

## Still Buffering 407: Transgender Alien Fantasy ASMR Edition

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[theme music plays]

**Sydnee:** Hello, and welcome to Still Buffering: a cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:** Tey, I texted you the other night to make sure you didn't forget the full moon.

**Taylor:** Yes, you did.

**Sydnee:** Yes. I hope—

**Taylor:** I did not.

**Sydnee:** Good. Good. I wanted to make sure. Uh, my watch face now has the phases of the moon right there on it.

**Taylor:** Oh, okay.

**Sydnee:** Like the face of my watch is the moon in its current—you know what I mean?

**Taylor:** Doesn't show the time. Just tells you where the moon's at.

**Sydnee:** No. [laughs] No. It's got the time too.

**Taylor:** [laughs] Hey, Sydnee. Could you tell me the time? "Uh, I'm sorry. This is a moon watch. Just for the moon."

**Sydnee:** This is just for the moon. All it does—I can tell you what phase the moon is in.

**Taylor:** That's... [laughs] Waning.

**Sydnee:** No, I—

**Taylor:** Or gibbous.

**Sydnee:** I didn't know how to change—I knew there was a way to change the face of your Apple Watch, but I really didn't know how.

**Taylor:** Oh.

**Sydnee:** And Justin was like, "Well, what is important to you to have on there?"

**Taylor:** The moon!

**Sydnee:** And I said, well, I like having obviously the time. And the temperature. I like knowing the temperature right there on my watch. That's very helpful to me. And the date is really helpful to me, 'cause I glance at it a lot while I'm, like, writing doctor notes and stuff, and I forget the date... probably every 30 seconds I forget what date it is again. Do you have that problem?

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** So I—

**Taylor:** I—

**Sydnee:** Oh, go ahead.

**Taylor:** I'm always writing kitchen tape at work, and there's a lot of days where I'll come to work and I'll realize that for the last three days I've declared it to be the same day and I'm like, "Well." [laughs] "Who's to know?"

**Sydnee:** Who's to know? But I told him that stuff. And he was like, "I can—I'll find a watch face that has that."

And then he surprised me. He was like, "I have one bonus on there that you didn't ask for." And it was the phases of the moon!

**Taylor:** Well, that's wonderful!

**Sydnee:** I know! It's so pretty, too! And it's kind of—when you're not—it's one of those where, like, as you... I don't know if it can sense you move your wrist or whatever.

**Taylor:** Oh, it changes when you look at it?

**Sydnee:** Yeah, but like, when I look at it the moon brightens so that I can really clearly see what phase it's in.

**Taylor:** So you did your simmer pot, I'm guessing.

**Sydnee:** Yes. I did my simmer pot. And I don't know if you have this problem. I looked up to see, like, specifically harvest moon, are there special things? I mean, I could guess some. I've been doing 'em long enough that I could guess some. I don't feel like there's a consensus out there.

**Taylor:** I think that's fair.

**Sydnee:** It's just like, everybody's kind of doing similar... like—like, cinnamon's always in there. Cloves. People love star anise. I just didn't have any this time. Um, apples, oranges. Rosemary. Vanilla. I threw in some lavender 'cause I have a lot of it that I'm growing.

**Taylor:** I think as long as you know what each thing, like, means... and they're all good, I don't think there's, like, a right way. I appreciate that—I mean, I'm sure that there are people who feel very strongly one way or the other. But I think the bulk of people out there practicing any sort of witchcraft or whatever are kind of—not making it up as they go along, but setting their own rules, which I like. I enjoy that about the practice.

**Sydnee:** I did find as I was looking—actually, I found this on TikTok. I was looking for recipes and I found people who were showing you how to make, like, premade simmer pot cubes that you would, like, freeze, then.

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** And so—like a soup cube kind of thing, you know?

**Taylor:** So you don't have to—like, you're meal prepping for your simmer pot.

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Taylor:** How busy are you? [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, that's what—I was thinking, like, for me it's a fun thing. I mean, it doesn't take very long, first of all. And it's a fun—it's kind of a nice little fun—it's soothing. It's—part of what I enjoy about it is that—and the girls help me. And they'll go—I'll give them scissors and they go out to the garden and clip some rosemary and clip some—whatever other herbs we're putting in. And then they'll help me as I cut the citrus up, and they'll add in the cinnamon sticks.

And, like, they like doing it with me. It's kind of like when you're little and you'd go outside and make, like, an outside stew, like a fairy stew.

**Taylor:** Yeah, yeah.

**Sydnee:** It feels like that. Because we're not gonna eat this, so we don't have to, like, measure anything. You know? I don't know.

**Taylor:** Just make sure it smells good.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. And that's part of it for me, is like, we're doing this fun thing. I don't know. I can't imagine needing to, like, prep it. [laughs]

**Taylor:** I would think so too. 'Cause I feel like part of it is... I don't know. Focus and mindfulness where you're thinking about, like, what do I wanna

bring into my life? Oh, I want protection, or, you know, like, success, or—or, like, a good lunar cycle. Like, you're thinking about things that are gonna bring that in. Like, however much, as always, you don't—no one needs to believe in any sort of magical thinking. I think that there could still be positive effects to just having that little check-in with your focuses in life, represented by the things you're putting in there. Which would seem like the process of putting them all in there is important. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** We did also make moon water, and the girls got really into that, and continue—like, I had set out a bowl of water. And then they went around and gathered four more—five more bowls and filled those with water. And then they filled a spray bottle with water and put it outside. And then my watering can. And I have gallons. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** A lot of moon water.

**Sydnee:** I know! I don't even have places to put it. I usually just store it in a mason jar in my window so I can use it for my next simmer pot. But now I have... I have gallons. I don't even know where to put it all.

**Taylor:** Just have a moon bath. Just put it all in the bathtub. Big ol' moon bath.

**Sydnee:** I could do that. I could do that.

**Taylor:** Good for you.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, I don't know. So...

**Taylor:** I lit some candles, burned some incense. I always like to open all the windows in my apartment on a full moon. Just let—[laughs] let it in.

