

MBMBaM 761: My Other Dad is a Helicopter

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

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

Justin: Hello, everybody! And welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. Oldest brother, Justin McElroy here, reporting for duty.

Travis: What's up, Trav Nation?! It's me, your middlest brother, Travis 'Vroom-Vroom' McElroy. Here also, I guess, reporting for duty?

Justin: Welcome. Welcome to the service.

Travis: Oh? Okay.

Griffin: This is Lieutenant Commander Sergeant Corporal Griffin 'built Ford tough' McElroy. And guys, I don't know about you, but on this, our year of turbo driving, I'm pulling a lot of horsepower today.

Justin: Oh?

Travis: I don't think—wait, doesn't the horsepower pull you?

Griffin: I'm being tugged by a lot of horses today.

Travis: Oh, drawn and quartered.

Justin: One can drive horses, right? What does it—you still drive... if you could thunder drive with horses?

Travis: Yeah, but the horses pull you. I don't think—if you're pulling horses, then you're slow—

Griffin: No, they're pulling you. You're totally right. And I do actually want to stop my bit, and just get into the semantics of who's tuggin' who. Who's tuggin' who?

Travis: Don't tug horses.

Griffin: Don't tug horses. Let them tug you. But the derb happened this past weekend and—

Justin: Ah, the derb.

Griffin: I mean, we're recording this well before the derb, but I gotta say, I'm sitting pretty flush, I bet.

Justin: You think you did good with your bets? Your various bets you're gonna do?

Griffin: I like to think—

Travis: How much money?

Griffin: I like to think of them as investments in my—shitty investments, maybe, is how I like to think of them—

Travis: What I do—

Griffin: Bad investments.

Travis: I bet equally on every horse to win.

Griffin: That's cool. That'll at least get you your money back.

Travis: Yeah, so no matter what, I'm a winner.

Griffin: Worst case scenario, tie.

Justin: If you believe in multiverses, it's gonna hit for one of you.

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: Or all of us?

Justin: Whoa.

Griffin: So yeah, I took my kids' savings, that they've been saving up at their part-time kid jobs. And I went to my horse guy, and I said—

Travis: Centaur. They prefer Centaur, Griffin.

Griffin: I said, what's the—

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "What's the morning line odds on American Promise?" And he got confused by the sentence for a second. Because he was like, "It's so bad, man. It's so, so bad."

Travis: I think all of us would right now, if you said you were betting on America's Promise.

Griffin: Betting on the future of America's Promise. The American promise.

Justin: [laughs] Betting on.

Griffin: Is a bet—they say—they say the morning line odds are thirty to one. So, this is gonna be a big—a big weekend for me, I'm thinking.

Travis: How much money did you put down?

Griffin: \$200.

Travis: Oh yeah. Oh yeah.

Griffin: It's my children's, they don't have a lot of money. And I—but they said, "How do we turn this into more money?" And I said, "I have the investment opportunity of a lifetime. Its name is American Promise."

Justin: Can I speak on the Kentucky Derby for a moment?

Travis: Oh, please.

Griffin: Please.

Travis: You have the floor.

Justin: As a West Virginian, I'd like to speak for a moment on the Kentucky Derby.

Griffin: Go ahead. And, and, and! Go off, king.

Justin: Thank you. Dear Kentucky, it's me, Justin McElroy, from West Virginia. You know, right next door. Every once in a while, you guys like to pretend that you guys are fancy over there.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: There's the stuff with the bourbon, where you're starting to act like that's really fancy.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And then there's this stuff with the horses and the big hats. And *every time*, the nation's eye turns back to you, you like to act like you're pretty fancy. And we just want you to know, Kentucky, we see you every day.

Griffin: We, specifically.

Justin: Over here, in West Virginia.

Griffin: Yeah, I—

Justin: We see you every day.

Griffin: We know you.

Travis: And over here in Ohio, by the way. We've got you flanked.

Justin: Yeah! Yeah, Ohio, weighing in. You see Kentucky every day, right, Trav?

Travis: We see Kentucky. Yeah, we see Kentucky.

Griffin: A sort of temporal pincer on Kentucky you guys are putting down.

Justin: Yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah. And Trav, when you roll on over there to... well, what's on the—Covington? Is that's what on the other side?

Travis: Covington, Newport, yeah.

Justin: Does it feel a lot fancier than where you left on the other side, over the bridge?

Griffin: More aristocratic, perhaps.

Justin: Bigger hats?!

Travis: Hm, that's... that's not necessarily the word I would use, Justin.

Justin: Yeah, interesting, Trav!

Griffin: Ah, okay.

Travis: And fewer horses too. I think I see more horses here in Ohio—

Griffin: We are sold—

Travis: Than I see ever in Covington.

Griffin: Sold a false bill of goods. You think you roll up on any city in Kentucky, it's gonna be equine in that shit. But no dice—

Justin: Kentucky... all of Kentucky, holistically speaking—Mr. Beshear, I assume you're a listener.

Travis: Thank you.

Justin: We see you! That's it.

Griffin: We see you.

Justin: We see you!

Griffin: You can't just change the whole kind of like identity of your state for other people who never really learn much about your state. Because if you could do that, we could all—everybody in West Virginia could just start acting like robots. And then whenever people think about West Virginia, they'll think, "Oh, the robot state." Which is an upgrade, I think.

Travis: And it is coming—a lot of this, I think, is coming from a place of jealousy. Because West Virginia hasn't figured out how to do that kind of rebrand. And I think it's unfair—

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: That Kentucky kind of took—

Justin: "The home of podcasting" never caught on, I tried. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [titters] We did our best. They went through so many state mottos, I thought we could sneak "the home of podcasting" in there, but no dice.

Travis: Hey, one of my favorite movie-going memories was being in a West Virginia theater when Die Hard four came out. And there's a shot where they drive into West Virginia, and you can see the "Welcome to West Virginia" sign. And at that point, I believe it was open for business.

Griffin: Fuck yeah.

Travis: And that sign came up, and everyone in the theater booed. [titters]

Griffin: Yeah. It's so good, man. That shit still goes down so smooth. No state has ever been brave enough to be like, "Please—" In their state motto, "Please... please?"

Travis: "Please, anything."

Griffin: Please?

Justin: But at least we're not like, "Things have been fancy here the whole time!"

Griffin: Right, exactly. We're owning it! We could use some—

Justin: "We love the horses and big hats, and that's the whole deal here in Kentucky! It's fancy all the—mint julep, for me!" It's so fancy here. We see you every day.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: You drive here—you drive over here. I see you every day. Okay? You're not fooling me.

Travis: The derby and the mint julep and stuff, that's your fancy sitting room in your house that you keep clean for company. We see the rest of the house all the time, is what we're saying. Griffin, who's favorite—

Justin: You notice I'm not judging?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah! No.

Justin: It's just, I see it.

Griffin: Yeah, we do see it.

Justin: We see you.

Travis: We see it. Griffin, who's favorite to win that whole derby?

Griffin: I mean, this one coming in eighth post, we've got... Journalism! Kick ass! Kick Ass. Time for Journalism.

Travis: The horse's name is just Journalism?

Griffin: The horse's name is Journalism. This one's trained by Matthew W. McCarthy. Three to one morning line odds. I mean, pretty, pretty good stuff. Pretty good stuff there. Coming in not too far behind, we got Sovereignty. That on a horse actually feels a little intimidating to me.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: We got Sandman. Named for Adam Sandler, actually! It's like naming the horse after Adam Sandler's nickname.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: I mean, people are—

Justin: Yeah, but if the horse is named Adam Sandler, I would be a little— [chuckles] that would be pretty good, actually. I think I would really like that. That would make me really happy.

