

## **MBMBaM 772: Spiders Are Writing and God Is Real**

Published on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

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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. I'm the oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** What's up, Trav Nation? It's me, your middlest brother, Travis 'Vroom-Vroom' McElroy!

**Griffin:** What's good, Trav Nation? It's me, your sweet baby brother, 30 Under 30, Griffin McElroy.

**Justin:** The new Donkey Kong is here, Donkey Kong Bananananana... Bananananza.

**Griffin:** You couldn't sound more enthusiastic about this game.

**Justin:** Bananananza!

**Griffin:** There we go.

**Travis:** Justin's been having—

**Justin:** Well, I don't wanna—

**Travis:** Some coughing issues, Griffin. How dare you?

**Justin:** It's not—yeah, yeah, what a jerk. It's also not my job to try to sell Nintendo products. That's the job of Shigeru Miyamoto and his best friend, Reggie Fils-Aimé.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Justin:** That's the—that's the only two people that whose job it is.

**Travis:** His sidekick.

**Griffin:** God, that fuckin'—I would watch that buddy cop movie. Big Cop. Little Genius Cop.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Gimme.

**Travis:** Yeah! Where Shigeru Miyamoto is like solving the crimes and Reggie Fils-Aimé is out there like as muscle, his enforcer.

**Griffin:** Yes!

**Travis:** Ah, yeah! Hold on!

**Griffin:** Absolutely.

**Travis:** Now we're on to something.

**Justin:** No, but I was playing the new Donkey Kong game today, and I was thinking like—it was a sense I had where my daughter was playing the Donkey Kong, and she was enjoying it. And I felt uncomfortable. And I started thinking about it, and... I think there's something—do you guys think there is something inherently puerile about Donkey Kong?

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Oh, for sure, dude!

**Travis:** Yeah, man!

**Griffin:** For sure, dude. He's not... this man we have all been so quick to forgive.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** He kidnapped women, professionally—like the only thing we knew about this dude is he liked to climb a tower, he liked to throw a barrel, he liked to kidnap a woman.

**Travis:** I would say—

**Griffin:** And now we're just supposed to—and now because it's been forty years or whatever, we're supposed to just let bygones be bygones? I don't think so, Mr. Kong.

**Justin:** No.

**Travis:** I would say that—

**Justin:** There's a—

**Travis:** Pretty confidently, I would say that Donkey Kong is the kind of person that you were really good friends with in college, and you loved his party animal antics.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And now like that you're a parent, a grown-up with a real job—

**Griffin:** I can't bring 'em around my kids, no way, dude.

**Travis:** No, you—

**Justin:** No way! Right?

**Travis:** You might like enjoy remembering the times you spent with Donkey Kong. But when you hang out with Donkey Kong, you start to realize, wow, I'm apologizing to my current friends a lot—

**Justin:** Right.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** To them—

**Travis:** For Donkey Kong's behavior—

**Justin:** On his behalf—

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Why he had to—

**Griffin:** I'll follow—I'll follow DK's IG. But I'm not gonna invite—I can't have a—I can't have a friend like that around the crew. I can't have that reflecting on me.

**Travis:** *No.* I'm not gonna have him like at my kid's birthday party or something.

**Griffin:** No way.

**Travis:** God, are you kidding me?

**Justin:** Just inherently, as a—as an organism, I feel like there's just something lascivious about the guy.

**Griffin:** And it's—it might just be that like I don't think we can have him back here, knowing how close he is with Diddy. Like, I don't think that it is—

**Travis:** Yeah, that's—[laughs]

**Griffin:** Anything we can—

**Justin:** Yeah, that's—hey, Griffin, that's such a good point. His relationship with... his relationship with Diddy, they were very close for a number of years.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Him and Diddy.

**Travis:** Yeah, that's true, it's beautiful.

**Justin:** And I... I think that we've got—it's not beautiful, Trav. I think in light—in light of—

**Travis:** It's not beautiful, but I think it's beautiful of us to recognize, I mean—is what I mean.

**Justin:** Right now, in 2025, I think his relationship with Diddy is a huge problem.

**Travis:** I think so too.

**Griffin:** There's no way that fool shows up in the new game, right? There's no way. They're gonna give him a game off, probably, to let the—

**Justin:** Let the—

**Griffin:** Dust settle a little bit—

**Justin:** Yeah, let the—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Maybe change that name.

**Justin:** Heat die down a little bit.

**Griffin:** Yeah—

**Travis:** Maybe—

**Griffin:** "I'm Buddy!"

**Justin:** I just—

**Travis:** Didson, maybe?

**Justin:** My theory is that Funky Kong is an undercover cop.

**Travis:** Oh yeah.

**Justin:** Because they're all funky. He feels like—

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Uh-huh.