**Sydnee:** Let the moon in.

**Taylor:** Let the moon in. Let the bad stuff out.

**Sydnee:** Uh, in related news, somewhat, the Ouija board in my house has vanished.

**Taylor:** You told me that.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. I have now confirmed, Justin did not move it. Mom did not move it. Cooper was upset. She has no idea where it is and she's upset that it's gone. Charlie was terrified of it so she wasn't gonna touch it.

**Taylor:** I don't know. I think a parental force of some kind or another had a hand in that.

**Sydnee:** Justin is upset. Like, he was insistent. And then he thought I was messing with him. He thought, like, I was playing a mean trick. And, like, "Where'd it go?"

And he was upset with me. And I didn't! I didn't. I... on the record, I did not move the Ouija—I don't know where the Ouija board went. It has disappeared from the closet where it was wrapped in a blanket. The blanket was still laying on the ground.

**Taylor:** I don't know.

**Sydnee:** So, like, it was removed from the blanket. And I don't know where it went.

**Taylor:** Well, it will re-emerge when you least expect it.

**Sydnee:** Maybe on Halloween.

**Taylor:** Happy Halloween! I know. My apartment has become very festively Halloween lately. Um, because I think we talked about this a long—a long time ago, about spiders. Um, how I feel like if you talk about the fact that you're chill with them they'll just, like, hear you from afar and be like, "Oh yeah? I'm moving in."

Um, I had a very bad bug problem in my building for, like—it's been going on a year now. We've got the silverfish, which are so gross. And I don't like to spray bug spray around because I've got my cat, and that stuff is dangerous.

Um, and I just kept thinking, like, I just need a bunch of spiders to move into my apartment. 'Cause if there were spiders here they'd eat the bugs, and then—the circle of life.

And I swear it's as if they just... arrived upon my request. So I have, like, an enormous amount of spiders in my apartment. They're chill. They're, like, house spiders. They keep to themselves, you know? Like... there's the ones that live under the bookcase. The ones that live under the spice rack. There are the ones that live under the liquor shelf.

And I... you know, every now and then if I see a bug in the sink I'll just grab it and toss it at one of the spider webs like, "Here you go!" [laughs]

**Sydnee:** You realize, like, this is information that you would include in, like, the worst online dating profile that's ever been created.

**Taylor:** I will never be—

**Sydnee:** Also—[laughs]

**Taylor:** — I will always be single. 'Cause I'm aware of this.

**Sydnee:** "Also, I have an enormous amount of spiders living in my apartment. Just... I cannot emphasize enough how many spiders live in my apartment." [laughs]

**Taylor:** I enjoy my alone time, so if anything it's a defensive tactic at this point. Like...

**Sydnee:** "I have filled my apartment with spiders. Intentionally."

**Taylor:** Because I psychically invited them in. You know, as one does.

**Sydnee:** Right.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I don't know what that says, then, that right now my house is gradually being filled with stink bugs.

**Taylor:** Well, you're nice to 'em! I think that, you know—

**Sydnee:** I am nice to 'em.

**Taylor:** —bugs have a hard life.

**Sydnee:** Stink bugs don't reproduce in your house. They just come in for the winter. They winter in your house because they don't like the cold. And then they go back outside when it's warm again.

**Taylor:** See, you make a space for 'em, that's what happens.

**Sydnee:** So I try to just leave them alone.

**Taylor:** I've been leaving the spiders alone. They've multiplied. They've been telling all their spider friends, "Yo, this is a sweet gig."

Jack doesn't mess with 'em. He likes to watch 'em. I say it's spider TV. He just hunkers down in front of one shelf where they happen to be, like, three all living together underneath of it. And he just sits there for hours just watching it.

**Sydnee:** Really?

**Taylor:** Go, "Oh, what's on TV tonight? Spiders? Ha ha, spiders are on TV every night."

**Sydnee:** He doesn't attack 'em?

**Taylor:** No, he just likes to watch 'em.

**Sydnee:** That's interesting. I feel like my cats would attack them.

**Taylor:** Yeah, no. Jack is a friend to all creatures, big and small.



**Sydnee:** That's good. That's good, though. Um, speaking of Halloween decor, one of the first things we should talk about is, I have been getting lots of TikToks about the Halloween decor at Micheal's.

**Taylor:** Yes. And we know why you're getting those TikToks. Because it's lesbian Halloween decor.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly] Because I have a very, uh, lesbian-centric TikTok FYP.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I do drive a Subaru.

**Taylor:** That's all it takes.

**Sydnee:** Yes. I don't think that's all it takes, but...

**Taylor:** [laughs] That's one of the signs. One of the key...

**Sydnee:** I don't know if it was when I Googled, like, best overalls, or when I started purchasing—

**Taylor:** You did not type in the words "best overalls" into a search engine. [wheeze-laughs]

**Sydnee:** Or—or—

**Taylor:** Like, you didn't write, like, "I want a pair of overalls." You're like, "I need the best."

**Sydnee:** Best overalls. Yeah! Like, the ones that were durable and would be good for gardening, and have lots of pockets.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I also Googled corduroy overalls. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah? Did you throw a carabiner in there?

**Sydnee:** I was gonna say, also I think it's drawn from my Amazon where I have ordered, like, multi packs of carabiners, including a carabiner multi tool.

**Taylor:** I feel like you're—I summon spiders. You summon lesbians. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs] They all came to my FYP. And I must go to Michael's to purchase the lesbian Halloween decor.

**Taylor:** I've seen some of it in IRL, and it is quite fabulous. I like that some of it, like—it doesn't even feel like Halloween. It's just, like, here are three, like, cat statues in the colors of the lesbian flag. Like, I get that cats are spooky for Halloween, but this is like a bright pink cat. This is just... "Here you go, lesbians." [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** It seems to me... I don't know. Someone involved in creating this line of Halloween decor had to know what they were doing.

**Taylor:** Absolutely.

**Sydnee:** Because it's lots of pieces, and it's all in the color scheme of the lesbian flag. All of it.

**Taylor:** I mean, the gays love the Halloween, so it's...

**Sydnee:** Is that the whole—is that—I mean, well, no community is a monolith so you can't make any, you know—like, I'm not stereotyping.