Griffin: Then we start getting into a pretty big gap here of the quality of some of these ponies I'm seeing. Because we got a Grande, Burnham Square, Rodriguez, clocking in on 10, 12, 1. And then it's like no one, and

then it's like a bunch of snicklefritz. And the snicklefritz has the best names—

Travis: What happened to fun names?

Griffin: Which is the frustrating thing.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Because I want to—I want to see Owen Almighty roll up on first, you know? I want to see Coal Battle win something.

Justin: Coal Battle?

Griffin: Coal Battle, like the—

Justin: Coal Battle!

Griffin: Coal Battle! Feels cool to say it. Admire Daytona, Japan. This one's from Japan, I guess. They had—they put it in the name of it. But it's called Admire Daytona, which is really good! No horse names are ever like... in the commanding sort of tense you need. You need—

Travis: Oh, that's true.

Griffin: You like this horse? Admire Daytona.

Travis: We need a more interrogative horse names.

Griffin: Yes!

Justin: More questions.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: More questions.

Travis: Do you admire Daytona?

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Justin: Faster?

Griffin: Render Judgment? That's another horse name, without the question mark.

Travis: America's Promise?

Griffin: Yeah. American Promise, Travis. It's... it's not possessive.

Travis: Oh... Wow, you really, really opened my eyes, Griffin. Made me think about—I don't own America prom—America... American Promise, I don't own it.

Griffin: All you need—all you need to happen, and this is what I—the great thing about horse racing, dudes, is it's the great equalizer. Because all you really need to hit it big is for one horse to run really fast. And that could happen for any reason at any time.

Travis: And all the other horses to not run as fast.

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, obviously that's important too, but you just need your horse to be the fastest one. So, all you need—you make these outside bets, your horse might go super-dupe—do you know that you run the same speed every time you run? No, you probably have good runs and bad runs.

Travis: Oh, god yes.

Griffin: You might see—you might get, you know, Rodriguez out there. And he might have the fuckin' run of his life! And then you're up \$6,000!

Justin: You're rich, you're set for life.

Travis: Or put all your money on it! Think about all the money you could win.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: There's no downside to gambling.

Griffin: Yeah, how did you—

Travis: That's what they don't tell you!

Griffin: It's not even that the gambling thing—yeah, like obviously there's lots and lots of downsides. This is just, you need—

Travis: Wait, what?

Griffin: There's about... there's lots of bad stuff. But like—

Travis: Wait, *really*?!

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, like really. But anyway—

Travis: Oh, fuck!

Griffin: For this though—

Justin: You can bet to loo—

Travis: I gotta make some calls!

Justin: You can bet to lose.

Travis: Sorry.

Griffin: Yeah, that's isn't—

Justin: Bet to lose. [titters]

Griffin: This isn't—

Travis: I can lose?!

Griffin: It's not—

Justin: Bet to lose.

Griffin: You bet to lose.

Justin: That they will lose.

Griffin: That's gone. But—and it's gone, and it's bad. And you can get like really, *really* into it. So it's like not—like, don't fuck with it. But like knowing your personality, Travis, like stay, stay, stay far, far away.

Travis: I bet the show!

Griffin: Yeah, but it's—okay, that makes sense.

Travis: I bet this show!

Griffin: It's not gambling—

Travis: On a horse!

Griffin: It's not gambling, you just need one horse to run really fast. That's all that it is, it's like a... guess. It's like a guess saying, "I think my horse is gonna run really, really fast today."

Travis: Okay, so I could still—we can still keep the show.

Justin: Okay, that's good. What a relief.

Griffin: What would you—

Travis: If my horse wins.

Griffin: In this example, Travis, was the show converted to a currency amount? And I would love to know what you think that number is.

Travis: Well, my friend, Adam Carolla, who, as far as I know—

Griffin: Move on. Justin, start the show.

Travis: What?

Griffin: Move on.

Justin: Move on.

Griffin: Move on and start the show.

Justin: This is an advice show. And before we get started, though, I did want to talk about one other thing. And I know that sometimes we just get distracted by stuff, and I promise this isn't that. But did you guys hear about the guy they rescued from Mount Fuji?

Travis: No?

Griffin: I did hear about the guy they rescued from Mount Fuji.

Justin: Oh, okay, well...

Travis: I didn't?

Griffin: But Travis hasn't, so like you could deliver it to one of us, and I'll just sit here with my—

Justin: Eh, maybe this isn't—

Griffin: No, I'll just cross my arms—

Travis: Well, now I don't know what it is?!

Justin: Yeah, it's probably better that way.

Travis: Oh my god, Justin?!

Justin: Trav, they rescued a guy from Mount Fuji. And they had—and I'm saying it's a guy, because they haven't identified him yet, for probably a good reason. [titters] This guy, Trav, he went—he got rescue from Mount Fuji. Now, that in and of itself is not that surprising, right?

Griffin: It's quite a hike.

Justin: Quite a hike up there. Literally speaking. He's a 27-year-old university student. And the only thing that's interesting about him being airlifted out of Mount Fuji is that he had been—[laughs] he had been airlifted off about Fuji five days earlier, Trav.

Travis: *What?*

Justin: Now, wait, I know what you're asking! "Justin, how could this happen?" Well, Trav... oh, man, he got rescued from Mount Fuji, but he forgot his phone.

Griffin: On Mount Fuji.

Travis: Get out of the town.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [exclaims] Ah! He forgot his phone about Fuji. And so he went back to go get his phone at Mount Fuji.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And he was airlifted off after he... the first time he left because he lost his crampons. And I know what you're saying. "Justin, what?" Yeah, the spiky things you put on your shoes to help you climb ice good? He lost 'em. So he—

Griffin: Sorry, those are called what now?

Justin: Crampons!

Griffin: Cramp?

Justin: Crampons.

Griffin: Crampons?

Justin: Crampons.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: They're called crampons. And he—

Travis: Because you just cramp 'em on when you need 'em, you know?

Justin: According to the story, he just lost them. According to the Nippon TV story, he lost them, and he fell sick, so they came and got him. But then five days later he's like, "Ah, man! I forgot my phone!"

Griffin: Yeah. And went on back up for it. Now, what I do think is quite courageous, is on that return trip to get his phone, that's pretty risky. Because if you don't at least make it to where you left your phone the first time, you're fuckin' dead, dude, because you don't have a phone. I know exactly where it is. It's halfway up Mount Fuji.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Can you imagine how—what a bummer that would be when you do like a find my device, and you're like, "It must be in the couch some—back on Mount Fuji?! Oh, man!"

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Justin: He did—the second time, by the way, it was a different student who just saw him. And he was like, "This, dude, he came back to town." And he's

like, "Hey, you remember the guy from before? No, no, no, he's back. You gotta get back up there. [chuckles] He's out there on the—"

Griffin: Yeah, he had—

Travis: This is why—

Justin: Oh, boy.

Travis: I think the problem with airlifting people from dangerous situations, is you're not letting them learn from their mistakes. So, now this guy believes that every time he goes to Mount Fuji because he's lost something—

Griffin: Literally!

Travis: They're just gonna airlift him out.

Griffin: Just a helicopter parent. Quite literally. This is my—this is my—

Travis: Yeah, exactly.

