the present, but then you don't get any other presents"?

Griffin:

Yeah, you can—

Travis:

And then you kind of, like, laugh when you say it. Like, "Ha, you can open that, but you don't get any other ones!"

And they're like, "Oh, we wanna open it!"

And you're like, "Okay!"

And then they open it, then Christmas morning, nothing. Just everything's gone, and you're like, "See what you did? 'Cause of your greed and avarice, you get nothing." And you teach them the hardest lesson.

Griffin:

"You can have these presents, but let's see you dance first."

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

"Dance for it." You know what? Now that, uh, it's the day after Christmas, what you should do is really mess with them, get back that power trip, and just put something else under the tree.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Say, "Oops, just 364 more days, and you'll be tearing into this bad boy." Leave it there all year. Let 'em know who's boss! I'm ready for it.

Why're you, like— you're, like, pushing against me.

Travis:

Well, 'cause you're pushing me out of the way.

Griffin:

Oh, guys... this is sad.

Justin:

But I own the couch, though.

[laughs] Hey, Griffin.

Griffin:

You want a Yahoo?

Justin:

Yeah. Yeah, that's what we need.

Griffin:

This Yahoo was sent in by Krista Whalen. Thank you, Krista Whalen. Uh, it is by Yahoo Answers User Angie, who asks, "What is the best Christmas song to strip to?" Can we talk about this on our family show?

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Yeah, I think so. As long as we keep the answers, uh...

Griffin:

Clean? Okay.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Uh, "I'm doing a strip tease as part of my boyfriend's Christmas present."

Travis:

Mm.

Griffin:

"I have the naughty Santa costume. I just don't know what song to use. Any suggestions?"

Justin:

I wonder if [crosstalk].

Travis:

I suggest not getting that present.

Justin:

What? What's wrong with that?

Griffin:

What's wrong with the holiday strip tease and a naughty Santa costume?

Justin:

Why did she spend so much on the naughty Santa costume, if she wasn't going to do the strip tease for her BF?

Griffin:

She really backed into this idea. I think she should've probably picked the song first...

Travis:

Mm-hmm,

Griffin:

...and *then* got out and spent \$70 bucks at Magic Makers...

Justin:

Right.

Griffin:

...to pick up the [crosstalk].

Justin:

Well, it depends on the song that you're stripping to. If you're gonna strip to, like, "Santa Baby," for instance, you wanna put on a diaper and a Santa hat.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

That's true.

Justin:

'Cause that'll really ram home the theme.

Griffin:

[laughs] That'll really take it to sexy town.

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

And if you're gonna do "Little Drummer Boy," you need some bongos. Well-placed bongos.

Justin:

If you're gonna strip to the Christmas classic, "Someone Chopped Off My Arms," you're gonna need commitment.

Griffin:

Uh-huh.

Justin:

[laughs] You're gonna need to really buy into the bit.

Griffin:

Um, actually, it's funny that you mention "Santa Baby." That is, uh, the best answer, as chosen by Asker. Number one *is* "Santa Baby."

Uh, "It screams strip tease," she says.

Travis:

No, it's the skeeviest Christmas song.

Justin:

No, no, it's not.

Griffin:

In that list is also "Blue Christmas," which I could see. I mean, it's a slow Christmas song. Uh, also on that list is, "Have a Holly Jolly Christmas."

Travis:

Hm.

Justin:

Hm...

Travis:

Unless her name is Holly.

Justin:

[laughs] Or Jolly.

Griffin:

Still, I think it would be a little too fast-paced. A little— there'd be too much, uh...

Travis:

[panting heavily]

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

She just passes out at the end.

Griffin:

Do the Charleston.

Justin:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Get those flapper knees going. Is that what those are called, flapper knees?

Justin:

Yeah, flapper knees.

Travis:

Justin, I feel that you contradicted when I said "Santa Baby" was the skeeviest song. What's the skeeviest Christmas song?

Justin:

No, the skeeviest Christmas song is... Griffin, do you know?

Griffin:

Um...

Justin:

"Baby, It's Cold Outside." That's the skeeviest.

Travis:

Oh.

Griffin:

It is!

Justin:

Especially when you get, like, Willie Nelson and Norah Jones singing it together? Ugh!

Travis:

Isn't there a line in there, something about, "My mother will worry"?

Griffin:

Mm-hmm!

Travis:

Or, "My family will worry"?

Griffin:

And then there's the line where he's like, "No, just drink this. Drink this! You have to drink this, it's so tasty! Believe me!"

Travis:

Yeah. [singing] "I have to get away!"

Justin:

Yeah, [crosstalk]—

Travis:

[singing] "No one knows that you're here!"

Justin:

[singing] "I'll call you a liar."

Griffin:

[laughs] Oh, no.

Justin:

[singing] "It never happened."

Griffin:

Um, don't— the holidays are inherently un-sexy. Right?

Justin:

I don't think Christmas is sexy.

Griffin:

I don't think there's much sexy about Christmas, about a fat dude who comes into your house's exhaust pipe, and leaves you gifts.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

None of which are sexy, 'cause your grandpa is there, and he's like, "What's that?" You can't have a sexy thing in that box, can you?

Travis:

I would like to see the follow-up to this question, where it's like, "Well, the strip tease went well, but I probably should've waited 'til after the family Christmas to do it."

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

My boyfriend kept saying, "What'd you get me? What'd you get me? What'd you get me?" And I was on the spot.

Justin:

Yeah, it is uncomfortable when you have to open your gifts in front of your family. [chuckles]

Griffin:

And I'm sorry, a strip tease just isn't a very good present, because you can internet that. You know what I'm saying? And then it's over in— how long is "Santa Baby"? Three minutes? Over in three minutes, and then it's like, "Oh, your present's gone!" Vanished into thin air, into the ether.

Travis:

Unless it's like the ability to call for a strip tease at any moment.

Griffin:

A book of 100 strip tease coupons.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

[laughs] Good for one, uh, wholly inappropriate thing. You can use it in July. That's a gift that keeps on giving.

Hey, Christmas tradition for us to adjudicate on. "My two sisters and I have one incredibly important tradition: disaster themed gingerbread houses. We've done tornadoes, gingerbread house foreclosures, Godzilla rampaging through gingerbread Tokyo, and last year, it was a combo: oil spill and WikiLeaks."

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

[laughs] That's from Ellen. I don't know what a WikiLeaks looks like in a gingerbread house.

Griffin:

I don't know what WikiLeaks is.

Justin:

Oh, good.

Griffin:

Is that when Wikipedia stopped working for a week?

Travis:

It's when, like, Wikipedia got a venereal disease.

Griffin:

Oh, gross.

Justin:

Oh, come on.

Travis:

Yeah!

Griffin:

Travis, Christmas.

Travis:

Christmas.

Griffin:

There's the problem with this year, is that there were a lot of truly, really rough disasters.

Justin:

I mean, you could go tsunami; not funny.

Griffin:

Not funny at all, actually.

Justin:

Not funny.

Griffin:

That's pretty horrible.

Justin:

Not funny.

Griffin:

You could make a tsunami gingerbread house, but then you would lose your job at Geico.

Justin:

[laughs]

Travis:

[laughs] Could you do an Occupy Wall Street gingerbread house?

Griffin:

[mumbling] It was Aflac, wasn't it? It wasn't Geico; it was Aflac.

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Here, we'll try it again, and we'll all just...

Griffin:

You could lose your job at Aflac as the duck voice!

Justin:

Quack, quack.

Travis:

Can you do—

Griffin:

[giggles]

Justin:

That's what I do instead of laughing, now.

Griffin:

Thanks.

Travis:

Can you do Occupy Wall Street gingerbread house?

Griffin:

I think you have to do Occupy Wall Street.

Justin:

Gotta do Occupy Wall Street.