**Justin:** [laughs] You know what I mean?

**Griffin:** For sure!

**Justin:** The whole family is funky!

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** [chuckles] He feels like he overshot it, Sneaky Pete style.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And he showed up like a few years later like, "We're all pretty funky here, right? Hey, where are we burying all the money?" [chuckles] You know? Like—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** A hundred percent. Can I also say, I think the world is ready, now

that this Donkey Kong game is out, for like a God of War-esque reboot, where we see Donkey Kong now a responsible human being—

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Who doesn't smash anymore.

**Griffin:** He has a new son named like Charles or—

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Something normal, yeah.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** And then like somebody comes to him and they're like, "We need you to smash stuff." And he's like, [in a deepened voice] "I don't do that anymore. I don't smash."

**Griffin:** That's a pretty good God of War, yeah.

**Travis:** Thank you. I can't do it on purpose!

**Griffin:** Nope.

**Justin:** It's like, there's also something about just his name that feels gaslighty to me.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Like, he tells you it and you're like, "Nice." And then like—

**Griffin:** Nice, dude.

**Justin:** A few hours later, you're like, "Kong... No, not—I know a famous Kong. It's not him and—"

**Griffin:** You can't just have that.

**Justin:** And he's not a donkey!

**Travis:** This is—

**Justin:** Like I—you know what I mean? Like he gave me this fake name to try to set me at ease, I guess.

**Travis:** It once again feels like a nickname that he got in college for being cool party dude, that now he's in—

**Griffin:** Yeah!

**Travis:** Like his forties—

**Justin:** He's still—

**Travis:** And he's like—

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Oh, dude.

**Justin:** Right.

**Travis:** "Everybody calls me Donkey Kong!" And it's like, hey, man—

**Justin:** Like at the office he's like, "Let's just hope at the New Year's party, you guys don't meet Donkey Kong! That's all I'm saying."

**Griffin:** Yeah, for sure. [chuckles]

**Justin:** And they're like—

**Travis:** James—

**Justin:** "What are you talking about? We didn't go to college with you."

**Travis:** "James, can you come into my office? We need to talk for a second. There's been a lot of HR complaints."



**Justin:** "Yeah, do you want James or Kong?"

**Travis:** "No."

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** "I need to talk to James right now."

**Justin:** "One second, let me get him, bleh! [exclaims] Whoo-hoo-hoo-hoo!"

**Travis:** "Okay, you do great work—"

**Justin:** "Sorry, boss." [chuckles]

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** "In data analysis."

**Justin:** "Thank you so much."

**Travis:** "And we're really happy to have you—"

**Griffin:** "Your ties are always so crisp."

**Travis:** "Yeah, but we've had a lot of complaints about Donkey Kong."

**Justin:** "Yeah, I will—I have spoken to him, repeatedly, sir. And unfortunately, when I get one whiff of a banana—"

**Travis:** "Yes."

**Justin:** "The animal comes out and—"

**Griffin:** "Now, that's funny you say that, because we talked—I'm HR, and I talked it over with some of my colleagues. And they said that's simply not a thing. They said there's a lot of things that, you know, will create special

circumstances in the workplace. But after extensive research and consultation with many medical experts—"

**Travis:** "We got Dr. Mario—"

**Griffin:** "They did confirm—"

**Travis:** "To come in."

**Griffin:** "Dr. Mario was there, Dr. Robotnik."

**Justin:** "Okay, okay."

**Griffin:** "They did confirm that there is no condition where if you smell a banana, you turn into a crazy, crazy ape man. [chuckles]"

**Justin:** "Yeah, okay, that's—oh, that's so interest—you know, that's so interesting. I would love to talk with Popeye about that. Because Popeye beat the living shit out of Jeremy after one bite of spinach, and he was back in the office the next week."