Griffin: "This is my other dad, a helicopter. He's always gonna get me out of any stick situation I find myself in."

Justin: I do—I do think that... it is not clear—okay. It's not clear whether or not he did get the phone. So, that is something that I will say right now up front, if it turns out this didn't work, the three of us will go up and get it for you.

Griffin: I'd love to.

Justin: Please don't go up.

Griffin: Oh my god, are you kidding?

Justin: Please don't go up again.

Griffin: So beautiful this time of year, I would love to go rescue a stranger's phone.

Justin: We did a pretty good hiking video on it. I don't know if you knew, but we're kind of good at hiking now.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And—

Travis: And there's three of us, which I think—

Justin: There's three of us, that's more.

Travis: Increases our chances?

Justin: Mm-hm. Of living through it and getting the phone, for sure.

Griffin: And listen—

Travis: How do you think—

Griffin: We don't have to get to the top! We just gotta get to the fuckin' phone. That's it.

Justin: Just get to the phone.

Travis: How do you think the airlifting people would feel if like the three of us were going, and just one of us was done?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And we were like, "Airlift just me." And then the other two were like, "We're actually gonna keep going, but—"

Griffin: "We're vibing, actually."

Travis: "You're on standby."

Griffin: "What did you say?"

"We're vibing. Take him to the hospital, for sure. But we're on a vibe right now."

Travis: "But be on standby."

Griffin: "Be on standby because I—"

Travis: "Because once we get the phone, we are gonna give you a call. We're not going *back*?"

Griffin: "My feet are super sweaty, so be ready to deal with that situation with a quickness. But do get him to the hospital."

Justin: Let's help people.

Travis: Yes. Finally.

Justin: "I'm a senior in college about to graduate with a degree in game design. Every year I've been in college, I've had at least one class with a particular professor who's somewhat infamous within the department. This professor used to be a professional clown, in particular, a juggler. Since he first mentioned this in my freshman year, I wanted to see this man juggle, but I can't figure out a way to make it happen without the danger of him thinking I'm intentionally interrupting class. Brothers, how do you get this man to juggle without making him think that it was—while making him think it was his idea?" That's from *Craving Clownery* in Chicago.

Griffin: Yeah, man... The public persona that clowns have, have kind of make ran—made random acts of clowning more rare in public spaces. And that's a real shame, this stigma.

Travis: Well, don't you think if the professor brought it—you say, "Since he first mentioned this in my freshman year."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I don't think you drop into casual conversation or into a teaching situation—

Griffin: "I juggle."

Travis: "I was a professional juggler."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: And then think, "I hope no one asks me to juggle."

Justin: Right. If you notice how many of your lessons revolve around four bowling pins—

Griffin: Mm-hm!

Justin: Well, there you go. [titters] That's—he's begging for it.

Travis: Maybe just sit in the front row of a class and be like, "Are you hungry? Orange. All right, here's another! Here's another!" And now he's juggling.

Griffin: Yeah. He can handle it, too.

Travis: And he's loving it.

Griffin: There's—have you guys ever noticed that there's no such thing as like a bad amateur juggler? Anytime anyone tells you that they're into juggling they're like, "Check it out with knives." Like anyone who gets into this, gets into it deep enough that they can do like the dangerous stuff. So he's gotta be able—

Travis: Well, I'd like to think—

Griffin: Whatever you toss at him.

Travis: I'd like to think—

Justin: Literally. [titters]

Travis: Griffin, that's a result of—I don't think anyone who's maybe tried to juggle twice goes to people and says, "Watch what I can do."

Griffin: "Watch this. I think I can—"

Justin: So, this person, just so I can track the chronology, went from being a... professional clown juggler, to a game designer, to a person teaching game design. They must just be swimming in it, huh?

Griffin: Justin...

Justin: Know what I mean? [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Just absolutely drowning in it.

Griffin: Can we—

Travis: Like money?

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, can we just say yes to that? He's drowning in—you're suggesting he's drowning in whatever he may want.

Justin: Whatever! Whatever he—fill in the blanks, all right? [chuckles]

Travis: I don't—

Justin: Just drowning in it!

Griffin: I don't wanna, man.

Travis: I don't want to, Justin.

Griffin: I know we're not supposed to say no and shit, man, but like, I don't want to, dude.

Justin: That's fine. That's fine. I'm just saying, it's just the truth of the—

Griffin: But we don't—but like, we don't know them! And you know that. So just saying that they're drowning—

Justin: That makes it better. If I knew them, I wouldn't say these things. [chuckles] These terrible things?

Griffin: That's true, you wouldn't—

Justin: About people I know?!

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Griffin!

Griffin: Fair point.

Justin: That would be rude!

Griffin: [sighs] Ah...

Justin: You can't get better at throwing stuff at them. Like, you can't get better than everyone in the class, throw five balls at them.

Griffin: But I can't—

Justin: And then just like—

Griffin: But we can't have us out here saying on our show, throw stuff at this guy.

Justin: Throw balls at people, yeah.

Travis: Okay, then when he comes into class the next time, what's that on his desk? It's five perfectly placed bowling pins.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And you're all sitting—

Justin: But—

Travis: Perfectly like attentive and ready.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But you're... again, that is gonna seem like a setup. He's gonna read that for what it is.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: You've got to make him think that it was his idea to juggle, you know?

Griffin: Uh-huh. You come into the room carrying a big crate of apples. You're gonna have to do this a few times before you do what I'm about to suggest next, just to throw off any suspicion. You show up and everyone's like, "There's ol' apple crates again!" But this time, you trip and the apples spill all over the floor. There's no fuckin' way—there's no fuckin' way he can resist that. You know he's gonna put some produce in the air.

Travis: Okay, okay, okay. You come in. Here's your capstone. Your senior project, right? You're—you've been working on a game, a bowling game, right? And when the ball smashes into the bowling pins, they're supposed to go flying up in the air, in all different directions.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But you just can't get—

Justin: Hm, yeah!

Travis: The image in your head right of how it should look.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: How am I supposed to know—well, because I throw a bowling pin in the air, it comes right down. I don't even have time to register what a bowling pin in the air looks like. What am I supposed to do?

Justin: "We have to take important gravity measurements for the video game."

Griffin: For the video game. Yeah—

Travis: What am I supposed to do?

Griffin: Have a cut scene in your game where Osvarius, the great sorcerer, is, you know, trying to make his orbs. He's like, you know, balancing his orbs. But have the animation just be like—not look like—look all fucked up. And then your teacher is gonna have to be like, "That's simply not what it looks like to juggle."

Justin: Do you know what you're gonna—

Travis: Your failure capstone! That's the—but that's the cost of doing business.

Griffin: You fail, yeah.

Justin: You won't fail your capstone, because what you're gonna do is say, "Listen, I've made this mocap suit."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "It is black lycra, and I glued golf balls to it. And I don't know how to make a mocap suit, but I made one. And I'm gonna need someone who knows how to juggle."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "So I can cap their mo!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Can I cap your mo?"

Travis: "If you know what the camera setup is for mocap, that would be good too—"

Griffin: That would be kickass.

Travis: "Because I just have the suit."

Griffin: I just assumed—

Justin: You just have to know more than the teacher. [chuckles] Like as long as a teacher doesn't think that you don't know what you're doing, you're fine.

Griffin: I assume once you put the mo cap balls on the computer does the rest. That's my—

Travis: Maybe the ping—

Griffin: That's been my understanding.

Travis: Are the ping pong balls the computers? [titters] They just sync up?