Travis:

Just a bunch of gingerbread tents and hippies.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Yeah. Do that and, um... *Twilight*.

Griffin:

Spray it with some sort of orange glaze, orange demi-glace.

Travis:

What if you combined *Twilight* and Occupy Wall Street? And like, everything was going well with the Occupy Wall Street movie, and *then* the vampires set in!

Justin:

Vampires.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

[whispering] What if the vampire— [speaking normally] oh, my God. What if Occupy Wall Street people are vampires? Think about it.

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing]

Travis:

So wait—

Justin:

Like, here's what I'm saying. What better place to hide in plain sight? We already know that 99% of the people you know in your day-to-day life are vampires.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

Yeah, the 1% are robots.

Justin:

Yeah, the 1% are robots.

Griffin:

50% of those vampires and robots are wizards.

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Justin:

And another 33% are robot-wizard-vampires.

Griffin:

[laughs]

Travis:

Okay. That's a horrifying Venn diagram you just created.

Justin:

Yeah. Uh, and 0.001% the uh, mythological Jewish golem.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

So, uh, just to keep it, uh, holiday-themed. The golem comes at Hanukkah, right?

Travis:

[through laughter] It sure does.

Justin:

I'm not for—

Griffin:

[deep voice] “[crosstalk] candle for you!”

Travis:

[deep voice] “Ho, ho, ho!”

Justin:

I would suggest... I think that this is a good, uh, Christmas tradition. There's a lot of creativity, which I like.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

There's working together, creating something edible, which is always good.

Griffin:

Next year, you're gonna be able to turn it out!

Justin:

Oh, my God. Just pictures of Quetzalcoatl and Ragnarok, battling for supremacy above the...

Griffin:

[laughs] Is that what's gonna happen? A bunch of ancient gods are gonna come over? That's—

Justin:

Yeah, they're gonna walk the Earth!

Griffin:

Oh, no.

Justin:

It's gonna be Quetzalcoatl, Ragnarok, and Kevin Sorbo [crosstalk] battling for supremacy.

Griffin:

Both of his fists are chupacabras.

Travis:

With John Cusack caught in the middle of it all.

Griffin:

No, John Cusack, run with your family!

Justin:

Wait. You're not saying John Cusack's a god, right? You're saying...

Travis:

No, I'm saying he is our window into the situation.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

We can see it through John Cusack's eyes, and that's how we know how it affects us.

Griffin:

John Cusack is the universal humanity's representative.

Travis:

[laughs] He is!

Justin:

But not a god.

Travis:

But not— well, I mean—

Justin:

You've never seen him play putt-putt golf.

Travis:

I mean, not a traditional god, but I mean, he's a god among men.

Justin:

Sure.

Griffin:

Do you guys want a Yahoo, or do you wanna keep talking about... Cusack?

Justin:

No, no, no, I'm...

Travis:

I'm gonna keep *thinking* about Cusack.

Justin:

[laughs] When do you not?

Travis:

Yep.

Griffin:

Uh, oh, this is fun. Uh, Krista Whalen sent this one in, too. Thank you, Krista Whalen. It's by Yahoo Answers User Super Freak, who asks, "I think I know who tried to kill me."

Travis:

[gasps]

Griffin:

"Okay, sorry for the fake title. Just wanted to make it more interesting and something to get your attention. Don't report it. Anyways, have a Merry Christmas, everybody. And yeah, that's all I wanted to say."

Travis:

Wow.

Justin:

That's n— [grumbles]

Griffin:

Ain't that sweet?

Travis:

Wow!

Justin:

Um... [laughs] that's not a question, really.

Griffin:

It's not. I just wanted to pass along Yahoo's Christmas wishes to everybody.

Justin:

[laughs] That's what passes for holiday greetings over there.

Travis:

Okay, wait. So, this is my issue with this. This girl, this person, wanted to wish everyone happy holidays, Merry Christmas. And she thought the best way to get everyone's attention to do that was to let them know that there had been an attempt on her life, and she thinks she knows who did it.

Griffin:

Do you know how many people wished me happy holidays this year?

Travis:

How many?

Griffin:

I can't even count. A billion. Though, if I were guess, roughly one sixth of the world's population, which we— so, like, it doesn't matter anymore. But if someone ran up to me and bit me on the face, and said, "I'm a dog person! I'm half-dog, half-man!"

And I said, "What are you talking about?"

And they said, "Just kidding, happy holidays..."

Travis:

"Also, enjoy the rabies."

Griffin:

That one's gonna mean something to me.

Justin:

You're gonna remember that.

Griffin:

I'm gonna remember that.

Travis:

Well, yes.

Justin:

Um, let's have another Yahoo, what do you think? 'Cause that was...

Griffin:

One that actually makes sense. This one was sent in by Horse-Lover-Fat. Thanks, Horse-Lover-Fat. It's by Yahoo Answers User Touch My Pigtails And Die, who asked...

Travis:

Oh, no.

Griffin:

"If you were a legitimate vampire," as 99% of the world is, "Who would you surprise with the gift of eternal life this Christmas?"

For me, it would be Bob from accounting. He has nice hair, and it deserves to look that way forever.

Travis:

Wow!

Justin:

A legitimate vampire.

Travis:

Uh...

Justin:

Not one of these fakey...

Travis:

Not one of these fly-by-night, Johnny-Come-Lately vampires.

Griffin:

Not one of these kids that go to the mall at a Hot Topic, and they buy the fangs, and they put them on their teeth, and they bite each other.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And then they get sick from the bites.

Justin:

[laughs] From the bites and the, uh, Chinese-made fake fangs.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm. They're made of lead. You'll get sick from putting them in your mouth, and then from putting them in the neck.

Travis:

I don't know if I can say this or not, but I would give that eternal life to the Pope. Make him Forever Pope.

Justin:

Oh, no. Uh, really? You're enjoying, uh, John Ratzenberger now?

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

Enjoying John Ratzenberger that much, that you're gonna keep him as Eternal Pope?

Travis:

I just kind of like the idea of Forever Pope.

Griffin:

Uh-huh.

Travis:

I feel like he could really get a lot done.

Justin:

That's impossible. Think about it. If he—

Griffin:

None of us are Catholic, by the way.

Justin:

None of us are Catholic. [laughs] If you're a vampire, you can't— how's your day gonna be!? He wears a cross on his hat!

Travis:

[laughs] It would be unpleasant.

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing]

Travis:

It's gonna be unpleasant. It's a labor of love.

Justin:

"I'm gonna live forever, and I'm gonna have migraines the whole time, 'cause there's a cross on my hat." Like, what are you talking about? The Pope is the worst. I don't know anybody...

Travis:

His whole style is gonna have to change. I mean, that's obvious. [laughs]

Justin:

I don't know anybody with more day-to-day cross exposure than the Pope.

Travis:

Okay, then, I'm gonna switch to David Boreanaz.

Justin:

[bursts out laughing]

Griffin:

Well, that's a little on-the-nose.

Justin:

Yeah, he's the Pope of my heart.

Travis:

Well, I know he can do it. [laughs] I've seen him succeed as a vampire previously.

Justin:

"You are the only one I know that can handle this power."

Travis:

[laughs heartily]

Justin:

I can't—

Travis:

"Enjoy doing *Bones* forever."

Justin:

I can't just change [unintelligible through laughter] with it. He'll probably just go to a comic book convention, and try to make \$75 dollars just biting people.

Griffin:

[laughs] Um, I'mma say Ellen.

Travis:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Why Ellen?

Griffin:

Here's my reasoning. Can you imagine a world after Ellen? Post Ellen, PE?

Justin:

Uh...

Griffin:

Can you imagine the year 1 PE?

Justin and Travis:

[laugh]

Griffin:

I cannot, and I don't think the world could, either.