**Griffin:** "Now, that's technically, that's—"

**Justin:** "So you—so you tell me!"

**Griffin:** "That is a food allergy."

**Travis:** "That's an iron thing! That's related to his—"

**Griffin:** "That's an iron—"

**Travis:** "Iron levels! And that's medically documented, James."

**Griffin:** "That is real, that is very real. We are also Chiquita Banana Company, so like it seems like your exposure to... your triggering compound is going to be pretty unavoidable here—"

**Travis:** "And you applied to work here—"

**Griffin:** "I would ask why you came to work here—"

**Travis:** "Yes."

**Griffin:** "Why would you want to work here in the—no, there you got one right now."

**Travis:** "No, don't open a banana! James!"

**Griffin:** "Please, James. James."

**Travis:** "James, don't open—"

**Griffin:** "James, we are going to have to ask you to leave the building. James."

**Justin:** "You're gonna love it!"

**Griffin:** "James."

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "What are you—opening it up on both ends? Oh, you have two bananas."

**Justin:** [in a silly voice] "I've got two!"

**Griffin:** "I thought you peeled it from both ends? That was like a—"

**Travis:** "James, we have a mine cart right here that we'd like you to get in, it's gonna take you—"

**Griffin:** "He's got two stuck in his armpits now."

**Travis:** "Out of the building."

**Justin:** [laughs] "I'm holding four at once. [spoofs monkey sounds] Hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo!"

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Okay, James, that's gonna conclude—

**Justin:** You know how—

**Griffin:** Let's hope—let's hope, Juice, that the audio accompanies that clip wherever it may rear its head, because otherwise the pantomiming you just did was—

**Justin:** Those two—those two always—they need to be fused together like Ladyhawke, man. I need them to be sharing a body. I never want them separated. The audio and the video are one of a whole. You know how Mario was originally named Jumpman?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Everybody knows this. And then they needed to get an extension on their lease at the NOA headquarters in Seattle, and their landlord at the time was named Mario. So they named Mario Mario in his honor, so he would give them a little bit more leniency with the loan. But originally it was Jumpman. And my head cannon for that has always been that that is how Donkey Kong understands what has been presented to him. This is his game, it's his point of view. As far as he knows, it's just a jump man. It's just a man that jumps—

**Griffin:** He can't understand—he can't understand—

**Justin:** [chuckles] He can't understand it.

**Griffin:** Like words. So like—

**Justin:** Right.

**Griffin:** That's just jump man, for sure.

**Justin:** Jumpman! That's, I understand it to be jump—he still doesn't understand Mario. Like he doesn't know the name. It's just jump—

**Griffin:** Did you know that—

**Travis:** And they hang out *all* the time.

**Griffin:** Yeah, for sure. Did you all know that Yoshi's full name is T. Yoshisaur Munchakoopas? Which was actually the name of Shigeru Miyamoto's podiatrist.

**Travis:** Huh?

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** And he named T. Yoshisaur Munchakoopas after his podiatrist, Dr. Munchakoopas.

**Justin:** We often forget that, Griffin.

**Travis:** Did you know that Zelda is the boy?

**Griffin:** I did...

[pause]

**Justin:** I recently started—

**Griffin:** So should we—

**Justin:** Working at—

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** [chuckles] Okay.

**Justin:** Griffin... Griffin... it was perfect—

**Griffin:** We do that more often than we don't do that! We all start talking at the same time to begin the—

**Justin:** Yeah, but only one of us has the list of questions. The other two are about to kibbitz and second guess.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And one of us is about to lead us to the promised land of a new bit, okay?

**Griffin:** Yeah, we'll get there.

**Justin:** "I recently started working as a hair stylist assistant at a local salon. My boss, the hair stylist, seems—"

**Travis:** That tracks.

**Justin:** Can I just say, I'm really relieved your boss is the hair stylist, because if there was yet another layer of middle management in the barber industry that I did not know about, I was really gonna be thrown for a loop. I'm glad there's just the two—the one layer of assistant to the barber that I did not know existed.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** There's not an assistant to the assistant. "My boss, the hair stylist, seems nice and cool overall. And he revealed to me, pretty much as soon as I started working there, that he has a pet house pig. He won't stop bringing up the pig in conversation with clients and repeats stories about her constantly. I have no problem with him owning a pig, and in fact, think it's pretty awesome. But I think I'm gonna go insane if I keep hearing the same stories over and over again. How can I steer the conversation away from her or make him stop talking about her all together?" That's from porky prob... Porky Problems in Chicopee.

**Griffin:** I do—I'm—

**Justin:** I have never thought about this!

**Griffin:** About pig as a pet?

**Justin:** No, I've never thought about—

**Travis:** You've never thought about what would it be like to work for a hair stylist who has a pet house big that talks about it constantly?