Justin: No, guys, you've got it all wrong. You don't have to do anything special up front.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You can film anyone and any amount of ping ping balls, and the computer will get it in post.

Griffin: The computer will—

Travis: Okay, oh?

Griffin: The computer will get it. Don't worry.

Justin: It knows how to translate the ping pong footage—

Griffin: Into digital guys, yeah.

Travis: Okay?

Griffin: For sure. For sure-for sure.

Justin: Yeah, that's what Holy Motors is largely about.

Griffin: [titters]

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: For the most part.

Justin: For the most part.

Griffin: Also, once you cap his mo, now you can watch him juggle whenever the fuck you want, huh? On your phone—

Travis: Oh, you could do—

Griffin: You can pull it—you can have a little app that you make of your professor juggling. And you can turn him into... Sephiroth, you could—you can do whatever you want, you could—

Justin: [titters] Whatever you want, yeah, it's mo-capped.

Travis: And now it's a man versus machine, who can juggle better?

Griffin: Well, the—

Travis: Where he's juggling against—

Griffin: No, this isn't what I—

Travis: Himself? No, it's not that, it's not that.

Griffin: The man would do a better job, I think. There would be nothing impressive about a machine juggling.

Travis: Yeah. Much more impressive, I think.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Seeing a computer program juggle on a computer screen, versus a man doing it? There's a different level of like skill.

Griffin: It's like when a computer's good at chess. Like, yeah, guys... for sure.

Travis: Yeah... it's a computer.

Griffin: Yeah, it juggle better than me, but I can do other stuff. I can love.

Justin: Whoa, guys, I just got an award in the mail. It's from the National Juggler Society of America. It's most improved... most improved discussion of juggling.

Griffin: All right!

Justin: So, guys, we've really come a long way, they say. Like, it's very... they said very tasteful.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: And not as negative as normal.

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: And it's a—thank you! They say thank you.

Griffin: Put that up against the—put that up—

Travis: Oh, and it said—I can see it from here, Justin. They love the part where you said swimming in it.

Justin: [titters]

Griffin: That's a—yeah.

Justin: They say, "We—yeah, we didn't get that part, because jugglers. But like, we love it. We loved the bit, the whole bit."

Griffin: Go ahead and put that up next to the commemorative furry friend plaque that we were sent for most improved. Still not quite there.

Justin: That one was a pillow, Griffin. [chuckles] That one was a large pillow, so I can't hang that on the wall. But—

Travis: I could put it next to the Spotify plaque we got sent that I accidentally used as a door stop for a day?

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: I don't—

Justin: I think they've mixed our awards, we've won for best ad read.

Griffin: All right, guys, this bit turned sad...

Justin: Bitter, there's a difference. [titters]

Travis: Bitter, yeah.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: There's an activation to it, when you're bitter.

Justin: I can wake up tomorrow with bitter! You know, bitter will get you going in the morning! Coffee's bitter, Griffin!

Griffin: Yeah, that's a good point.

Justin: You know? [chuckles]

Griffin: Can we do the next question?

Justin: Absolutely. "I'm a teacher that just started a new part time job with a company that tries to discourage kids and teens from vaping. I've been hired to help create instructional activities, specifically an escape room, that teaches kids the dangers. How do I make an escape room so good that the teens stop vaping?" And that's from Christy.

Griffin: This is an immense opportunity for us. And I wanted to sort of recognize that and manifest that a little bit, that this is an enormous opportunity for us.

Justin: Thank you, to the universe, I guess, for bringing us this opportunity.

Griffin: Thank you to God. Thank God and universe, and Jesus and all of it. Because the idea of being able to make an anti-vape escape room. Vape escape, there's already—like the name is kind of there, perfectly. Like it's really important for us to stick the landing on this.

Travis: I'm willing to bet that your bosses would frown upon the like, you have to vape a bunch, and you're trying to like burn 'em out on it.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Right? Where it's like, oh, they've vape so much that they don't ever want to do it again. To like—

Griffin: "How was the escape room? Well, I had to vape four whole carts, bro."

Justin: Wait! Wait, wait, wait. Wait, wait. This is good. [chuckles] Guys, this is good, hold on. You're so close to a breakthrough here.

Travis: Okay?

Justin: A lot of escape rooms don't have clues where you have to vape the puzzle. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. [chuckles]

Travis: I'm saying lasers that you can only see in the vape or—

Justin: Right, or like you have to vape a cloud out to see—yeah, that's really good. Or like, there's a... there— "What's that chemical that's coming from the other room? You have to vape it, quick, to tell what it is!" You know? Like—

Griffin: I mean, jokes aside, I think the three of us could sit here and within 10 minutes, come up with 30 genuinely pretty good ideas for how vape and vapor could be included in different puzzles.

Justin: But would the—would the participant leave with an overall negative impression of vaping?

Griffin: No, because we've allow them to do a whole heist using nothing but a series of more powerful vapes.

Justin: Much like my hero, Solid Snake, vaping in all its many forms. "Well, I never knew you could do it digital."

Griffin: Yeah... yeah, I don't know how we—here's the thing, if they find out that we are trying to deliver any kind of message at all—[blows a raspberry] it's done.

Justin: What is the—

Griffin: It does have to be subtle. And so—

Justin: Could it be floor vents? Could it be floor vents, and it's like—

Griffin: Vaping out—

Justin: You've gotta escape—

Griffin: Vaping out the kids? In their—

Justin: No! No, no. There's floor vents that are vaping out like poison, but it's vape, right? But they're just like pumping poison in the room. If you don't escape in 60 minutes—

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: You sort of die from the—

Travis: You're in a giant lung!

Justin: Okay? Yeah, that's good!

Travis: And you're trying to escape the giant lung—

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: A robot lung.

Travis: And it's filling with vape.

Justin: A cyber lung.

Travis: A cyber lung? Is that what you said?

Justin: I just feel like escaping from a real lung would be grody.

Griffin: It would be—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: So in my head, if it's like a—and it's also hard to make doors that would look like heart doors, you know what I mean? Or lung doors—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Look like fleshy organs.

Travis: So, a cyber-lung would be clearer?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I think it would be easier if you had a rectangular door.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: No one's gonna be like, "I don't have rectangular doors in my lungs."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You know?

Griffin: That's a good point.

Travis: Well, they're teens. And our school system isn't great, so they don't know.

Griffin: I'm just gonna check in here and remind us that this is all based on a reality in which this company tells our dear listener, "Yes, it's okay to make them vape a whole, whole, whole bunch to get our message across. It's okay to do it really, really, really, really hard."

Justin: That would be shut down early, that's a good point.

Travis: Okay, then what about we go the opposite way? And it's a super fun escape room with an amazing prize. But in the middle of the room, there's a single vape, like on a pedestal. And if anybody vapes once, you lose.

Griffin: Oh, wow.

Travis: Automatic failure.

Griffin: So, you go to put the key in the door after having just solved the mirror maze. And you turn it, and it just breaks. And then a voice comes on and says, "You're here forever, because one of you vaped." [chuckles] "You live here now, and you'll never see your parents again."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Cool! That could be—

Justin: Shouldn't we be—

Travis: But then you do let 'em out! You give them like five minutes to soak that in.

Griffin: Five minutes to really stew in that, and then you can let 'em go.

Justin: I feel like requiring vaping is so—is so tricky. Because, obviously—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's hugely effective. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [chuckles] Yeah, Justin!

Griffin: Ethically.