**Taylor:** No. But the joke that, like, Halloween is gay Christmas is—is a common... thing.

**Sydnee:** But do you think that that is all letters in the...

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** You know what I mean? Like, I think I always associated that more with gay men than I did with lesbians. But that could be wrong. I don't know. I'm bi, I love Halloween, so what do I know? [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** I don't know. I mean... I love Halloween. But I don't think I love Hallow—I don't know if I would relate it to anything to do with my gender or sexual identity and more that I'm just a little creep! But...

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Sydnee:** But it is. No, I mean, it is—it is, like, a—you do very much associate Halloween, I think—a lot of us do—with the queer community. So I don't know. Maybe somebody did some market research and they were like, "Lesbians like Halloween and lesbians shop at Michael's." Did they figure that out?

I'm not saying that these two things are true. I'm saying perhaps the data showed that.

**Taylor:** I think "lesbians shop at Michael's" would be easy to figure out. Um, I think that the other [wheezes] part is just filling a—filling a void. 'Cause everybody went hard with their Halloween collections this year, I feel like. Like, I also think it's just part of our generation. Like, I don't know what it is, 'cause I think it's as millennials have money to spend—well, we don't have that much. We only spend our money—we can only afford, you know...

**Sydnee:** Halloween decorations? [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah. We can't afford houses, but we can afford Halloween decorations. Uh, but I don't—'cause I think that there's also, like, the rise of the Disney adult that kind of loves whimsy. And, like, I don't know. You know, the adulting adult, the adult that's not committed to being an adult or to, like, living a serious... like, having an adult home. Like, I think that these things are all kind of emerging at the same time.

**Sydnee:** That makes sense. And I mean, there's certainly, like, a lot of overlaps in those categories too. Because, uh, Justin loves haunted mansion stuff. Just generally, he loves that sort of motif. And so we have a lot of Halloween decorations that—I mean, it's both of those things, right? We love Halloween. He loves haunted mansions. So we have a lot of those decorations in our house. We have these books that move on their own. Like, they pop out of the bookshelf on their own.

**Taylor:** That's cool!

**Sydnee:** Like, from the—and they play the Haunted Mansion song while they do it.

**Taylor:** That's super cool.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. They're very cool. I mean, you know, in the way that any of this is cool, I guess. But... [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** I've def—I got a TikTok a while ago where someone had made a whole Haunted Mansion themed bathroom in their house and I thought that was very cool.

**Sydnee:** He wants to do that. Ohh, I bet that's where he got the idea. He said that. "Can we make a whole Haunted Mansion themed bathroom?"

And I was like, "Yeah, I don't care. Sure."

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** All our bathrooms are themed.

**Taylor:** I was gonna say, what will you sacrifice to—'cause you've got the Doctor Who bathroom.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm. It's a Tardis, yep. And we have a Disney bathroom that is just kind of, like, general Disney theme. And we have—my favorite is the Twin Peaks bathroom.

**Taylor:** Oh, that's right.

**Sydnee:** It's got the black and white zigzag floor and the red curtain, shower curtain. And the toilet is black. That's weird. But it looks like the Red Room in Twin Peaks.

**Taylor:** You need to get the theme to play in there. There was a restaurant in New York that was otherwise just a normal restaurant. Like, it didn't have, like, a Twin Peaks theme to it. But specifically the bathroom you'd go in and as soon as you shut the door... uh, like, the lights would come automatically when you shut the door and it was, uh—it would play the Twin Peaks theme, and there was nothing else up on the wall except for a framed picture of Laura Palmer. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Oh my gosh!

**Taylor:** And it was like—like, knotty pine wood paneling. So you were just in this little wooden box [through laughter] with a picture of Laura Palmer and the Twin Peaks song playing.

**Sydnee:** That's really scary.

**Taylor:** It was great!

**Sydnee:** That's very—I mean, that's intense.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** I don't know. I think it is totally possible that they did some demographic research and that it's intentional. I was telling you earlier Tey, before we started recording, Subaru did that. The fact that Subarus are associated with lesbians is intentional. Subaru realized that that was a demographic that may be specifically drawn to the features that their automobiles offered, like hauling capacity and safety. [laughs quietly] And so they marketed their cars specifically to lesbians. And now a lot of lesbians drive Subarus.

And so this was all, like... it's not an accident. It's not coincidence.

**Taylor:** But do you think Halloween has been marketed specifically to the queer community. Or did we—we were already out there loving Halloween, and so anyone that now does Halloween merchandise says "Well, you gotta make it a little gay."

Like, come on. Those Target birds...

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** You can't tell me... I'm sure that there are lots of just lovely old straight ladies that buy those Target birds. But you know... [wheeze-laughs] you know the gays love those birds!

**Sydnee:** I don't know. I mean, I... yes. I think that people know what they're doing. I do think there's somebody behind it. I also wonder, too, as we see, like, younger, more progressive generations entering the world of work, you know? [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Who is—like—I was, uh—I saw a whole thing about the, um, Kamala Harris's TikTok, who runs it. And it's like, it's a bunch of people who are, like, 25 and around that age. And so that's why the content feels so young and fresh. It's made by people who are young and fresh. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Well, I mean...

**Sydnee:** So, you know.

**Taylor:** This is... this is our heyday, because most of the people that are making things are our contemporaries, so. [laughs quietly] They know what we like! Is it spooky? Is it gay? Is it gay and spooky? Nice!

**Sydnee:** There are a handful of things you can always reference and we'll get really excited about. Is it in some way connected to The Goofy Movie?

**Taylor:** [laughs] Yeah, that's a weird one that kind of emerged, like...

**Sydnee:** Because there's a demographic that loves that! [laughs]

**Taylor:** I thought, like, we were some of the few people that truly appreciated the work of art that is The Goofy Movie. And now, like, seeing such a rise of a—not a fandom? I don't know. 'Cause it's a bunch of old people. [wheeze-laughs] Like, I also really love the—I loved The Goofy Movie maybe a little too much when I was a child, too. We all did.