Justin:

I don't wanna imagine— I just wanna see her dance, and she'll dance the whole show, and never get tired, 'cause she's a vampire. And then she'll get angry at her guests, who get tired. 'Cause, like, when you're a vampire, you can pretty much dance forever.

Griffin:

Can I do Robert Pattinson? Just as, like, payback.

Justin:

Surprise.

Griffin:

Surprise, now you live forever.

Travis:

Oh, what if you gave him eternal life, and then *immediately* staked him through the heart? Just, like, right away! One-two punch.

Griffin:

Well, that would just be— that would be murder. Or could you get around the murder charge?

Travis:

Because then, it's undead.

Griffin:

You'd be like, "Hey, man. He was a vamp."

Justin:

Yeah. Yeah, you cannot be tried for killing a vamp.

Griffin:

Okay. That's true.

Justin:

Or a tramp.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

You get one from a rail car?

Griffin:

Or a scamp.

Justin:

Or a sca— get outta here. I'm gonna kill you.

Griffin:

[crosstalk]

Travis:

Oh, now I've got it. I'm gonna turn all of the rail riders, all of the lovable hobos, into vampires.

Justin:

Oh, my God! Hey, ABC, I will sell you the series that I just created...

Travis:

[laughs] *Boxcar Vampires!*

Justin:

...about beautiful boxcar vampires that ride the rails in 40k.

Travis:

Boxcar Trampires!

Griffin:

Oh, Trampires...

Justin:

[thudding on table in rhythm] *Boxcar Trampires! Boxcar Trampires!*

[stops thudding] What they'll do, is they'll go around and have premarital sex, and then they'll, um— some of them go to college.

Griffin:

[laughing]

Travis:

[laughs] And some of 'em learn a little bit about love, but a lot about themselves.

Justin:

Yeah. And one of them is Neve Campbell. [laughs] But more, like, matronly, I think.

Griffin:

I would've gone with Mischa Barton, because she looks vampiric in the face region.

Justin:

She does, right?

Griffin:

She looks hollow.

Justin:

Her and, um, Tilda Swinton, I think would be a good...

Griffin:

[laughs] Tilda Swinton could be her mom. Can we sign Tilda on?

Justin:

[British accent] "I'm not ready for TV."

"You get to play a boxcar vampire."

[British accent] "Where do I sign?"

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

[British accent] "How many times do I have to sign to be a boxcar vampire?"

Griffin:

That is an undeniable role.

Travis:

I want you to know, that sounds like Russel Brand doing an impression of Tilda Swinton.

Justin:

[laughs] How about Russel Brand, the vampire?

Travis:

What's he doing?

Griffin:

I would actually—

Travis:

He already looks like he lives in a boxcar!

Griffin:

Whatever the opposite of eternal life is, I would like to give to Russel Brand, I think.

Justin:

[bursts out laughing]

Griffin:

I would like to give him, like, 30-second life left remaining.

Travis:

Just to see what he does. [British accent] "Only now do I know what it means to truly live." And then he's dead.

Griffin:

Um... Let's move on. Let's keep the flow going.

Justin:

Uh, yeah, sounds good.

Griffin:

Remain in the flow.

Justin:

"My mom tells me the story of how once, as a child, I noticed that the presents were wrapped in the same wrapping paper as the previous year. And shortly thereafter, the whole parents-bring-the-presents deal had to be revealed. At what age, and how, did you all discover this parental Christmas conspiracy?" Brian in... Barranquilla.

Griffin:

It's Colombia.

Travis:

First of all...

Justin:

Wait, what? Wait, I want to read this again.

Griffin:

Okay.

Justin:

"My mom sometimes tells me the story of how once, as a child, I noticed the presents were wrapped in the same wrapping paper as the previous year.

And shortly thereafter, the whole... parents-bring-the-presents deal... had to be revealed."

Griffin:

Like...

Justin:

Wait a minute.

Griffin:

The parent—

Justin:

What?

Griffin:

The parents bring the presents to Santa Claus, and then Santa Claus delivers them? That seems like an awfully circuitous...

Travis:

No, I think Santa Claus brings the presents to the parents, and the parents distribute them appropriately.

Griffin:

I don't think Santa— I don't think Ho-Ho, who seems recluse, would operate with a middleman like that. I think he would...

Justin:

Why are his— his prices are so high. Why doesn't he cut out the middle man?

Griffin:

Yeah. There's a lot of overhead in the holiday delivery operation.

Justin:

To my knowledge, if there is this conspiracy of the parents bringing the gifts from Santa Claus to underneath the tree, I have not been made aware of it.

Griffin:

You know what else is a conspiracy? That 9/11 was caused by aliens. It was the Illuminati's work.

Justin:

Right.

Griffin:

And that's total, fakey Hollywood BS.

Travis:

Santa Claus is Illuminati? I'm sorry, I wasn't listening. I jumped in at the end there.

Justin:

No, Santa Claus is Paul Giamatti in the hit film, "Fred Claus." [laughs]

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

I can understand how you would be confused. Um, I'm not sure I understand what the— I think this is one of those tinfoil-hat nutjobs.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

Yeah. Loose change, right? Loose sleigh, I get it.

Travis:

I just wanted to throw out that, going with the concept that parents bring the parents or whatever, if your parents— if you call them on the wrapping paper was the same as last year, and your parents couldn't talk their way out of *that*? Man, they're not good at lying, or they just gave up, or you were, like, 14.

Justin:

Yeah, that's not a good way to get out of that situation.

Travis:

"Oh, yeah... the wrapping paper's the same. Yeah, it was us, whatever."

Justin:

Why would Santa need to buy new— okay. This is what I feel, personally, in my heart. And you people at home may have a different opinion on this, but I feel like Santa Claus doesn't wrap anything.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

No, he's all thumbs.

Justin:

Santa Claus brings the chi— that's—

Griffin:

Is he just the delivery man? Is that his only duty?

Justin:

All he does is brings 'em, eats some cookies, and jams out.

Travis:

Santa Claus is like Amazon. The parents put in the call for presents, and he brings 'em.

Griffin:

I'm not comfortable with that, either.

Justin:

No, I don't like that either.

Griffin:

I don't like that there's a man somewhere in the world, whom I've never met, nor will I ever see, who knows the darkest recesses of my heart. Knows what material objects I want.

Travis:

That's the scariest thing to me, because he knows that when I watch TV and the Forever Lazy comes on, there's something that clicks in my head, and goes, "Well, it looks like Travis is getting a Forever Lazy this year," and I don't want anyone to know that I want the Forever Lazy.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

Right.

Griffin:

Here's the other thing, is that Santa Claus was the only person that knew that this year for Christmas, I wanted, uh, *Drive Angry* shot in 3D on Blu-ray.

Travis:

Mm-hmm. And did he get it for you, Griffy?

Griffin:

Santa Claus did get that for me.

Justin:

Yeah, but he told—

Griffin:

He used Travis as his envoy.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

[laughs] His [crosstalk].

Travis:

It came to me in a dream. Santa Claus appeared, and said, "Lo, [laughs] Griffin needs *Drive Angry*."

Griffin:

"Griffin needs this movie."

Justin:

Travis was, for a moment, made Santa flesh on Earth, is what you're saying.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

Santa, made corporeal.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Uh, what's your best Christmas present ever? We asked you guys to tell us, and our friend Cole said, "I've gotten tons of video games and stuff for Christmas, but nothing beats [forward] *my blanket*."

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing]

Justin:

Um, "I'm a tall—" um, by the way, I'm doing that to people now. I'm putting in weird inflections. Uh, "I'm a tall-ish dude, and no blankets were long enough, so my mom made me a very long, fleece blanket by hand. I'm still using it seven years later!"

Griffin:

You said that so precociously. "That's *my* blanket!"