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Hugely effective! [chuckles]

Travis: A tight—a real tight rope. [titters]

Justin: Yeah. It's tough. It's tough. It is. Because you want to do—you know, you could have a vape experience where you're so overloaded with nicotine that you're like, "I never wanna do—I feel so sick."

Griffin: Yeah. [titters].

Justin: Like, the whole carton... you know, vape a carton—

Griffin: Yeah, that's what—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: I think that's what Travis is suggesting, is... is that—

Travis: Oh, but you—

Justin: It's so tricky though, Trav, it is! I see your point, and I love that.
[titters]

Travis: No, that wasn't my point!

Griffin: I see the point you're trying to make—

Travis: My point started—

Justin: I love that you wanna make kids vape!

Travis: That your boss wouldn't let you do this! Now, what if you had a specially formulated nasty vape?

Griffin: Ooh, that's cool.

Travis: And you're like, "This is what vaping is."

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. You make it out of the—

Travis: And it—but it just tasted gross.

Griffin: You make it out of the stuff that Nintendo makes their cartridges out of.

Justin: Like if you—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: If you want to educate kids on the dangers of vaping, I think job one is—[chuckles] you gotta find some. You know what I mean? I don't think that work's been done for you. I haven't seen the research that says it's bad for me at all. I love this stuff.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, Justin's like the caterpillar from Alice in Wonderland out here.

Justin: The science is out on if it's a good or bad to vape—

Griffin: Juice, can I just say—

Justin: Oils.

Griffin: Obviously, this whole bit and segment was necessitated due to the lawsuit that we lost against the Truth Campaign.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And so, we did have to do this whole question, this whole segment. I do think they're gonna make us do it fuckin' again because of that caveat you've just added to it. So, I just wanna say, to all the Truth execs—

Justin: [laughs] I can't help it, it's tough. They had a—a check came from R.J. Reynolds, like while we were doing it, that they wanted me to get back on board.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Maybe throughout—just a regular escape room, right? No vaping theme. But every so often, pictures flash up on the screen of really uncool celebrities vaping.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Hm? Okay.

Travis: And it's just—and it has nothing to do with the puzzles that are going on or whatever. Just a reminder of like, "This dork vapes." You know what I mean?

Griffin: Something like that would be good.

Travis: Is that—do you think that that would get the kids—

Griffin: They might look fuckin' cool, though, is the only problem.

Travis: *Fuck.* Yeah, what if these—what if the kids are dorks, and they see these dorks vaping and they're like, "But they look cooler vaping than they do not vaping?"

Griffin: I think any escape room is a vape escape room, if the person doing it is discrete enough.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Griffin: There probably—

Travis: Like maybe tucks their chin into their shirt? [titters]

Griffin: Doing a little—doing a little pshh-pshh-pshh-pshh-pshh. I see that sometimes in the movie theater, I see someone pshh-pshh-pshh-pshh, and then just blue light shoots up all over their faces like, [chuckles] "I see you, cowboy."

Justin: I see you—I see you.

Griffin: I see you!

Justin: I see you, co-pilot.

Travis: I saw that at Dave Matthews Band concert, and they just lit up the room. It was like a ca—it was like a night sky in there, and everybody—

Justin: Well, that's because they were hitting him with all those follow spots when Dave took that huge, huge vape rip.

Griffin: Huge fuckin' rip.

Justin: Let's head on into the Money Zone. Let's get that all cleared up. Yeah?

Travis: Yeah, let's—yeah, let's get that worked out, the P's and Q's.

Griffin: The doctor gave me a salve to get it all wiped out.

[theme music plays]

Griffin: You can save time in a bottle.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: And they aren't letting this secret out, but I'll air it out. You can harness the power of technology, to capture your most special moments and put them in a bottle, that you can use to relive and think about whenever you want to. It's called digital photography. And—

Travis: Wait.

Griffin: It's here and it's now, and it's happening. And the best way to integrate this incredible, exciting new technology into your life or the life of a loved one, maybe an older loved one, or maybe a loved one who doesn't know how a lot of stuff is supposed to go. Aura Frames can help you with that! It's Aura Frames, a digital picture frame that you can load up with

decades of family photos. Maybe as a Mother's Day gift? That's coming up soon.

Travis: Hopefully your own! But they don't ask.

Griffin: They don't—

Travis: You can put other people's family photos in there if you want.

Griffin: Give your mom's an Aura Frame filled with pictures of families. Candid—

Travis: That are better than yours, maybe more attractive.

Griffin: Candid family photos. Aspirational.

Justin: You can put pictures of anything! Like, I think your limit—like, you could put pictures of like all the different Burger King logos throughout the years. And they're like on a scroll. Like, whatever! Any pictures you want.

Travis: Pictures of your mom's favorite celebrity vaping. Whatever you want! [chuckles]

Justin: [titters] Whatever.

Griffin: That would be so cool. Aura has a great deal for Mother's Day. For a limited time, listeners can save on the perfect gift by visiting auraframes.com to get \$35 off, plus free shipping on their best-selling carver matte frame. That's auraframes.com, promo code My Brother. Support the show by mentioning us at checkout. Terms and conditions apply.

Travis: I want to tell you guys about Fast Growing Trees. Anybody who's seen the video of me recording knows that I love plants and I like gardening. And I got a red bud tree from Fast Growing Trees, planted it, and this is no shit, within two weeks, there were blooms on it.

Griffin: Gosh!

Justin: Wow.

Travis: And it's absolutely thriving. And I loved it *so much* that I went back and ordered a Meyer lemon tree.

Justin: Wow!

Travis: To grow in my office. Which is basically getting—is arriving anytime today in the next two hours, and I'm so excited about it.

Griffin: How exciting for you, yeah. Because you'll have lemons like just there. Like whenever you want one or need one.

Travis: Yeah, man.

Griffin: You'll always be able to see 'em. That's really cool.

Travis: I'm really thinking of like starting an empire. We'll see.

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: Because when life gives you lemon trees, make lemonade trees. That's what I always say.

Justin: Wow.

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Do you also sometimes say the ad copy?

Travis: Yeah, I'm doing it right now! You keep talking.

Griffin: [titters]

Travis: They have all kinds of plants, they're not just trees... flowering stuff, they got shrubs, bushes, anything that you need. Plus, they've got trained

plant experts that can help you plan your landscaping, all kinds of stuff. There's really great information about like what area you live in and what would grow well there. It's easy to choose from their huge selection. And this spring, they have the best deals for your yard, up to half off on select plants and other deals. And listeners to our show get 15% off their first purchase when using the code MyBrother at checkout. Now's the perfect time to plant, use MyBrother, all one word, to save today. Offer is valid for a limited time. Terms and conditions may apply.

[break]

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Griffin: Huh?

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch.

Griffin: Squad.

Travis: Squad!

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I wanna munch.

Griffin: Squad!

Travis: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing]

Griffin: What's that genre, man? Is that zydeco?

Justin: Acid jazz.

Travis: It was like blue—

Justin: Acid jazz.

Travis: No, it was like blue grass, I think? I heard—

Griffin: It was zydeco.

Justin: It's acid jazz.

Travis: I heard banjo in there!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Zydeco, bluegrass kind of a vibe. It's more vibes than notes.

Travis: Bluedeco.

Griffin: Yeah, cool.

Justin: More vibes than notes... Hey, listen, I want to tell you one quick thing before we get into the bulk of the new—the bigger story. Because this is just... J&J Snack Foods enhances SuperPretzel recipe.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Wait...