**Sydnee:** Well, and it—well, and I mean, I think that's the magic of the internet too. And things like your TikTok FYP. Is that you start to realize, you weren't the only one who was, like, confusingly attracted to the fox in the animated Robin Hood.

**Taylor:** Right, right.

**Sydnee:** You know what I mean? Like, you start to realize, like, oh. There were a lot of us. And then you are able to find those people.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Still waiting for those fellow "Hey, did anybody, like, maybe think Balto was... was... was a really cool dog?"

**Sydnee:** There's definitely people. There's—I guarantee.

**Taylor:** Well, there's a community of people that [through laughter] think Balto was a really cool dog.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. You are not—I guarantee you're not alone with that.

**Taylor:** It's a very handsome animated dog.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Uh...

**Sydnee:** Yeah? Uh...

**Taylor:** What else? What else is on the review today?

**Sydnee:** Um, I don't really wanna—a lot of my TikTok has started to get political.

**Taylor:** Yeah, same.

**Sydnee:** Because of the time of year. And I don't wanna belabor a lot of that stuff, because... I don't know. And I may have said this. Did we record prior to the last debate? Did I say this, like—

**Taylor:** Uh, I don't think we have. I don't think we've talked since the last debate.

**Sydnee:** I don't... it's hard for me to—I used to like politics a lot at one point in my life, many years ago. And I would watch those sorts of things almost like a sporting event and root for my time. And I don't feel that way anymore. Because it's all so, um—the stakes are so high.

**Taylor:** Yeah...

**Sydnee:** It—and it's not fun. It's not a game. It's not funny. And so it's hard for me to, like, engage with political content in any sort of humorous way. Because... you know? Like, I watch it to be informed but not to be entertained.

**Taylor:** Yeah. It's a sporting event as much as, like, being thrown to the lions in a coliseum was sort of a sport? [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Right, right. Like, lives are literally at stake. And so, I mean, I don't know. Like, I can watch people—I get a lot of people making fun of J.D. Vance's eyeliner usage.

**Taylor:** Yeah, yeah. That's fair game.



**Sydnee:** Right. And, like, that's funny.

**Taylor:** Which I—I support anybody of any gender identity's right to wear eyeliner. But, you know. It's the... [laughs quietly] it's the hypocrisy is the issue.

**Sydnee:** The hypocrisy has always been the issue, right? Like, you see, like, at the—I mean, I did not watch the RNC. I saw clips of it, again, on TikTok. But, like, there's a lot of, um... gender-affirming procedures that people are having done and things they're doing. Uh, and that's fine. I don't mind that they're doing that. Right?

Um, just like, how about everybody can and you leave everybody alone?  
[laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** That would be great.

**Sydnee:** Yeah!

**Taylor:** It's totally fine that it's the most popular time of the year for Grindr, and so popular that it crashes. Just, you know. [laughs] Have some self-awareness.

**Sydnee:** And just, like, embrace it and live it, and live your truth, and let everybody else live their truth. [sighs heavily] Um...

**Taylor:** Yeah. But we did get some good memes out of it. [wheeze-laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Taylor:** [through laughter] From the debate.

**Sydnee:** And I will say that watching people do a TikTok dance [laughs quietly]...

**Taylor:** I know, exactly.

**Sydnee:** ... [holding back laughter] for Donald Trump saying... "They're eating the dogs. They're eating the cats."

**Taylor:** "They're eating the cats." [laughs] And, like...

**Sydnee:** I don't—

**Taylor:** It feels so, like, apocalyptic. But in the way that makes sense for America. Like, "Yeah... " This is gonna be in—there aren't gonna be history books when this will be in the history books, but it should be in the history books. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** No! Well, I mean, it's gonna be! Because it's a re—but this is the problem, right? Him saying that was so... ridiculous. I mean... so ridiculous. And obviously a lie. And obviously terrible. Because now the whole town is experiencing, like, death threats and bomb threats and violence and—because of all the attention. And so, like, it's awful, and it's not funny. Um, and it's sad that it couldn't be so ridiculous that we would all go, "Oh my gosh, laugh at that because it's ridiculous," and then we move on.

But the problem is there are people who take that seriously, because they listen to him, and believe him, for some reason. But watching people do a TikTok dance to "They're eating the dogs, they're eating the cats," I—it did make me laugh a little.

**Taylor:** And it's like, I have that, like—is this... is it... is this helping or hurting the situation? [laughs] 'Cause it is continuing the conversation around this complete, like, just fallacy of a statement. You know?

**Sydnee:** Which is—I mean, I know. I know. And it's tough. Because... it was kind of like—I think that it was really smart that so far Kamala has refused to engage with his comments about what her racial identity is. Because it's such a gross, awful, harmful conversation to be having and centering around. You know? And—you know?

**Taylor:** Oh, absolutely.

**Sydnee:** Like, for him to call those things into question. And so I think, like, I'm not even gonna engage with that because it's dangerous rhetoric. And I feel like probably this is the same thing, right? Like, what—I mean, this is ridiculous to say that someone's eating neighborhood pets. It's just obviously this is a ridiculous thing to say.

But what's underneath it is really disturbing, and gross, and awful, because it's hatred directed towards a specific group of people who immigrated to this country legally.

**Taylor:** Well, and it's just part of the effort to control via fear. Like, "Bad, bad, bad, bad—the worst things you can think of will happen if you don't vote for me."

I mean, what was the other—[laughs]. I mean, like the—what wa—tra—transgender—it sounded like a Mad Lib.

Transgender aliens getting operations in jail?

**Sydnee:** In jail, mm-hmm.

**Taylor:** I did not—look. As somebody that would love some gender affirming care but cannot afford the care itself, nor the off time that would go with it, I did not know that all I needed to do to have my—[wheeze-laugh] my "brutal operation" was commit a crime. Now I'm just like, what crime's it gonna be? 'Cause... it's just like, just kid in a candy store here. What am I gonna do so I can finally get my care? Or I guess the other option is going back to school. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Exactly. You could go back to school, because obviously our elementary school teachers do that on the side.