Travis:

"Take that, world!"

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

"Nothing beats my *blanket*."

Travis:

"Don't touch my blanket!"

Griffin:

I mean, blankets are great.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

I'm surprised that yours— I'm a rough sleeper. I sleep rough on my blanket. So, like, they don't last longer than two or three years.

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Straight up, I got me a Scotty blanket, a Scottish terrier-themed blanket...

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

...about, like, a decade ago. Went to college with me, moved back to West Virginia, and then to Cincinnati. Still have it, use it every day.

Griffin:

It's made out of real Scotty skin!

Travis:

Yeah. And that's how you know it's good quality.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

I think every time you get a present, you should look at it and give it a shake, and say, "I don't know, it's no blanket!" and throw it aside.

Travis:

[laughs] "I'm too tall for this book!"

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

"Make a taller book for me! My mommy made a bigger book!"

Travis:

"I'm still using that book!"

Justin:

"I'm still— [laughs] that's my tall book, I've used it for seven years! This is like an extra-long Slanket."

Now, what's the— hold on, I need to take a time out. What's the Forever Lazy?

Travis:

Forever Lazy is, like, the next form of Snuggie. But it's like a full— like, it wraps around your leg, it's like a onesie with a hood, that's a blanket, and zips down. And it's got compartments, so if you're a dude, you get the zipper to use for the bathroom, and it's got back zippers, so you can keep it on while you use the restroom.

Griffin:

No, nope, nope, nope!

Travis:

It's more or less like somebody looked at the sweatsuit and said, "This could be lazier."

Griffin:

And you said that you, in your secret heart of yours, that you want one of these? You want an article of clothing that, let me get this straight, you can poop through? You want an article of clothing that you can make bathroom—

Travis:

The only reason I want it is because, in the commercial, um, it seems to indicate that you could wear this to a tailgate party at a football stadium, and *no one* would say anything to you about it.

Griffin:

That's—

Travis:

Everyone would be like, "Hey, sweet Forever Lazy, Steve!"

Griffin:

That's funny, Travis, because it sounds like this article of clothing *has* a *tail gate*.

Travis:

It does!

Griffin:

It has a little portal for...

Justin:

I have to take an exception with the whole premise of your question. As everyone knows, the next evolution of the Snuggie is a closed garage door, three hours, and a car engine running.

Travis:

And the courage to do what's right.

Justin:

And the courage to do what's right, exactly.

Griffin:

You know, I wish they made, um, a Snuggie that was, like, separate for your legs and your chest, and instead of being made out of, like, a sweatsuit, it was nice formal wear.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

You mean like a Tuxy?

Griffin:

Like a Tux— yeah, or just a nice shirt.

Justin:

Like a Tuxy.

Griffin:

A nice blouse, and a casual, uh, skirt.

Travis:

So you're saying, like, clothes? Like, you wish they made clothes?

Justin:

A class Snuggie.

Griffin:

[laughs] I guess that's what I'm saying.

Justin:

Um, I don't know what situation you would be— is that business [laughs] casual, would you say? Casual casual? Formal casual? That's not really a thing.

Griffin:

I forgot one thing. The slacks also have a tiny zipper in the back that you can unzip and just go wild in the bathroom. Just go crazy in there.

Justin:

[laughing]

Griffin:

Don't even— my biggest fear in this life is that I'm gonna be at a gas station in Louisiana somewhere, using, like, a gas station bathroom, and someone walks in on me, and sees my treasure.

Travis:

So now he walks in, and just sees you in a tuxedo.

Griffin:

He sees me sitting in formal pants...

Travis:

And he's going, "Oh, don't mind me!"

Griffin:

I mean, I wouldn't wear a suit jacket to the bathroom, Travis. But I'd be wearing formal slacks, and...

Travis:

A cummerbund.

Griffin:

...they couldn't see *anything*.

Justin:

I'm gonna get this real for Candenights. When I was a kid, I was eight years old...

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing] I know this story!

Justin:

...we were traveling.

Griffin:

It's not funny, it's horrifying.

Justin:

It is not funny, but you could— come on, get up in here. There was this— I was at Cracker Barrel. We were on a road trip, there was a Cracker Barrel, and I was in the bathroom, reading a newspaper. And I was making a doozy, and [laughs] a guy comes up to the crack in the door. And he's wearing a tank top, and he looks like some sort of vagrant. But he starts looking in, and then he pulls aside his tank top to show me his nipple is pierced. And goes, "Mm." And then runs out.

And I said, "Okay." Like, out loud— like, really loud, to try to scare him away or something. And that happened to me. So, I guess...

Travis:

Merry Christmas!

Griffin:

[laughs] Merry Christmas.

Justin:

I guess what I'm saying is, "Merry Christmas."

Griffin:

Cracker Barrel, where pedophiles eat. Where pedophiles come—

Travis:

Your down home pedophile kitchen!

Griffin:

Come on, eat, look at some kids on the john, and play some checkers. Everything's okay.

You alright, Justin?

Justin:

Yeah, I just went to— took me to sort of a weird place.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

Maybe a Yahoo?

Griffin:

Maybe a Yahoo.

Justin:

Oh, God.

Griffin:

That'll bring you out. Um...

Justin:

It already is out. I need something to stuff it back down.

Griffin:

[laughs] This one was sent in by Krista Whalen. Thank you, Krista. It's by Yahoo Answers—

Justin:

God!

Griffin:

I know, she sent in, like, 30. It's by Yahoo Answers user Mike-Croft who asks, "What are some awkward places to hang mistletoe?"

Travis:

Belt buckle.

Justin:

Gallows.

Griffin:

"Funny, awkward, uncomfortable, or bizarre places to hang mistletoe." Shanks.

Travis:

On the top of the coffin.

Griffin:

Oh, man...

Justin:

What?

Griffin:

It's Christmas.

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

Oh, gosh. The top of the speculum?

Travis:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I don't know what that means.

Justin:

Okay. Um...

Griffin:

What, is that like a...

Justin:

What's a funny, awkward place to hang... You know what I really like? On your belt buckle.

Travis:

I said that.

Griffin:

That's *hysterical*.

Travis:

No, I already said that one. Whatever you just— hold on—

Griffin:

We know, we're commenting on the comedy of it.

Justin:

Belt buckles was good.

Travis:

Yeah. [laughs]

Griffin:

What about on the back of the belt loop of your pants, so it looks like you're saying, "Kiss my fanny"?

Justin:

[bursts out laughing] That's what we're reduced to for Candenights; you have to say "fanny"?

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Now, just so you know, Griffin, in many countries that aren't America, "fanny" means something completely different.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Is that true?

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

I didn't know that.

Griffin:

What does it mean?

Justin:

That's *dirty*. I don't want to know about it, 'cause it's Candlenights.

Travis:

No, you don't.

Griffin:

Alright.

Travis:

What about, um, anywhere? Anywhere in the world? Anywhere that you hang mistletoe is always awkward and terrible?

Justin:

Seriously, guys, have you ever been— we've all been on this planet for between, like, 28 and 31 years— or no, like 25 years, right?

Griffin:

24. But that's okay.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

It's Christmas, you don't know my age.

Justin:

[laughs] That's all I want. I asked you for Christmas, for a card that...

Griffin:

A birth certificate.

Justin:

[through laughter] A birth certificate.

Travis:

Proof. Some kind of proof.

Justin:

I wanted you and Obama to give me your birth certificates for Christmas.
[laughs] Um, like, have you guys ever been to a Christmas party, or gathering, or somebody's house where there was actually mistletoe?

Griffin:

Yes.

Justin:

On display?

Travis:

Um, yes, but not until recently. I went to a party, uh, and I walked into the kitchen...

Justin:

Hold on, wait. This story sounds like it's gonna be long. Will it also be funny?