Justin: And they just say that like, "Hey, you know SuperPretzels? We are just gonna make 'em—"

Griffin: Different.

Travis: What's a SuperPretzel?

Griffin: *Travis...*

Justin: Travis. You've embarrassed yourself again. And your family.

Travis: No, I guess I'm just more of the land. I like my pretzels... just normal, salt of the earth, salted pretzel. Just a normal—

Justin: Wait, when I show you this pretzel, like—

Travis: Oh, okay—

Justin: SuperPretzels.

Travis: Yeah, no, no, I know—

Justin: SuperPretzels.

Travis: I know exactly what this is, okay.

Justin: Okay, so like SuperPretzels, they're just making them... better. NBD. Like we're just like—

Griffin: That's cool. That's cool that a company can do that, like...

Justin: Yeah, and here's the—here's the paragraph. And you know what they did for this? This gets one paragraph, and here's what it is. "J&J Snack Foods has enhanced its SuperPretzel recipe for an upgraded flavor, softer texture and great taste, even when held in warmers."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "The new taste and easy prep makes SuperPretzel an easy sell. Ideal for grab and go occasions, the new SuperPretzel recipe remains delicious, even when held in warmers, reducing labor. This new recipe will start being produced in June, and will be available to serve late summer with existing GTIN order numbers." Period, end of press release!

Griffin: It's better now!

Justin: And this is... this is something that matters, okay? This is something that—what this means is that, come July or August, you're gonna go to the ball field and you're gonna have a SuperPretzel, and you're gonna be just a little bit happier.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That matters!

Griffin: That matters. You never—

Travis: It's rare—

Griffin: We *never* get shit like that.

Justin: We never get that!

Travis: It's very rare for a company to be like, "Listen, man, we took a long, hard look at ourselves in the mirror. And we realized we weren't—we weren't doing as much as we could on this."

Griffin: You—you—you're tell—

Justin: Not good enough!

Griffin: You're telling me you liked those pretzels?! Because even we—even we knew they were dog shit! And you liked them?

Justin: My dusty old grandfather started serving those two idiots in the '70s, okay?

Griffin: [laughs] But they're legit—

Justin: If you like those dusty old pretzels, you're the idiot now.

Griffin: We're on some new shit now, though! The best day to enjoy a SuperPretzel is not yesterday, when they were bullshit. Now they're so good.

Justin: But here's what does suck though, we—

Travis: And we added a third hump!

Justin: I—

Travis: All the other pretzels out there got two humps. We put *a third* hump in the middle.

Griffin: A third hump.

Travis: Same price!

Justin: If previous Mays and Junes are any indication, I will be enjoying at least three to four SuperPretzels in the next two months.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I'm gonna be, I think, hindered by the fact that I know I'm eating an inferior product.

Griffin: A shitty pretzel, yeah. Before the glow up. Did they say at all what they're doing? Like to make it so much better?

Travis: Made it better!

Justin: It's better! I mean like that's—here's what I love. They're pretzel makers. You're a pretzel eater. You do not need to worry about it.

Griffin: That's true.

Justin: [chuckles] Do you know what I mean? Like, don't worry. From the eating experience, it will improve. And Griffin, if you happen to be a distributor of SuperPretzels, they're gonna be—

Griffin: Same SKU!

Justin: Less in your holder, a little bit.

Griffin: Great news—

Justin: Same SKU!

Griffin: This one's for the fans and the small business pretzel retailers. The SKU's the same.

Justin: You do not need to update your profit—your product orders. The numbers are the same.

Griffin: What are we gonna do, write two press releases?! One for the consumer and one for our vendors? No fuckin' way, man!

Justin: If you get new SuperPretzels and you still have old ones in stock, send them to us so they can be destroyed!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Please!

Griffin: Humanely.

Travis: This is also, though, kind of an emperor's new pretzels. Where, if I was a pretzel company, I would put out a press release once a year, with no detail.

Griffin: Yeah, "better now."

Justin: "We did it again!" [chuckles]

Travis: That just says, "Yeah, we're making 'em better now!"

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, we're joking, Domino's did do this. Domino's did do this, effectively, maybe a decade or so ago at this point. Where they ran commercials just like, "Hey, we get it. It fuckin' sucks. It's no good."

Justin: Wendy's fries did it not too long ago. Carl Loredó owned the fact that Wendy's fries are trash, and they're gonna try again.

Travis: But what I'm saying is, then not change a damn thing about it.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: So then somebody goes and eats a pretzel in July and they're like—

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: "Yeah, I can taste it. It's so much better now."

Griffin: Also, Wendy's, maybe take one more stab at it? Maybe take one more run at it? You got closer, but not quite.

Justin: I will say they, were good for a little bit after you changed it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And now you're kind of—

Griffin: Slipping. Caught you slipping, Wendy.

Justin: Slipping a little bit. Got too many robots making 'em, maybe? I don't know.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: Yeah, so that gets one paragraph, and it will increase the overall joy of the human race by some percentage point. It's not a big one, but it's a micron of one. You know, whatever. Meanwhile, Sonic is releasing a unicorn dreams slush.

Griffin: You're fucked, dude.

Justin: And I'm gonna show you what that—what that looks like. It says, "Fuck you, Justin. Get ready to come here eight times." Is what it says here, in small print.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Eat shit, J-Man. We hate your fucking guts."

Griffin: You're gonna smell this—

Justin: "You're gonna come here 80 times."

Griffin: You're gonna smell this pink slime in your dreams, dog.

Justin: You might as well take it and put it in the—go climb—by a large! Climb in the back of your big, beautiful Honda Odyssey, and dump the whole fuckin' thing out on the ground.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Because that's what you're gonna have in there.

Griffin: Yeah, man.

Travis: What this drink makes me think about, is my child and—both of them, how they theoretically like the idea of like these little like tapioca bubbles in their drink. And then when faced with the reality of it—

Griffin: With one bubble.

Justin: Heartbreaking, yeah.

Travis: They detest it.

Justin: This what it looks like, so you guys can see the art.

Travis: That straw is ineffective. It tapers at the top. There's no way one of them—

Justin: Yeah, we're gonna talk about—

Travis: Tapio-bug-a-bubbles are making it up there.

Griffin: [titters]

Justin: We're gonna talk about the tapioca-pa-ka-pa bubbles—[laughs]

Travis: The tapioca bubbles!

Griffin: This is not me laughing because you said the word wrong, Travis. It's me laughing because the way you said it was like so cute. Like, I enjoyed it a lot.

Travis: Hey, I love that, thank you.

Justin: Yeah, we only laugh at the way Justin says stuff. "The Sonic drive in is ready to transport fans to a—"

Travis: When he says it wrong! [chuckles]

Justin: Excuse me. "Transport fans to a world of fhimsic—whimsical wonder, with its newest and most wonderful creation yet, the Unicorn Dream Slush. Prepare to be enchanted, as the limited-time slush arrives at Sonic locations nationwide on May 5th. But those eager for a little extra sparkle can unlock early access through the sonic app, starting today, April 28th."

Travis: What the app do?

Justin: So, if you order them before that, they're gonna be like, "How did you know? Who told you?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's only available through the app. "The vibrant pink cotton candy slush is swirled with blue raspberry flavor bubbles. Topped with a fluffy cloud of whipped topping and a sprinkle of shimmering pink cotton candy sugar crystals. With every sip, a little bit more enchantment fills the air."

Travis: "Your kids' vomit is gonna look so beautiful later, guys."