**Taylor:** Yeah. They can't afford pencils. But... [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** But they're doing—they're doing, um... surgeries without consent on children at school. While they're at school! And then they are sent home from school with their operations.

Um, but Tey, it's not as simple as committing a crime. You have to commit a crime, but you also need to, like, burn your birth certificate and social security card and, like, any proof you have that you're a citizen of the United States.

**Taylor:** Alright. Well...

**Sydnee:** So. And then your life will be really easy.

**Taylor:** So they're not—there's no—

**Sydnee:** [loudly] Because we make it so easy!

**Taylor:** No—no transgender op—brutal transgender operations for legal citizens. Just for aliens.

**Sydnee:** Yes. Just—yes. Well, obviously.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Obviously. That's the America the liberals want.

**Taylor:** Wow. [laughs quietly] 'Cause as anyone who has tried to seek out gender affirming care would know that that is just—it's... you know. But that's part of—that's the plan, right? Just say the most egregious, ridiculous things you can, 'cause there are some people that are just gonna believe whatever you say. And so that's a dangerous and increasingly high stakes game that we're in. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** If you need some relief from that, there's always ASMR.

**Taylor:** I love ASMR. But only the weird ones.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. You sent me some weird ones.

**Taylor:** I—yeah. I really like the weird ones. Um... that sounds—that sounds like that could mean anything. I like the fantasy ASMR. Like, here is—you've been abducted by an alien. Not a transgender one, as far as I

know. But you've been abducted by an alien and this alien is, uh, is doing your makeup. [laughs] Or you're in ancient Egypt and somebody is preparing you for mummification but, like, in a really calming way.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Um...

**Sydnee:** [through laughter] Preparing you for mummification?

**Taylor:** Yeah. They, like, scoop out your brains and put all your organs in little jars but they do it, like, in a really soft voice with, like, scratching their nails on a microphone. I love that.

**Sydnee:** I need some stats on that. How many people are watching that and liking that?

**Taylor:** It's got—I mean, it's enough—

**Sydnee:** I need to know.

**Taylor:** —it's enough that there are multiple creators doing this. Uh, I watch—the two main ones that I watch are Pure Honey and Unity. But, uh—and they know about each other because they've done similar videos, but recognized each other in comments, but... it's just... I don't know. You know, sometimes—'cause it's not everything I've ever seeked out. Sometimes your FYP just looks at everything else you're into and goes, "What about this? Maybe this?"

And you just discover a whole new part of yourself. And me... I really enjoy when... I don't—I—it's a—it's a—I've run away to the circus and there's a nice mime that shows me how to do my mime makeup and gives me a new life as a circus person.

**Sydnee:** So, to—[laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Tey, when do you think the ASMR trend... like, when did this start? Because I feel like all the sudden I was surrounded by ASMR. And, like, Justin's really into it. Cooper absolutely loves it. But I feel like it was very—it was not, like... you know what I mean? It wasn't a thing.

**Taylor:** Well... I don't know. I—I—

**Sydnee:** By the way, it stands for autonomous sensory meridian response.

**Taylor:** Hmm. What's a meridian response?

**Sydnee:** It's, um...

**Taylor:** People always say it, like, scratches their brain or it helps them sleep. And I will say that. A lot of times—and that's a wild thing about however the TikTok algorithm works.

It will come on—like, I won't get those videos early in the day. I will get them late at night. And they will make me sleepy. Um...

**Sydnee:** Hm. I mean, I get—I get them whenever, but that's also because I have to look for them a lot for Cooper. And so... you know. I have told the algorithm that I like them. The official contemporary history of ASMR began on—there's a date.

**Taylor:** Oh, really?

**Sydnee:** Man, this is amazing. October 19th, 2007.

**Taylor:** Oh, very recent.

**Sydnee:** On a discussion forum for health related subjects at a website called Study Health.

**Taylor:** Wow.

**Sydnee:** A 21-year-old registered user with the handle okaywhatever...

**Taylor:** [laughs] Sounds right.

**Sydnee:** Yep. Submitted a post describing having experienced a specific sensation since childhood. And, I mean, it was ASMR. And, uh, a lot of other people were like, "Yeah, I know what you're talking about."

And... eventually it became a thing from there, from that online conversation.

**Taylor:** I wonder—I think that there's a parallel—and, I mean, in a lot of ways they overlap because there's definitely, like, mukbang ASMR. I think it all kind of comes from... it doesn't come entirely from this place. But I do think in our modern world where we're kind of disconnected from, like, comfort and care, from other people, that there is this sort of, like, you know, side... business that's popped up where it's like, hey, I will.

There are lots of days that I go through my day with nobody... nobody taking any care of me, you know? Having no interaction that is in any way comforting towards me. And so the ability to, like, pull up a video and have somebody eat food with me when I'm eating dinner, you know? Like, that's... I don't like food sounds. That's just a sensory thing for me, so I don't always love mukbangs.

But the ones that don't focus on the food sounds, where it's just somebody talking about their day while eating their dinner, I'll sometimes put one of those on so I feel a little less alone. And I think that's the ASMR thing.

There's the fantasy thing where I just want to look at something—somebody's that's done a cool costume and, like, has a pretty background or whatever. But then also just, like, the feeling of somebody... talking to you gently, and taking care of you, is a void that I will admit I often have in my life, and I would say with the kind of lives a lot of us lead that we all have those voids.

**Sydnee:** I think that's really interesting, 'cause I... part of why I don't—well, one, there are a lot of the things that just don't do it for me. Like, I like having, like, my hair done or my makeup done or something. Like, I understand that sensation from that. I've experienced that. Or, like,

especially if, like, I'm getting my hair cut and they wash it first. Right? I get it. But the videos don't do it for me.

**Taylor:** Hm.

**Sydnee:** The only videos—I've tried this. I've, like, watched a bunch of different ASMRs to see, like, can I get the sensation from—'cause, you know, that's the thing is that ASMRtists... as they are called... did you know that's what they were called officially? ASMRtists?