Travis:

No— yes.

Griffin:

[laughs]

Travis:

It's very short.

Griffin:

Is its length-to-humor ratio in check?

Travis:

Let me assuage your fears. It's very short, but not funny.

Justin:

[bursts out laughing]

Griffin:

[laughs] Okay. Break on through, then.

Travis:

I walked into the kitchen, and looked up, and there was mistletoe hanging in the middle of the room. And around the perimeter of the room were eight guys looking really uncomfortable, waiting for a girl to walk into the room.

Griffin:

Ugh.

Justin:

[groaning sound]

Travis:

Yeah.

Justin:

[gruff voice] "We got her! Guys, come on!"

Griffin:

[high-pitched voice] "What are you doing?"

[gruff voice] "Look up!"

"Ah, you got me!"

Justin:

[gruff voice] "Get some chapstick! Get your Burt's Bees; it's smooching time!"

Travis:

Ugh.

Griffin:

Um, maybe this was a fever dream, but I feel like I went to a boy-girl party in middle school, where mistletoe was hung aloft from the rafters, like something that you hang from rafters.

Travis:

I think it's the most awkward thing in the world, and I wish people would stop doing it.

Griffin:

I've never been smooched...

Travis:

Aw...

Griffin:

...thanks to— no, thanks to mistletoe.

Justin:

Oh, okay. [laughs]

Travis:

Oh, okay.

Justin:

Yeah, I don't think that that's a real thing that people are doing. Are there any good answers on that one?

Griffin:

"The 5th Street overpass," "the end of my dog's tail," and...

Travis:

Whoa!

Griffin:

That's awful. And last, but certainly not least, "On your mom. Hahaha!" Okay, it was funny for a minute. I don't actually—

Justin:

[snorts] Was it?

Griffin:

Uh, "Above the toilet."

Justin and Travis:

[laugh]

Griffin:

I like that, actually.

Travis:

Kiss the toilet!

Griffin:

Kiss that toilet before you use it. "In the oven." Well? I guess...

Travis:

[laughs]

Griffin:

Isn't that how Virginia Woolf died?

Justin:

What? Looking for mistletoe in the oven?

Travis:

[laughs] Yes, Virginia Woolf, there is mistletoe in the oven. Check it out.

Justin:

Just keep looking.

Griffin:

Keep looking. Keep— ah, darn it.

Travis:

[laughs] We lost her.

Griffin:

"On the cat's litter box." What's up with people wanting to kiss cat butts and poop?

Justin:

Hey, everybody and mistletoe, you know what you don't just have to kiss whatever inanimate object hoves—

Travis:

It's not like a binding contract.

Griffin:

That's all that people said! "On your dad's wardrobe," "the litter box," "on a table lamp," "light switch."

"Come here, light switch!" [makes kissing noises]

Travis:

Ouch. Well, I guess that there's mistletoe there, so I have no choice, I suppose. Every time that I've ever been confronted with mistletoe and someone's like, "Hey, mistletoe!" I always just go, "No," and walk away. Like, there's no penalty.

Griffin:

Uh, Cassandra says, "Put it in the guys' locker room," smiley face. I don't think that's gonna play out how you think it's gonna play out.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

No, I—

Griffin:

"Good game, Brock!"

"Hey, Brick, come here!" [makes smooching sounds]

Travis:

Did you just name them Brick and Brock?

Justin:

[bursts into crying laughter]

Travis:

"Hello, Brock."

"Hello, Brick."

"I guess we should've seen this coming."

Justin:

"Christmas law binds us, Brick!"

"I know, Brock! Why are we so adherent to it?"

Griffin:

"Hey, good hockey, come here!"

Justin:

"Hey, nice hockey sweater. Let me take it off you while I kiss you under the mistletoe!"

Travis:

"Hey, what's going on in here?"

"Get out of here, Brack!"

Justin:

"Get out of here, Brack!"

Griffin:

"Get out of here, Brack!"

"Brick and Brock are kissing!"

Justin:

"Come over here, Brook, you're cool."

Griffin:

"Brook, join this kiss party!"

Justin:

"Brook!"

Travis:

"Guys, it's pronounced Bruce, for the last time. It's Bruce."

Justin:

[laughs] It's Bruce!

Uh... "I'm a 24-year-old dude, and I really just enjoy giving presents to my friends. I don't get expensive or ostentatious gifts. I generally just enjoy being able to find and give a thoughtful gift. My problem is, I always wind up feeling slightly annoyed if my friends can't even bother to return the [awkward pronunciation] favour. Um, am I— [laughs]" that's how it looks to me when you say O-U-R.

"Am I giving gifts for the wrong reason, or should I expect a bit of courtesy from my close friends?" That's from Jarsh.

Travis:

Hey, Jarsh? You are taking a turn right in the middle of that question, where you're like, "I just like giving my friends presents! Turn... I'm mad my friends don't give me presents back!"

Justin:

"Yeah, I don't know. I just like giving presents, and I guess I also like getting them very much."

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

"I wish that that second part was happening."

Griffin:

Um... I mean, it does make it— it has less to do with the fact that you're not getting back possessions that you can then have and add to your vault, but that it makes it awkward when you get someone a present, and they don't get you a present back. It makes it awkward for both parties.

Travis:

I think that you have to be— I think we might've talked about this before, but I think the best thing to do is keeping your card, non-perishable, like, \$10 to \$20 dollar presents. But you can look around at the people in your life and know, like, "They're not gonna get me a present."

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

If you see something for them that you're just, like, so moved, like, "Aw, man, he loves," you know, "these tiny figurines." And you see those tiny figurines and it's, like, a buck? Grab it for him. But it's not a contract. You're not making an unspoken deal with him. Like, "Hey, I got you this, so, uh... Where's my thing?"

Griffin:

I have a dumpster's worth of Ferrero Rocher cartons in the trunk of my Toyota Matrix that I just keep, like, "Oh, thanks! One sec."

Travis:

"I left yours in the car."

Justin:

"I forgot yours in the car."

Griffin:

"It's not wrapped."

Justin:

"It's Ferrero-ro-ro-ro Rocher's."

Travis:

"It's half-eaten."

Griffin:

"I hope you like [mispronounced] hazelnut."

Travis:

[laughs] "It's spelled just like it sounds."

Justin:

I thought your gift to me was that you're gonna stop mispronouncing "hazelnut" as "hozel-nut."

Griffin:

Uh, actually, you're the one mispronouncing it. If you read the original German translation of the word, [with stilted German accent] "hazel-nut."

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

[laughs] I actually, genuinely, like getting people gifts. If you have a friendship with somebody, then you have to ask yourself, look back at the past year. Didn't they do something— I know that every friend that I have has done something for me, or been considerate in some way for me, over the past year, that makes— that is worth more to me than whatever gift they would otherwise get. You know what I'm saying?

Travis:

That's a good way of looking at it.

Justin:

Phone call when I'm feeling sick, or, you know, helping me out with a project, or whatever it is.

Travis:

They picked up a movie tab, or bought you dinner or something. Yeah, that's a good way of looking at it.

Justin:

Yeah. Whatever. If you think back over the past year, I'm sure that person has done something. If they haven't done something that merits a \$10 dollar present, then, you know, maybe you need to re-evaluate your friendship. But I bet, if you think about it, there's probably something that's happened that just makes you want to get them a present, 'cause you care about them.

Now, does that mean that you should be hurt if they, um, you know, don't get you something? No.

Griffin:

Absolutely.

Justin:

Absolutely, it should. No, [laughs] it shouldn't.

Travis:

No. No!

Justin:

No, it shouldn't.

Travis:

For all you young guys out there, I'm gonna clue you into something that I think is the best thing for the holiday season for this very reason. And it's Christmas cards. It's something that says, "Hey, you're my friend, and I was thinking about you on Christmas, and Merry Christmas!"