**Griffin:** Yeah, of course not.

**Justin:** No.

**Griffin:** That's really specific—

**Justin:** If you are somebody that shares a barber space, or a hair salon space with other hair stylists, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** They probably come in with their five to ten minutes—

**Griffin:** Banter.

**Justin:** Of material for today.

**Travis:** Their tight five? Yeah.

**Justin:** Their five. "Here's my thing that I'm doing today. Here's what I've got spun up. And I'm gonna give everybody this anecdote." If you've got the chair next to 'em, you could be hearing the same fucking anecdote over and over and over again.

**Griffin:** Over and over again.

**Justin:** Guys, my masking, I'm—I don't think I could cover the fact that I've heard this story before.

**Griffin:** You for sure couldn't.

**Justin:** I don't think I could cloak it, no way. No way.

**Griffin:** I do think if you have a pig, you do want to be talking about it.

**Justin:** Of course!

**Griffin:** Just so it's worth it... Just so it's worth it. We have friends who got a pig once because they had a yard space for pig, and we lived in Texas, and why the fuck not? And did you all know, this is actually cool, a pig is the loudest animal on the Earth. And when it does its squeal or anything, it's not Babe in the City. It is a shrieking air raid siren that goes off a hundred and twenty times a day. I think maybe if you do have that particular type of pig in your home, you have to talk about it just to, one, let some of the pressure out from time to time, so you don't—[spoofs biting sounds] And two, so it just feels like it's—

**Travis:** So you don't eat it.

**Griffin:** [spoofs biting sounds] Yeah.

**Justin:** Are you maybe given—is this guy maybe given the softest sell? Is he maybe—is he maybe hoping eventually he'll just be like, "I don't know, I'd hate to give him up. He's really a great pig."

**Griffin:** I see.

**Justin:** I mean, I... I guess—

**Travis:** "It's some pig!"

**Justin:** I mean, I guess hearing my... yeah.



**Travis:** "And now if you look at the—where I've trimmed the back of your hair, whoa, it looks like the pig came in and shaved 'some pig' in the back of your hair! Huh!"

**Justin:** "Amazing."

**Griffin:** "What the fuck?! The pig can talk through—" Hey, in Charlotte's Web, what's the story there? Because everyone sees the spider web that says, "Some pig," and then everyone's like, "Holy shit!" But it doesn't seem like anyone's really necessarily crediting the spider much.

**Travis:** No, they think the pig did it.

**Justin:** Everyone in—everyone in the book has—it's important for Charlotte's Web to work that everyone in the book be among the dumbest human beings that have ever lived on the planet.

**Travis:** Yes. They have a fundamental misunderstanding of pigs and their web-slinging capabilities.

**Griffin:** If they showed up and Wilbur had a fucking golden egg sitting in his trough, would they be like, "Damn, Wilbur! You laid a golden egg? From your cloaca? Shit, man! That's awesome, dude!"

**Justin:** Absolutely not!

**Travis:** Now, it is important though to note, that would convince them that he was pretty special. I think within the fiction of Charlotte's Web, the fact that he is able to spin a web that says "some pig." If they thought—

**Justin:** But the—

**Travis:** All pigs could do that, it wouldn't be that notable.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** But it's so fucked up! Like, it's clearly a spider talking about a cool pig. And it's like, I'm glad the spider likes the pig, but the big headline is, spiders are writing and god is real!

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Yeah.

**Justin:** Like, "God is real! Come to our barn and see. There's a creator, he made us in a loving way, in his loving image, and he wants us to know this pig is okay."

**Griffin:** Ignore the dip shit pig, because like the spider won't do her thing—

**Justin:** Suck harder!

**Griffin:** If we get—

**Justin:** Clearly, the—the pig...

**Griffin:** We got rid of the pig!

**Justin:** I don't know why the...

**Griffin:** "The pig's so fuckin' loud, we got rid of it, because it would like scare the guests away, when they would commonly charge a thousand dollars to take a—to see the god spider."

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** "But like if we do take the pig away, the spider gets really fuckin'—"

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** "Cranky about it."

**Travis:** In many—

**Justin:** "Folks, folks, here's—here's what I'm here to tell you, folks. It doesn't fuckin' matter what the spider's writing. The impulse is in a spider's brain, we can't decode that! I don't know why the spider likes the pig!"

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** "You know what I mean?! It's a spider! The important thing is there's letters!"