Justin: [chuckles] Never before!

Griffin: It's gonna look wild, man.

Justin: There's unicorn horn straws free with every Unicorn Dream Slush, starting May 5th, while supplies last.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Not but legit unicorn horns, though.

Justin: No, that's illegal.

Travis: *Now.* Thanks, Biden. But...

Justin: [titters]

Travis: The straw itself is tapered.

Justin: Right.

Travis: To the top?

Griffin: You ain't getting boba through that, no way.

Justin: No ba-ba. No boba—

Griffin: No ba-ba. No ba-ba, no boba—

Justin: [chuckles] No ba-ba bubbles!

Travis: No ba-ba getting through that!

Justin: No ba-ba bubbles!

Griffin: I also love that—

Travis: No ba-ba bubbles!

Griffin: They get their own spin on boba pearls. Like it's probably the same thing, but you call them flavor bubbles, for the folks who think they don't like boba pearls.

Justin: Yeah, these are flavored bubbles. "Fans are invited to share their own wishes and whimsical moments inspired by the legendary wish awakening unicorn horn straw by visiting hashtag wish, sip, believe on social media.

Griffin: Wish—

Justin: Sorry. Wish, sip, believe? Can I get a quick check from my lead CSI researcher, Griffin McElroy? Pretend I've pulled up to your computer. Griffin, what do you got on this hashtag? Wish, sip, believe. Enhance.

Griffin: Oh, wow, this is actually a breaking news story, it's... friend of the show, Liz Gilbert's next book. It's—I'm fuckin stoked for this one, dude.

Justin: Wow!

Griffin: Yeah. And the secret this time is to make a little wish, and then you have a sip, usually of a Sonic slush, and then you just kind of wait. You just kind of—

Justin: Did you say a masonic slush? Because, yes, Griffin, now we're talking. Make a wish—

Travis: Okay!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Drink from the masonic slush and let Liz Gilbert Shepherd you to the fulfillment.

Griffin: They produce it in the light of the full moon, at your local chapter.

Travis: Everyone knows how you make a masonic slush, Griffin. You don't have to go into it.

Justin: Here's a quote, "We developed the unicorn dream slush to be more than just a drink."

Travis: It's a money maker.

Justin: It's a masonic pledge to devote your life.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: No, "It's an entire culinary experience—"

Travis: Oh?

Justin: "That's bursting with fantastical fun and flavor in every sip," said someone from Sonic. "With its playful pink colors, blue raspberry flavor bubbles and the accompanying unicorn horn straw, it is a treat for the senses and the imagination, and guaranteed to make every moment sparkle."

Travis: You know what else would be—

Justin: As always, I'll remind you if your Sonic beverage sends your imagination spinning with the delight, you should probably go outside more. Look at a river, anything. Just—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Anything at all.

Griffin: [laughs] Rivers are so badass.

Travis: Culinary experience—culinary experience is such a fun thing to use as like a thing to be striven for. Because you know what else is like a culinary experience? Finding a piece of glass in your hamburger. Like that's a culinary experience—

Griffin: Whoa?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: It doesn't mean good?

Justin: This expands it, though, Travis. So when my kids intentionally upend this \$18 drink in my big, beautiful Buick, they'll say, "No, no, no! We weren't supposed to drink it, dad."

Griffin: It's—

Justin: "This is all part of the experience."

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: "It's a fun mess. It's—we make these sometimes."

Justin: "It's a fun, fantastical mess. We're like the river queen fairies of the mess." Anyway, you get the idea.

Travis: And you'll be able to smell it in the interior of your car for the next two years! Is all a sensory experience.

Justin: Be living with it. Yeah, Cooper has been enjoying an Easter Bunny that she left in the back seat for a week. And then we had a hot day, and I saw her dip her finger into the puddle, and thought, hey, I'm gonna clean that out. It's—[titters]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: It's time. I gotta clean up the Easter Bunny.

Travis: Not her emergency rations! [titters]

Justin: I know, yeah. Sorry, Cooper. How about another question, guys?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Do we have time? Yeah. Let's help somebody else. "I was having lunch outside today when someone came out to eat as well. I work at a large hospital, so I never met this person. I was sitting on a bench further away, but this other individual sat at one of the tables that are near a very obvious goose nest."

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: "The goose nest has been there about a week." You've really been paying very close attention to this. Congratulations. "I've tried to sit at those tables since the goose nest has appeared, but one of the geese got mad, so I don't sit there anymore. When this unknown coworker sat down, the goose got mad. It flew at them and started honking and hissing. And the co-worker started running around and yelling, but the goose kept chasing. The co-work..."

Griffin: Yeah, this part is where it crosses... it does cross a line. You all right?

Justin: "The co-worker yelled 'help' and 'get it.'" [titters] "Help! Get it! Get it!"

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "At one point, they tripped and fell over." [chuckles]

Griffin: Oh, fuck, man.

Justin: "I was the only other person around and was watching the incident, but it didn't really occur to me that they were yelling for my help. I don't know what I could have done to improve the situation. Eventually, other people came out and ushered the employee back inside. What's my responsibility in this goose attack? Should I warn people in the future to just not sit there?" And that's from troubled in Tulsa.

Griffin: No, can't do that. That's too much to put on you, because if you start—if you become the Batman of this bench, just to make sure— "No, don't do it, that goose will go fucking crazy on you." That is not something

that you're gonna feel super comfortable saying to a bunch of different people. It shouldn't be your job.

Travis: Here's—I will—

Justin: You're right, you shouldn't have to make the people afraid, Griffin. You should have to make the geese afraid.

Travis: Good luck.

Justin: The geese need someone who says, "Hey, if you step out of line, if you come at humans, there's someone watching the humans."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Okay?

Travis: I understand, Justin.

Justin: The humans are protected.

Travis: You need a goose costume of your own, to be a bigger goose.

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: To establish dominance.

Justin: Exactly what I was—Travis?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Exactly what I was heading towards. Thank you.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You read my mind.

Travis: Yeah, I get it, man.

Justin: Bigger goose. [chuckles]

Travis: Bigger goose.

Griffin: I'd swear on a stack of bibles, we just did another goose-based, work-based sort of experience.

Travis: Did we say in there something about like having your own Drillbit Taylor goose that shows up to protect you from other geese?

Griffin: I think so. Rachel, could we just play whatever we said for that goose-based, work-based answer? Because that would be like—if we could just coast on that for a minute. I'm sure what we said then was funny.

[transitional guitar notes play]

Travis: The problem is, you're worried about making amends with the goose.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Maybe everyone else has established goose dominance?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah. How do they do that?

Travis: Head bonk.

Griffin: That does seem like maybe the only thing a goose would understand.

Travis: Yeah! You're not gonna be able to like show your goose your bank account and they're like, "Whoa, man."

Griffin: "Whoa, shit."

Travis: "Real high earner."

Griffin: "Sit 'em down, show 'em pictures of your kids like, "I'm happy, I'm totally satisfied with my life." And the goose is like, "Damn you got it all figured out."

Travis: "Damn, man. I wish I was you!"

Griffin: Shit, dude.

Travis: Maybe you're the lucky goose.

[transitional guitar notes play]

Justin: How much could we charge freaks for an all-goose episode of this show? Because I feel like you could stitch together a very—

Griffin: Very goose heavy—

Justin: Very high quality—

Travis: Maybe sponsored by Gray Goose vodka.

Justin: Very erotic hour.