Griffin:

"Sorry there's no toys in this."

Justin:

[laughs]

Travis:

"I forgot to put the check in."

Justin:

"I forgot any toys." Uh, yeah, I mean, you are giving gifts for the wrong reason. If you really like giving people gifts, do it for yourself, 'cause it makes you feel good. But, I mean, honestly, at this point in my life, the best gift someone could give me is to tell me that I don't have to find a place to put a thing.

Travis:

[chuckles]

Justin:

Like, "You don't have to find a place to put this. So, Merry Christmas, I guess."

Griffin:

I evaluate my whole year by the number of boxes under my Candelights, uh, candle-holder.

Justin:

Right. Have you been a very good boy? There's only one way of finding out.

Griffin:

There's only one way of finding out my year's successes and failures.

Justin:

Yeah.

Griffin:

Today, this year, I ended up with 22.

Travis:

22 boxes, or 22 successes and failures?

Griffin:

22 boxes, which I guess translates over to 22 successes.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Griffin:

[strained] I was shooting for 30, though. [speaking normally] So I guess I wasn't as good a boy as I thought I was.

Ow, CJ!

Justin:

[laughs] My cat's trying to interrupt the show by attacking Griffin.

Hey, here's a Christmas tradition. "Minnie Wombat and I have decided all our Christmases will be spent watching Nicolas Cage movies and ignoring family phone calls. Okay, that last one is just mine." That's from Julie, AKA Wheeze-Girl. Um, I think that that's fantastic.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

I think it becomes unsustainable, unless you're gonna watch the same ones every year. I think you could get a day's worth of solid Nicolas Cage entertainment.

Travis:

And I'm gonna take it one step further. Instead of just ignoring the phone calls, board up the windows, hunker down, and pretend like you are the last people on Earth, and you're watching Nicolas Cage.

Justin:

Oh! Post-apocalyptic Cage marathon.

Travis:

Yeah. Turn it around. Like, this is a post-apocalyptic Christmas.

Griffin:

Now, Travis, when you bought me— when you sent through, via Santa Claus' magic network...

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Griffin:

...uh, *Drive Angry*, shot in 3D...

Travis:

Uh-huh.

Griffin:

...on Blu-ray, was it because you had read this question and thought, "Maybe this is a tradition I could get into?"

Travis:

That you could hunker down and ignore your family for the rest of our lives?

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Yeah, I guess. Okay.

Griffin:

I'm just looking for some logic in the darkness.

Travis:

Well, this is a good point in the show to discuss a little bit of Christmas, uh, knowledge that I picked up. A little bit of Candlenights knowledge. And that is, when it comes to the idea of buying someone a quote, unquote, "funny gift," it's important to remember that it's real funny for, like, three minutes.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

And then they have it for the rest of their lives. [laughs]

Justin:

Now, *Drive Angry in 3D* is an awesome movie.

Griffin:

It's a real good film.

Travis:

I thought about it long and hard, of if it was a funny present, or something Griffin— now, Griffin, I want you to look me square in the eye, and tell me you won't watch that movie.

Griffin:

Am I gonna get drunk in, like, two weeks, and just pound through it?

Travis:

Yes.

Justin:

[giggling]

Griffin:

Yeah, I am. I'm gonna tear that movie apart.

Travis:

Exactly.

Justin:

Now, have you seen it once, already?

Griffin:

I have, yeah. I saw it in 3D, as God intended.

Justin:

[laughs]

Griffin:

What worries me is that the box doesn't have the full title. It just says, *Drive Angry*, not *Drive Angry: Shot in 3D*. So I'm wondering if...

Travis:

Like if it's store brand?

Griffin:

...removed from its 3D environment, from its natural habitat, if the film has changed in some way.

Justin:

It actually becomes a slow, respectful meditation on the briefness of human existence.

Griffin:

Mm!

Justin:

Or brevity. Or briefness.

Griffin:

Both work.

Justin:

Briefness was my favorite 1980s rapper.

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

I liked Kool Moe Dee, I liked the Briefness. And I liked Slick Mouth.

Griffin:

[laughs] Thank you for the gift, Travis. It was very nice.

Travis:

You're welcome, Griffin. Justin, I'm sorry I didn't get you anything.

Justin:

Yeah, maybe next year.

Uh, Griffin. You got any more Yahoos? Are we done yet? Holly...

Griffin:

I feel like we've only been going, like, 20 minutes.

Justin:

Holiday comedy.

Griffin:

[whispers] 40 minutes.

Justin:

40 minutes. How do you...

Griffin:

Here, this is good. Uh, Yahoo Answers— er, I'm sorry. Krista Whalen sent this one in, too. Thanks.

Justin:

Jesus Christ!

Griffin:

It's by Yahoo Answers User...

Justin:

Happy Birthday!

Griffin:

[laughs] ...Yahoo Answers User Monty, who asks, "How to react to a bad Christmas present? My mom asked me if I was going to see *Twilight* and I told her, 'No way. I hate *Twilight*.' So the other day, I ran out of socks, and I opened my mom and dad's closet to borrow some of my dad's socks..."
[laughs] We'll come back to that.

Travis:

[laughs]

Griffin:

"And I found the *Twilight* book. The other day, I look at the tree, and there's a present for me shaped exactly like the book. How should I react to the present?"

Travis:

Okay, there's a lot of twists and turns in this question. First, uh, I wanna say kudos to your mom. That when you're like, "Hey, do you like *Twilight*?"

And you're like, "Nope!"

Griffin:

Absolutely not!

Travis:

And she's like, "Ah! Got it! Light bulb!"

Justin:

There's no way your mom— your mom might buy that book for you before you have that conversation. There's no way your mom's like, "Well..."

Griffin:

[laughs]

Travis:

"Now I'm plot-committed, so, I guess..."

Justin:

"The \$12.99 damage is done. I've got to get this gift for him."

Travis:

"Crappy book it is!"

Griffin:

Eugh. [crosstalk].

Um, oh, man. Why are you in your daddy's closet, looking for socks?

Travis:

[laughs] Were you in his sock closet? Why does your dad have so many closets?

Griffin:

Two questions. Why does your daddy have a sock closet? And B, why are you hunting for dad socks? They're gonna be way too big for your kid feet!

Justin:

They're gonna fall down around your ankles; you're gonna look ridiculous! Like some sort of stupid elf.

Travis:

Hey, here's the— the correct to this question is, this how you react: "Hey, Mom and Dad. Thank you for, you know, giving me life, and paying for everything, and also this book. I really appreciate everything you do for me, and I'll totally read it." The end.

Griffin:

Yahoo Answers User Random Number responded, "Yell, 'What the "beep"!' And go shoot up an airport. Source, *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare II*."

Travis:

[laughs]

Griffin:

I'm not sure I understand.

Travis:

That's how the *Call of Duty* game starts. He gets a *Twilight* book, and then he just loses it!

Justin:

Yeah. That's the plot of *Postal 4*.

"Dude. Just be thankful for whatever you got, whether you like it or not. That's how Christmas do." [crying laughter] That's what Christmas do!

"You really want your mumsy to be like, 'Why, you spoiled, ungrateful brat'? You might have more presents than that."

Okay, Christmas is not about presents, even though that's pretty cool to include that in the tradition. [laughs]

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing] I love that Justin didn't preface that by saying that there's another Yahoo Answers user, so it just sounded like it flowed straight off the dome.

Justin:

[unintelligible through laughter]

Travis:

I wanna jump back to the middle of that answer, though, where the dude says, "Maybe you have more presents than that." God, I hope so!

Justin:

"I'm getting you one thing, and it's the thing you say you don't like!"

Travis:

"Hey, Jimmy! How was your Christmas?"