**Travis:** "Now, that said, we know that the spider has—the spider has recently been spinning some questionable statements. And they're problematic—"

**Griffin:** "Ignore them!"

**Travis:** "We understand that. We understand that."

**Griffin:** "Ignore the sentiment!"

**Travis:** "Ignore the sentiment!"

**Griffin:** It's—

**Travis:** "It's the fact that the spider can write—"

**Griffin:** "Can make words."

**Travis:** "That's important, please don't take the words to heart—"

**Griffin:** "What's he—what's—oh!"

**Travis:** "We're not endorsing it!"

**Griffin:** "She's got something new—was it—is it... it says 'pizza time.' Okay, like that doesn't mean anything! And it's not the strong, biblical message that we are hoping the spider will get across, but it's crazy that the spider knows how to write the letters to spell 'pizza time' in the first place!"

**Justin:** The words that Charlotte writes in the book include "terrific—"

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Justin:** "Some pig—"

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** And "radiant." As well as "humble." Now, had it been me, Charlotte, I would have begun with "humble!"

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Because that is gonna get people in the right mindset to accept whatever comes next! Bow before your—the lord, thy god. He has made this spider in his divine image as his messenger.

**Travis:** She also should have started with "some pig." Because if it just says "terrific—"

**Griffin:** That could mean anything.

**Travis:** How do we know that she's like—

**Justin:** No, I just said a different thing though—

**Travis:** She's an influencer, right? And she's figuring out her hashtags. And just putting "terrific" isn't a good hashtag.

**Griffin:** Yeah, that might just—

**Justin:** But I just said a different thing?

**Griffin:** Yeah, and Travis a different—

**Justin:** I said it should start with—I said it should start with "humble?"

**Travis:** No—

**Griffin:** Yeah—

**Justin:** Because then it's like... I guess from God? But I said a different thing from you.

**Griffin:** Yeah. That happens sometimes.

**Justin:** It can't start with both, though? We gotta choose.

**Travis:** What about "some pig," comma, "humble."

**Griffin:** That's cool. "Some pig," comma, "complimentary."

**Travis:** Ooh. Oh, maybe it's this. "Some pig," and then in tiny letters, "I know, I, the spider, wrote this. But I'm keeping it humble, keeping it one hundred. This ain't about me. It's about the pig. Signed, Charlotte, the spider. Please don't kill me either. I know how human beings feel about spiders."

**Justin:** Can you—can you pretend that you have two pigs?

**Griffin:** Oh, nice dude.

**Justin:** [chuckles] Because if you start—I think the barber is gonna get—if you start spinning tails, right? Of your two pigs that are gallivanting around, he's not gonna have the guts to even mention his poultry one pig.

**Travis:** Mm-hm.

**Justin:** That's half the laughs, half the high jinks, half the hot dog eating? No, thank you.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Maybe come in with a couple blue ribbons. That you're like, "I didn't even enter them. But they're so cool!"

**Griffin:** "They're so good."

**Justin:** "Just great."

**Travis:** "Somebody came by!"

**Griffin:** "They came to me."

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You could get a bite mark on your arm, and over the weekend say there was a terrible pig accident. And so now, when your—a barber brings up pigs, it really, it gets you pretty freaked out. So, please.

**Justin:** You could try to lure the pig into biting you.

**Travis:** Oh, I thought we are going to go into a werepig thing.

**Griffin:** Oh, yeah, you could also do a werepig Peter Porker thing, for sure.

**Justin:** Or you can lure the pig into biting you and have the authorities put it down. Because you cannot have a pig—

**Griffin:** That seems excessive, yeah.

**Travis:** Well, maybe not that!

**Griffin:** Because then you'd have to go to their house, and that's a whole fuckin'—

**Travis:** Yeah. And then you're gonna have to look at all the photo albums.

**Justin:** Maybe you'd be enchanted by the pig. Yeah.

**Griffin:** But there is a pretty good chance that the owner of the pig is gonna be like, "Oh no...." [chuckles] "Oh no, stop."

**Travis:** Is it possible—like I can't, if—so, pigs are very intelligent, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah—

**Justin:** Right.

**Griffin:** The most intelligent.

**Travis:** The idea of a house pig, when a pig is like, "Hey, all the stuff I really like, like mud and digging for things and stuff—"

**Griffin:** Sloppy shit, yeah.

**Travis:** "That's all outside. And you won't bring any of that stuff in here?"

**Griffin:** Yeah. If a pig could talk, the first thing the pig says when it gets adopted is, "Are you sure, man? I'm a sloppy shit monster, and I'm gonna fuck all your stuff up. That's what I want in my life."