**Taylor:** Oh. That makes sense. I like that. That's cute.

**Sydnee:** I know, I like it. Uh, they are intentionally trying to trigger that. That's the point. They're making videos with the thought that if I—like, that's what the whispering is about, and some of the mouth noises they make when they're, like, "Chu chu chu chu. [clicks tongue]"

**Taylor:** Oh, I love that sound.

**Sydnee:** Cooper does that when she puts on—'cause she loves to do makeup. When she's applying my makeup, like, for real, not pretend, she'll make these sounds while she's doing it now. Um, but the only one that I get anything from are the hair washing ones. When they're, like, washing somebody's hair and they're rubbing their neck.

But then every time I watch it I'm like, "I'm just gonna make Justin rub my neck." [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** See, okay. So I think there's a rea—it's... one, part of the joy of it I think is for me, if I was in an actual salon setting, or I went to an actual masseuse, the element of social anxiety comes in.

**Sydnee:** Ahh.

**Taylor:** That makes it, like, a high stakes activity for me where I'm worrying I'm gonna say the wrong thing or, like, what if I talk too much? What if I don't talk enough? What if, you know, what if I smell weird? There's nothing I can—I—I didn't know—like, I don't know. Like, there's...



you don't... [laughs] you're not that much of a socially anxious person. So, you know, normal human interaction doesn't come with the companion of "Oh no!" [laughs]

**Sydnee:** That's true. I don't—I don't mind, um... I usually—like, if I'm out getting my hair done or something, which doesn't—I said "Getting my hair done" like I'm going to the salon every week to get my 'do.

No. I mean, like, if I get a haircut. I don't mind that social interaction. I enjoy it. But I like people. Like, I'm an extrovert, so I like to be around people.

**Taylor:** See, I got a tattoo recently and, uh, it was down, like, on my lower leg. So—and it was also on Friday the 13th. It was—my local shop was doing, like, a Friday the 13th thing. And my regular tattoo artists said "Hit me up about it."

And to be fair I really like her and I genuinely like talking to her when I'm in there. But I do always worry, because she's a very cool person, and inevitably tattoo shops are full of very cool people that, like, am I saying cool things? Am I bringing up cool topics? Are we having a cool conversation?

And because of the location of where this tattoo was and because of how loud the shop was on that day, I was just fully laying down and she was, like, down at the end of me, so we really didn't talk the whole time. It just wouldn't have—we wouldn't have been able to.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** And I was so relaxed [wheezes] I fell asleep! [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Wow!

**Taylor:** I was like, I don't—there is no need to socially engage. I am just in the care of another person. Even though there is a pain element which, you know, we won't go into that. But, uh, I'm in the care of another person. I am surrounded by people. But there is no social obligation with me to engage. I can rest. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** That is nice. And I will say, you know, the—the woman who cut my hair before she moved, I miss her. She, uh—when it would—she and I would talk the whole time she was, like, cutting it.

But when it came to the hair washing part she doesn't talk to you at all. 'Cause I think she knows, like, this is a very relaxing experience. I always thought that was such a nice little, like, "I'm gonna do—I'm gonna pause our conversation for just a minute. You're gonna relax. I'm gonna, you know, rub your head, and it's gonna be nice."

See, I don't worry about being cool with my tattoo artist 'cause before she was a tattoo artist she was an engineer. So, like, we just geek out about science stuff.

**Taylor:** That's awesome!

**Sydnee:** Yeah. So I would have to—

**Taylor:** I would still—that would sound more intimidating to me. I don't know. [laughs quietly] That's still—that's still a cool person.

**Sydnee:** We share a lot of geeky things, and so we can just be nerds together. But also she's very cool 'cause she can do these amazing—like, she's a very talented artist and can do these incredible tattoos. She's also really, like, attentive to the cleanliness of everything. And I love that. I love how safe I feel.

But anyway, ASMR. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Yeah. I think—I think it's for those of us that have, uh—have a little bit of a void, Syd. Maybe you don't have that void. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, but that makes me wonder about, like... I don't know if it's just—I mean, I do think you're right that that's gotta be part of it. But Cooper really responds to the sensory—like, the—you know what I mean? Like, that sensory thing.

Because she is—and she's not, like... not getting that, right? Because she is—

**Taylor:** Oh, I see what you're saying. Of course.

**Sydnee:** She's a very, like, physically affectionate kid. She's always, like, wanting to be—if I sit down in a room she comes—it's like a magnet. She, like, attaches herself to the side of me. She wants to be squished right up hugging me and letting me hold her. Like, she's very... you know, that's just how she is. Charlie's not so much. Charlie wants a little hug and then she needs her space, which is more like Justin.

Cooper is always right on top of me, which is fine with me, 'cause I'm very affectionate.

But she is the one who is so drawn to those videos, especially makeup videos. Makeup ASMR videos are what put her to sleep most times. Those and—have you ever seen the Old Time Hawkey videos?

**Taylor:** Old time hockey?

**Sydnee:** Hawkey like H-A-W-K-E-Y.

[pause]

**Taylor:** No.

**Sydnee:** Okay. Old Time Hawkey videos—these are great, Tey.

**Taylor:** Oh, what, yes.

**Sydnee:** The guy in the cabin.

**Taylor:** The "Hey, buddy."

**Sydnee:** "Hey, buddy.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Yeah. Yes.

**Sydnee:** So those, I—

**Taylor:** He just makes you a meal and then puts on a movie for you.

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Taylor:** I love those.

**Sydnee:** Yes. Or he's playing, like, old school Nintendo. And his dog's there.

**Taylor:** And the food always looks so rustic and just delicious.

**Sydnee:** Ugh. Ugh. "Hey, buddy. Here you go, buddy."

Yes. And he—and like, that... I get that. She loves those videos. We'll just watch them over and over. And, like—and I—so I don't know. I do think there is some sort of sensory... itch.

**Taylor:** Oh, for sure.

**Sydnee:** That it is definitely scratching. Um, I find it really fascinating. I had not seen any of those weird ones until you were showing me. Most of the ones I knew about were like, hair washing, makeup. You know, kind of like stuff you'd expect.