"It was pretty cool, I guess. I got a book."

"Oh, yeah! Was it, like, a complete encyclopedia?"

"No, it was *Twilight*. I just got a *Twilight*."

Justin:

"I definitely, definitely do not like it."

Travis:

"I was real sad. I told my moms beforehand I didn't like it. I would've rather just had the \$13 dollars, but it's cool."

Griffin:

Fonzie112 said, "She's your mom, and you have to act like you like it. But don't overact. Every once in a while, look at it like you're reading it. I don't like *Twilight* as well, but give it a chance."

Travis:

[laughs] Like, for the rest of his life? Or, like, that day?

Griffin:

I mean, how... Ugh. Your mom asked you if you want *Twilight*, and you said, "Nope!"

And when you open *Twilight*, you can't be like, "Yeah!"

Justin:

[laughs] "I got it!"

Griffin:

"Thank God, 'cause I totally flipped my position on this in the past couple days."

Travis:

I think you open it, you look at it, and go, "Oh. Okay."

Justin:

Yeah, you launch it right at your mom.

Griffin:

[laughs]

Travis:

"Oh, cool, cool!" [makes throwing noise] "Thwug!"

Justin:

Just "thwug" your mom right over the head with it. She's asking for it.

Griffin:

You can say, "This is that Kindle that I asked for," and then you throw it in the fire.

Justin:

[laughs] "Look, now it's in the cloud!"

Let's see here. Let's see what else I got here in my Candenights, uh, sack.

Travis:

In your candle sack.

Justin:

In my candle sack. Uh... "My boyfriend and I will not be around family this year for Christmas. What's a good way to make a memorable X-Mas for two?" Stumped Santa in San Diego.

Travis:

Uh, laser tag battle.

Justin:

Laser tag... it's not open.

Griffin:

Buy your own laser tag.

Travis:

That's what I'm saying. You set up your own laser tag, you flip over the couches. You barricade...

Griffin:

Wait! [sing-song] Romantic holiday laser tag!

Travis:

Strip laser tag!

Griffin:

Strip holiday— everybody starts with Santa Suits, everybody ends [whispers] with birthday suits.

Travis:

[laughs] Jesus birthday suits.

Griffin:

And also the laser tag vests, so that you can track your score.

Justin:

[laughs] "I don't need to track it to remember this score. This is the sweetest Christmas score." I mean, they're doing it.

Travis:

What if you just roam through the streets of your neighborhood, looking for people that have gone, uh, to visit family, and you just do some Christmas cat burgling?

Justin:

[laughs] Wait a minute.

Griffin:

Wait a second, Travis.

Justin:

Wait a second. Are you saying you go to the houses of people you know are out of town, and you rob them?

Travis:

Yeah! And then, you say, "Hey, look what I just got you for Christmas."

Justin:

"I got you..."

Travis:

"This DVD player."

Justin:

"I got you a secret we can never share."

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

"Now, we're bound together forever, 'cause if you ever leave me, I'll tell everyone you're a cat burglar."

How good at burgling do you have to be to be declared a cat burglar?

Travis:

I don't think you just declare yourself that right away. "I'm gonna go rob that house, 'cause I'm a cat burglar!" I think you have to start off as, like, a rooster burglar. 'Cause they're real loud, and annoying.

Griffin:

If you wear cat ears while you rob a house, and then prowl around it on all fours, and yell...

Travis:

And you paint little whiskers on your face?

Griffin:

"Meow!" And then if you get caught by the cops, you can just say, "I'm a crazy person."

Justin:

[laughs] I'm gonna use the insanity defense. If you get— that's the important thing. Dress like a cat. Because if you get...

Travis:

A lot of first-timers make the mistake of not dressing like a cat.

Justin:

Yeah. If you dress like a cat, and you get caught the first time, you can use the insanity defense.

Griffin:

You can purr and rub up against the police officer's leg and say, [baby talk] "You can't arrest me, I'm a poor little calico."

Justin:

[laughs] "Meow, just a big kitty cat."

Griffin:

"Meow. You got any nip? Meow."

Justin:

[baby talk] "Think of what they'll do to me in prison. I can't go there, I'm a big kitty cat."

Griffin:

[crying laughter]

Justin:

[baby talk] "Meow. Where's your Christmas spirit?"

[speaking normally] And then, he'll let you go, and then it's back to stealing!

Travis:

Immediately. [laughs] Walk back into the house you just got let out of.

Justin:

[screeching laughter]

Travis:

That's really gonna drive home the insanity defense!

"What, where's the cat going? Oh..."

Justin:

[through uncontrollable laughter] "That big cat is going back in the house! We just caught it."

Travis:

"Uh, how did you catch him?"

"Well, sir, it seems the cat came back the very next day."

Justin:

[coughing laughter] That's how *Catwoman* started!

Griffin:

This is a very *CSI: Miami* Candenights, everybody.

Justin:

Um... "What do you guys do for New Year's Eve? My friends and I agreed that it might actually be the worst holiday. It's even worse if you're single, because when the countdown does happen, all the couples kiss. And then you have to stand there, alone, a lonely doofus. How do you do New Year's Eve? Insights for the singles." That's from Ed in San Francisco.

Griffin:

If you can't get a smooch at midnight on New Year's Eve, you are unsmoochable. That's an excuse. When that clock turns over, and the promise of a New Year fills us with a sort of drunken hope.

Travis:

And you get to neckin'.

Griffin:

Neck with literally anybody you see, and they'll be like, "Yup! 2012!"

Justin:

Yeah. You gotta get your sexy right. And go to a party where there's a lot of people. And then just pair off! Get there, be like, "Ladies!"

Griffin:

You don't even have to pair off, just make sure you're standing near a group of other single people. 'Cause you're not thinking about it. Coupled people will only be able to kiss one person.

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

You can bounce between people, like *pinball* pinball.

Justin:

Yeah. As soon as the ball drops, you just look at the person next to you, who's also single, and give them the nod, like...

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

"Is it us?"

Justin:

"What do you think?"

Griffin:

"Mm-hmm."

Justin:

"What's going down?"

Travis:

And I think that— [sighs] man, if you think that New Year's is a boring holiday, I'm sorry, but you're doing it wrong.

Griffin:

Yeah, it's the best holiday!

Travis:

It is the time to be like, "Hey, remember all that stuff that we had to deal with all year? That's dead now. This year is dead. The next year is a bright, shining, clean slate."

Justin:

Until December 20th.

Travis:

Until December 20th, when we all die.

Griffin:

Then the whole universe is a clean slate.

Travis:

Then everything is a clean slate, and God shakes the Etch A Sketch, and we start over.

Justin:

Right. And Deana Carter forgets what happened the day before.

Um, I'm not crazy about, uh, New Year's.

Griffin:

Really?

Justin:

Yeah, I've never enjoyed it. I don't know why that is. I think it's because, um, it's so far from Christmas.

Griffin:

Yeah, I guess.

Justin:

I like Christmas a lot, 'cause of all the gifts and stuff.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm. New Year's Eve gifts!

Justin:

Mm!

Travis:

Well, I think, when it comes to New Year's, you have two options, as far as the parties go. And you have the quiet reflection with a small group of friends, where you all sit around, like, drinking wine and beer and champagne, and talking about what's happened over the last year, and things you look forward to in the next year.

Justin:

Zzz...

Travis:

Which can be nice.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

And then you just have the wild, crazy, party 'til 2:00, like...

Griffin:

Yeah.

Travis:

I think the problem comes from when you kind of end up at a party that's in the middle of those. Where it's, like, a *bunch* of people sitting around, talking about how crappy the year was before.

Griffin:

You've really gotta make sure that you go to, like, a Skrillex concert.

Justin:

Mm-hmm.

Travis:

Yeah.