Griffin: Early in this—

Travis: Or Ryan Gosling.

Griffin: Early in this series, I also remember, we talked a lot about like... like making love with a goo—like, how—

Justin: Tender. Like—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah, tasteful—

Griffin: How cool that would be—

Justin: But like yeah.

Griffin: And like thinking about it now, it's like, why would I say that? That seems like a—

Justin: Why would you?

Griffin: Wild thing to say.

Justin: You weren't a father then?

Griffin: I wasn't a father then.

Travis: It does occur to me that with 600... 761 episodes under our belt, we could make clip shows—

Griffin: Of anything.

Travis: An hour long, themed around *any* topic—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I bet, that you could think of. We could pull things where we talked about that.

Griffin: The Grinch.

Travis: Oh yeah.

Griffin: One—

Justin: Grinch? Hour long Frazier-sode. I mean like—

Griffin: Six—

Justin: Yeah, absolutely.

Griffin: A six day long horse... horse-travaganza. [chuckles] That's possible.

Travis: When they were saying "help, get it," now, they were under—they were under duress.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: We can agree on that.

Justin: Help is—okay. Travis, yeah. These are two different moments, right? Help...' help' you might yell at any time without really thinking about it.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Right? That's—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That's impulsive. "Get it—" [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Is like, is where the mood has shifted.

Travis: Get *the* goose?

Griffin: It's a—

Justin: The goose.

Griffin: It's a violent request. It's like do—you have to use your body to—

Justin: Get it!

Griffin: Get it. Get it. I can't get it.

Justin: I can't get it. It's attentions are on me! My ability to get it is nil.
[titters]

Griffin: I'm too scared—

Justin: You could get it!

Griffin: I'm too scared to get it. I need you to be brave and get it. Right now.

Justin: That's the incredible power of geese, is they make you—

Travis: Get it like kill it? Or just grab it?

Griffin: Squeeze it. [sings] Buy it, lift it, now upgrade it.

Justin: The incredible power of geese is they can make people forget that kicking exists.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Because if you have the power of kicking, no goose can stand against you.

Travis: This is—

Justin: It's just that you don't want to kick a goose.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And that's very good! Congratulations.

Travis: This is my theory, Justin. The goose is intimidating, psychologically.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But not physically in such a way that you would feel good about doing damage to it.

Griffin: Listen to—listen a hot shot over here who doesn't have a goose actively attacking him in this moment. If you did, your tone would be different, I bet. You wouldn't be like—

Travis: I'm saying—

Griffin: "You're not so—you're not so tough, Mr. Goose."

Travis: No, no, no. I'm saying I would be terrified of a goose chasing me, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But if I get home from work that day, and I walk up to my beautiful wife who has to love me because we're married, and I say, "Baby, guess what I did at work today? Kicked a goose—"

Justin: Fought a—I fought a—

Travis: "In the fuckin' face!"

Justin: Now what—

Travis: She's not gonna cheer for me?

Griffin: No...

Justin: If that person said "get it—"

Griffin: Get it.

Justin: And you ran over and absolutely punted that thing—[chuckles] I mean, housed it, chucked that bad boy 20 yards. Is that person gonna look at you like, "Thanks, chief."

Griffin: [chuckles] "Thanks, chief."

Justin: Or are they gonna look at you like, "You fucking psychopath!"

Griffin: [laughs] "What the fuck?! That's—" And then you say, "You said get it?"

Justin: What the fuck is wrong with—[titters]

Griffin: "When you said get it, I thought you meant shank it 20?"
"What?"

Justin: "What did you think I was gonna do with it?"

Travis: What if—what—my—okay. Maybe there's a subconscious fear in all of us that we'd run up to punt the goose, kick it, make contact, and it would maybe budge an inch. [chuckles] And then just turn and look at us as we backed away, rubbing our now sore ankles.

Justin: [laughs] I think—I think my greater fear, Trav, is that it would not move, but my foot would just bury in the chest and the goose, just exploding it. [chuckles] Like I would just feel—

Travis: As it caves in around—

Justin: It's avian bones shatter—

Travis: You like a goose boot!

Justin: Around my foot. As the wound began gushing goose blood everywhere. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, man.

Travis: And the cops show up. [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs] The cops show up, you're like, "He said get it!."

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: [titters] "He's respond—he's an accessory!"

Justin: "He said get it. He knows I'm on a short fuse. He said get it."

Travis: And then you gotta go to Randy Johnson's support group. [chuckles]

Griffin: [titters] Yeah.

Travis: To talk about like, "I didn't think that would happen to the bird when I did it."

Justin: [Whenever Randy Johnson had the ball the time??] like, "You're not gonna get me. There's no way."

Griffin: [chuckles] Uh-huh.

Justin: "There's no way, I can't—I can't do it again."

Griffin: He was so good at pitching, he would get bored on the mound. So he was like, "Let's see if I can hit that bird. Oh, fuck!"

Justin: Now we could do an episode about Randy Johnson—[laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, put it in the—

Justin: Absolutely pummeling that bird!

Griffin: Randy Johnson blowing up a bird jar. I think—

Travis: Maybe have Randy Johnson show up to talk to the bird.

Griffin: They have to know. Yeah.

Justin: Hey, folks, thank you so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself. Thank you to everybody who came out and saw us at the Harmony House Ren Faire last weekend. Presumably, that all went off without a hitch. We're recording it beforehand, so I don't know. But I hope so. Thanks for coming, if you came out.

Travis: We have some new merch. Really exciting. Never had anything like this in our store before. We've got some flaming, not poisoning, raging tea of doom. A spicy, caffeine-free tea, in collaboration with Good Store tea. And a—

Griffin: I've got some of their tea. It kicks ass. I'm so excited for this collab. I'm so excited for this tea.

Travis: And a Plato's Rave one thousand piece puzzle, with artwork by Danielle and Burch. And 10% of all merch proceeds this month will be donated to the Center for Reproductive Rights. So make sure you check that out at mcelroymerch.com. And there's so much other stuff on there too.

Griffin: Yeah, we got some live shows coming up too. We got tickets on sale for shows coming up in Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio, for MBMBaM and TAZ. All the TAZ shows are gonna be TAZ Versus. We're doing some cons, we're gonna be at Origins Game Fair in Columbus, and Dragon Con in Atlanta, doing stuff. You can find out all of that scheduling stuff and get tickets over at bit.ly/mcelroytours. Thanks to mon—

Travis: And we haven't mentioned it in a while, but we got—if you go to mcelroyfamily.carrd, with two R's, .co, we have places over there that we have partnered with before and nonprofits that we've worked with, and stuff like that. So, if you're, I don't know, looking for a way to help or a place to get involved, maybe check that out. Mcelroyfamily.carrd.co.

Griffin: Thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You, I am personally a huge fan of Montaigne's body of work. And this song in particular is especially meaningful, because it's on our show, and I hear it a whole lot. So, thank you very, very much, Montaigne.

Travis: That's a good point, Griffin. Thank you for sharing that, that was very vulnerable of you.

Griffin: Thanks!

Travis: And I respect that immensely.

Justin: Good for you, Griff.

Griffin: Who's got a fear?

Justin: Oh, boy.

Travis: Griffin, why don't you read it this time?

Griffin: Sure, I'll do it. "This year, I'm gonna get faster than my fear of giant foods?" The grocery—

Justin: Giant foods.

Griffin: The grocery store chain? Or—

Justin: Or giant foods! You know what? It works both ways. My name 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.

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

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