There are a bunch of, um—there are doctor ones out there if you want somebody to, like, give you a neuro exam.

**Taylor:** Oh, no. I... I've seen—the neuro exam ones are fun. But, I mean, I... one of my girls does an occasional lobotomy vid. And I don't know what it says about me that I'm like, "Oh, yes. Just give me. Give me a calming lobotomy." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I mean... look. Every—whatever you're—

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** —whatever the thing is, someone is into it.

**Taylor:** Yep. Yeah.

**Sydnee:** This is what I've decided. Whatever it is, there's somebody who's into that.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Um, you know, it's weird. I... before ASMR videos were a thing—or at least such a popular thing—and this would've been pre-2007, 'cause I was learning the neurological exam in medical school. Justin would love for me to practice that on him.

**Taylor:** Really?

**Sydnee:** Yeah. He would—I mean, any of the exam, he always got a kick out of, just listening to his heart and lungs and, you know, the kind of—but, like, the more complicated—and the neuro exam can get pretty weird. If you do, like, a full neurological exam on somebody, there are, like, props involved, and... I mean, [laughs quietly] it's a whole thing to do a full neuro exam.

Most of the time when you go to the doctor you are probably not getting a full neuro exam, unless there's a specific thing we're trying to figure out. But Justin would love it. And I had to do the entire thing to pass that, you know, block in my med school class.

So I would have to do top to bottom an entire neuro exam. And he would just like, "Do you wanna examine me again? Do you need to practice that?"

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** And, I mean, that was ASMR, is what he was—that's what he was experiencing, before we had the term ASMR. That's what he was asking me to do.

**Taylor:** Fascinating.

**Sydnee:** I know. It's really interesting. Yeah. But... I, uh—I think—the only other thing we had—that was new, um, is we were gonna talk about Chappell Roan.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Well, that was a lot of—I mean, obviously, as I'm sure you did as well, knowing your algorithm, I'm sure you got a lot of the, the—

**Sydnee:** Joan of Arc.

**Taylor:** MTV, yeah, the—what was it? It was the, uh... music video awards, right?

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Yeah. The Joan of Arc performance. But I think she's also been of topic lately because she's also pushed back significantly against—kind of establishing her boundaries with her fans. Like, you know, that—that when she's performing, she's in costume, and she—you know, she's in drag. She refers to herself as a drag artist, and I think that's really cool. Like, this is a persona that I put on when I perform. And that is the persona that is at work.

When I'm not that persona, when I'm not at work, my time is my time. And you can't claim it for yourself.

And it's been wild seeing the reactions on both sides of that. Where I think most... I mean, understanding people are going, "Of course, yes. That makes total sense."

And then a lot of people being like, "Uh, I don't know, if you—if you wanna be a performer then you—you have to—that's part of it. That's part of the package." And I don't think anyone at her level of focus and celebrity has ever called that into question.

Like, I don't think it is part of the package, so.

**Sydnee:** Well, you know what I wonder? I was thinking about why—why is it different? 'Cause we've all—I mean, we've always had celebrities. We've always had people who are—some people who cross that line from, like, "I'm a fan" to "I'm... I'm obsessed with you, and I will try to find you out in the world."

I mean, like, you know, which I think that is a line you shouldn't cross, personally.

Why is it different? The internet is the obvious answer.

**Taylor:** Sure.

**Sydnee:** But I wonder if what we're seeing is sort of, like, celebrities used to be something that existed only in the form of media you were consuming, and as far as in the real world, you wouldn't know where to find them, or how, or whatever. You know.

The internet changed that. And because you can engage—because celebrities started engaging with different forms of communication via the internet, it almost seemed like you could get to them all the sudden.

**Taylor:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** Maybe you could, you know. I mean, there's stuff like Cameo where they will send you a video. And that feels like they're closer to you, somehow. And so then the expectation starts to become, "You'll interact with me."

**Taylor:** Right.

**Sydnee:** And I mean, are we just finally seeing the obvious evolution of that with younger celebrities saying "Okay, but no. Still, this is my job. I perform. And I am happy to share it with you because I love doing it. But you are not entitled to me, the human, just because, you know, I am visible."

**Taylor:** Well, I think—I think it's a comb—it's kind of the butting of the heads of both of those things. The increasing intimacy we demand from public figures up against a young celebrity who was raised—you know, we didn't have the kind of conversations around, like, having healthy boundaries, work life balance, like, personal space.

**Sydnee:** Right, right.

**Taylor:** You know. I think that... even—like, seeing the reaction and the people that are like, "Ugh, she's ungrateful! Like, oh, we're—you know, this is gonna be her downfall."

Like, how many bitter people there are about her establishing this. Imagine how much worse it would've been with, I don't know, if 15 years ago Britney Spears said "Hey. You all aren't entitled to me all day every day."

Like, I mean, but then look at—

**Sydnee:** There was no space for that, yeah.

**Taylor:** No. And then look at, like, what a horrible, like, situation she went through. Like, that is the end point of that kind of, "We own you know because you performed for us."

**Sydnee:** It really—it put it in context for me. Have you seen—and I saw this on TikTok too. Have you seen the video of Jenna Ortega and Winona Ryder, out doing PR for the new Beetlejuice movie?

**Taylor:** Hmm, [crosstalk].

**Sydnee:** And the two of them are standing there and a bunch of paparazzi are taking pictures of them. And Winona Ryder is wearing big sunglasses. You know, she tends to wear those, like, huge black sunglasses?

**Taylor:** Yeah.



**Sydnee:** Very Winona Ryder. She's so cool. And Jenna Ortega's standing there with her, and they're taking pictures of them, and the paparazzi keeps yelling "Winona, take off your sunglasses, take off your sunglasses, take—"

They're yelling it at her repeatedly. And you can tell she doesn't want to, and she's kind of smiling, and she's kind of waving, and she reaches up a couple times like she's going to. And then she looks to Jenna Ortega. And you can't hear what they're saying but you can, you know, interpret from what they... she kind of gestures, like, "Should I take them off?"