Griffin:

And like, at midnight, pop some X, listen to him chop and screw [inaudible]. And, like, just go for it?

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

I've never lived in a bigger— like, Cincinnati is the biggest city I've ever lived in. But, like, the idea of going to a bar or club as my final destination New Year's party, I don't know. That seems like you're setting yourself up to pay a bunch of money for drinks, you're never gonna really get, you know, just pleasantly drunk.

And, also, you're just surrounded by people you don't know, who're gonna be, you know, [crosstalk].

Justin:

That's the biggest problem, is the worry of lonely hearts that are gonna be bumming you out. At a bar, there's gonna be people who are just desperate for human connection.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

You know, one time, I had to work New Year's Eve. The Blockbuster was open, inexplicably, until midnight...

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

...as it always was on the weekends. So I sat and watched the ball drop on a crummy, little black-and-white TV and there were, I kid you not, two people in there, picking out videos. At *midnight!* New Year's Eve.

Griffin:

Well, maybe they wanted to start out their year with *Six Days and Seven Nights*, you know? What if that's how they wanted to kick it off?

Justin:

Here's the twist. What did they end up getting? Did you guess *Hush* and *Nutty Professor II: The Klumps*?

Griffin:

Oh...

Justin:

Because that is what they— that's the first movie they wanna watch that year. Those.

Travis:

Don't paint this into a bad picture, because as soon as that ball dropped, midnight, they were magnetically drawn together, and just started smooching!

Griffin:

"You *also* like *The Klumps*?"

Travis:

"I love *The Klumps*!" They're married now.

Justin:

Yeah, they're married now. And their last name is the Klumps. How did they do it? I don't know.

Griffin:

[laughs]

Justin:

I think it's pretty fantastic, though.

Travis:

Do you guys have New Year's plans this year?

Justin:

I think we'll probably have, uh, sort of a dinner party type thing with friends.

Travis:

Mm-hmm. Griffin, what are you doing?

Griffin:

Skrillex. Skrillex concert.

Travis:

I'm gonna do it in the middle and be really bored.

Griffin:

Okay.

Travis:

I'm gonna do a Skrillex dinner with friends.

Justin:

Re-bub-bub-bub-New Year.

Griffin:

Can we all agree that 2011 was the year of the Skrillex?

Travis:

Mm-hmm. That's what it says on the Chinese calendar.

Griffin:

Skrillex is my astrological sign.

Justin:

Yeah, I was born under the Skrillex.

Griffin:

Um, my outlook for next year is [making dubstep sounds].

Justin:

[wheezing laugh]

Griffin:

That's all it said.

Justin:

Sorry, again?

Griffin:

[makes dubstep sounds] Onomatopoeetically, right now.

Justin:

Why don't people do more onomatopoeitic dubstep?

Griffin:

I don't know. Like, written word dubstep?

Justin:

[makes dubstep sounds]

Griffin:

"Hey, did you read that new dubstep book?"

"What're you *talking* about?"

Justin:

[laughs] It said, "wub-wub-wub-wub-druard-druard-druard."

Griffin:

"Snap on the bass, now!"

Justin:

What?

Griffin:

"Get on the bass!" [makes dubstep sounds]

Travis:

It was written by will.i.am.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm. It starts really slow, but you reach about page 120, you hit the drop. Oh, man! It's so heavy.

Justin:

When it says, "Call 911 now," and then it really kicks into high gear.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

I like the part in the third chapter, it really got to me when it said, [singing instrumentals].

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

I like that.

Griffin:

I like it, too.

Justin:

'Cause it's kind of a high counterpoint to the [makes dubstep sounds] that's also printed on the page overtop of it.

Griffin:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

I don't know how— if the layering is working out well for them.

Griffin:

I really liked the “about the author” section, when it was like, [makes dubstep sound effects].

Travis:

I found the flashback chapter really confusing.

Griffin:

Yeah.

Justin:

[laughs] 'Cause it's reggae.

Travis:

Mm-hmm.

Justin:

Uh... "Paul, Skrillex, lives in New England with his cat..."

Griffin:

[bursts out laughing]

Justin:

"...and his wife Dorothy. Their two kids, [makes dubstep noises] and [further dubstep noises], go to school in Connecticut."

Griffin:

Oh, Skrillex, he wrote the book on dubstep.

Travis:

[rising laughter]

Justin:

"The most important things to him is family and his walk with Christ."

Travis:

[laughs]

Justin:

Uh, I wanna hear Griffin's last question. But first, thank you, guys, as always, for hanging out this year with us. And spending so much of your time in our presence. Uh...

Travis:

And thanks to maximumfun.org. This is basically completing, like, our first year with them, and...

Justin:

Yeah!

Travis:

...it's been awesome. Thank you, guys.

Justin:

If you, uh, have not listened to, uh, any other Maximum Fun shows, get out there. Maximumfun.org, you can find *Stop Podcasting Yourself*; *Judge John Hodgman*; *Jordan, Jesse, Go!* We got a segment coming up on Jesse Thorn's, uh, relaunch of his show, *The Sound of Young America*. He's relaunching it, it's called *Bullseye*, now. And it's gonna be on, uh, NPR.

And we're gonna do at least one segment. So, uh, and it'll be also on the web. There'll be, uh, segments from there you can listen to. And we'll be sure to tell you how to get those. And make sure you tell him how much you like us on it, so he'll continue to want to have us.

Griffin:

And just tell everyone you see how much you like us.

Justin:

Yeah, tell—

Travis:

And also, Maximum Fun is looking for an intern. Um, so if you're interested, I mean, it's a pretty sweet deal. Go check it out. I think it's maximumfun.org/intern.

Justin:

Is that where it is?

Travis:

Yes, I believe so.

Justin:

Is that the actual web address?

Travis:

I'm almost certain. Or just yell at your computer, "Intern! Maximum Fun."

Justin:

No, it's maximumfun.org/internships. Um, they need a good intern, and uh, you'll probably end up meeting some really interesting people. And, uh...

Travis:

Maybe us.

Justin:

Maybe us. Who knows?

Griffin:

Probably not us.

Travis:

Probably not us.

Justin:

Maybe us.

Travis:

We're creations of the internet.

Griffin:

Uh, I'm gonna thank John Roderick and The Long Winters for letting us use the song "(It's) a Departure" as our theme song. It's on the album *Putting the Days to Bed*, which hopefully everybody got for Christmas.

Travis:

Hey, John. Merry Christmas.

Justin:

Merry Christmas, John.

Griffin:

Merry Christmas, John Roderick and The Long Winters.

Justin:

Um... Anything else to— oh, thank you to everybody who bought, uh, t-shirts for your friends and family for the, uh, Yuletide. We saw a lot of great pictures. I know Golly Aolly got a shirt. Um, and anybody else. You can always get more stuff like that at maxfunstore.com...?

Griffin:

Or .org. Try 'em both.

Justin:

Try 'em both. One of them will work.

Griffin:

And uh, thanks to everybody who came out to the live shows! We posted them for our last two episodes, and, uh, we hope everybody had a good time there. We certainly did. And, uh, we're gonna do more soon, so stay tuned.

Justin:

Yeah.

Travis:

So we'll see you in the New Year.

Griffin:

See you in 2012!

Justin:

Yeah, one last year, guys. Let's do it. Let's close out human existence with a bang.

Griffin:

Uh, JC Fletcher sent in this final Yahoo question. Thank you, JC Fletcher. It's by Yahoo Answers User Ryan, who asks, "Why is the exact angle for getting gold properly with a sluice box?"

Justin and Travis:

[laugh]

Justin:

I'm Justin McElroy.

Travis:

I'm Travis McElroy.

Griffin:

And I'm Griffin McElroy.

Justin:

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

Griffin:

Teens!

Justin:

Teens.

[theme song plays and ends]