And Jenna Ortega just very matter-of-factly says, "You don't have to take them off."

And it was this moment of, like...

**Taylor:** [simultaneously] Nice.

**Sydnee:** Ahh. This is a younger woman saying they don't get that. Like, you do not owe them that. If you wanna wear your sunglasses, wear your sunglasses. You don't owe them that.

Like, if you want to take 'em off, take 'em off. But if you want to leave 'em on you can leave 'em on. Which is such a tiny thing. But especially for a woman celebrity, that shift. That's, like... that's a huge shift.

**Taylor:** That's similar to the other moment that happened at the, uh, the VMAs, where Chappell Roan shouted back at a photographer, who was either shouting at her or at another photographer, but said, "Shut the eff up."

And Chappell turned around and said, "No," and pointed at him and said, "You shut the eff up." We're not doing it. Like, not with me. Like, not this one. [laughs] And, you know, again there was that like, "Ohh, we're outraged by this. How inappropriate."

It's like, well, no. I mean, you know, like—and again a lot of people like, "This is just how paparazzi are. This is how they are."

It's like, but what if... what if we recognize that this is an abusive, unhealthy environment to create, and that is her right to call it out and say, "Nah, nah. Not—not with me."

**Sydnee:** And I will say, before we finish, I, because—and maybe this is a whole conversation for another episode. I do not put into this same category of, like, celebrities, especially younger celebrities or women celebrities, people who may have previously been even more, you know, like, restricted in what they're allowed to do and say.

Um, I do not put this into the same category as that video that surfaced, um, of the interview that... oh, gosh. What's her name? Ryan Reynolds's wife.

**Taylor:** Oh, Blake—Blake Lively.

**Sydnee:** The interview that Blake Lively and Parker Posey did.

**Taylor:** Well, that's... yeah.

**Sydnee:** I am not—I just want to make it clear. That's a whole other thing. [laughs quietly] I don't wanna—I don't wanna say that like, "They're just standing up for themselves."

That was weird, and uncomfortable. I don't know what was happening there.

**Taylor:** Uh, yeah.

**Sydnee:** I don't know what Blake Lively's deal is, and I am not including her in this particular conversation. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** No, I agree. I do think, though, watching how—like, the—the pile-on. It was like, "Oh, do we have a reason to hate Blake Lively? Let's all hate Blake Lively."

It's like, yeah, you know what? Uh, I would even go as far as to say I think a celebrity can be a bit of a B, and if you enjoy the work they put into the world, that's alright. You know. I think she could've apologized to specifically that woman in that interview.

But then, like, everything else that was like, "Let's just find other reasons to hate her."

It's like, why do we enjoy this? I don't think you should enjoy this. If you don't like her, don't engage with her stuff.

**Sydnee:** Yes.

**Taylor:** It's that simple.

**Sydnee:** Well, 'cause I mean, it's really easy to pile on and hate a gorgeous, talented woman with an amazing life.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** And it looks like and a great marriage. I don't know. From the outside, you never know. But, like, you know what I mean? Like, of course you would wanna hate this person. But can we be better than that? You know.

**Taylor:** Yeah, and of course, you know, men in Hollywood have faced horrific things, as more and more come out. But I do think across the board women have already—have always walked a harder road in the public image, and it's inspiring to see young people, you know, push back on that. And... like, deal with what comes with it.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Expect more from your audience. [laughs quietly]

**Sydnee:** Well, Tey, I think for next week we need, um, something spooky.

**Taylor:** Alright. 'Tis the season.

**Sydnee:** I know on the show we have discussed the TV show Buffy the Vampire Slayer before, but I don't think we ever went back and talked about the movie upon which the TV show was based.

**Taylor:** Ah, the OG. Alright, let's do it.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. So we're gonna watch the old Buffy the Vampire Slayer movie. I would say it is inferior to the TV show... but still.

**Taylor:** I would agree with that, but it's still fun.

**Sydnee:** It's part of the story. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** Luke Perry's there. Right?

**Sydnee:** I do—I know. Aww. Aww! I did love Luke Perry, yeah. Okay. Um, thank you, Tey.

**Taylor:** Thank you, Syd.

**Sydnee:** Tey, listeners. [laughs quietly] You should go to [Maximumfun.org](http://Maximumfun.org). You can check out all the great shows there that you would enjoy. You can email us at [stillbuffering@maximumfun.org](mailto:stillbuffering@maximumfun.org). And thank you to The Nouvellas for our theme song, Baby You Change Your Mind.

This has been Still Buffering, a cross-generational guide to the culture that made us. I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Teylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:** I'm still buffering...

**Taylor:** And I am too.

[theme music plays]

**Sydnee:** Listen to that confidence. We have got this.

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** We know exactly what we're doing.

**Taylor:** It took me a minute to adjust the cadence 'cause it's my... you know. I gotta end the sentence.

**Sydnee:** I have a cat in my walls.

**Taylor:** In your walls?

**Sydnee:** Yeah, there's a cat that's in the eaves right now.

**Taylor:** Is it okay that it's there?

**Sydnee:** Yeah, she can get back out, don't worry. She does this.

**Taylor:** Okay, alright.

**Sydnee:** But I can hear her all around me. [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** That's fun. Spooky!

**Sydnee:** Oooh!

[music plays]

**Doug:** My name's Doug Duguay, and I'm here to talk about my podcast in the middle of the one you're listening to. It's called Valley Heat and it's about my neighborhood, the Burbank Rancho Equestrian District, the center of the world when it comes to foozeball, frisbee golf, and high speed freeway roller skating—and there's been a jaguar parked outside on my curb for ten months. I have no idea who owns it. I have a feeling it's related to the drug drop that was happening in my garbage can a little over a year ago. And if this has been a boring commercial, imagine 45 minutes of it. Okay, Valley Heat. It's on every month on Maximumfun.org, or wherever you get podcasts. Check it out, but honestly, skip it.

[voice echoing] These are the chronicles of the Rancho Equestrian District in Burbank, California. These are the events taking place in my house. [fades out]

[music and ad end]

[chord]

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