**Travis:** "That's what I do!"

**Griffin:** "I'm gonna get in your garbage can. I'm gonna make a terrible mess *every day*. Are you sure?"

**Travis:** "And I'm not gonna appreciate you or anything you do, because I know better. I know better—do you think I'm a dog? Those guys? They're happy with anything. They love it. Oh, that's great—"

**Griffin:** If you're—if you're a pig—a pig head, and you're listening to this, you have a pig at your house, please know we're not talking about your special precious angel.

**Travis:** No, your special—yeah, your pig's great.

**Justin:** Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah.

**Griffin:** We're talking about—we're talking about bad pigs.

**Justin:** We don't want to hear about your pig either.

**Griffin:** No. We know that it's a good, precious angel. Just know that we're talking about—

**Justin:** A great pig.

**Griffin:** Shitty pigs.

**Travis:** How do you know—

**Justin:** When I—

**Travis:** When you look at a pig that's just been born, how do you know that that is going to be a good house pig versus a farm pig?

**Griffin:** They have a little bib on 'em.

**Travis:** Oh, okay.

**Justin:** Yeah, and the—and Wellingtons.

"When I'm indoors, I wear slippers in the colder months and plastic sandals in the warmer months. My plastic sandals occasionally make a delightful farting noise when I turn my bare feet in them, just so. Not like a real ripper, more like a clarion toot. We have plumbers in our house right now, and when I walked past them at one point, my sandals made the noise. How do I convince these plumbers that I did not, in fact, fart in front of them, or demonstrate to them the flatulent capacity of my sandals?" That's from No Toots in New England.

I do really enjoy the image of you like walking back and forth near them like, "Oh, there they go again, my farting shoes! Hey, everyone! Are you hearing this?! Wow! What a zinger!"

**Griffin:** "I have to wear them! That's non-negotiable."

**Justin:** "They're prescription!"



**Travis:** "I bought some for you too, so you could see. Here, everybody put on our sandals. Stop your work. Stop your work. Let us walk around the house together. Barefoot, in your sandals."

**Griffin:** Let's normalize putting the pressure to relieve this situation on the audience, on the recipient of—

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** I think, in the same manner that when someone sneezes, you say, "bless you," when someone scoots a chair or slides their arm against some hardwood, or apparently walks in these clown sandals, and it makes a fart noise, but you know that's not what just happened, you—there should be a—the onus should be on you to look at them and say like, "You're cool. I know. It's—"

**Justin:** What if—can we normalize just looking at someone dead in the eyes, no conversation, and just saying, "That's life." Like that's—

**Griffin:** That's cool.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** The same energy! I fucking—

**Justin:** Same energy!

**Griffin:** Love that, dude.

**Justin:** "Hey, pal? That's life." Like you hear—

**Griffin:** That's life.

**Justin:** You hear the fart noise, you look at 'em. Either they—you farted or you didn't! You know? But I'll just say, "That's life."

**Griffin:** Now, I will say this—

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** You know?

**Griffin:** I don't wanna "that's life" a real fart. I don't wanna "that's life—"

**Travis:** Well I think—I think that's—

**Justin:** I do!

**Travis:** Part of it—

**Justin:** I do!

**Travis:** Right there—

**Justin:** That's what I'm saying!

**Travis:** I think that there has to be level of honesty here.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Where if I—

**Justin:** That's life.

**Travis:** An working at someone's home, and the noise happens when someone scoots their chair of whatever.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And I indicate that I assume it was created by an inanimate object.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** It is—then if you say, "No, that was real." And now we're all... we're being honest with each other.

**Griffin:** But I don't—that's—

**Travis:** We're being direct.

**Griffin:** Too honest. I want you to feel comfortable. And the way that I do that is if you do rip like a stage five beeper like right next to me, and a picture frame falls off a nearby wall, I'm not gonna look at you or acknowledge that at all. I know what happened. And you don't want me to acknowledge that. They don't want acknowledgement. They only want if it's a sandal fart and it's not real. You don't want to be acknowledged for your heinous gas? There's no way, guys.

**Justin:** But there's two—but once... once it happens, there's a bifurcation, right? Between the reality of the situation and the situation in my head.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And if this person has left a complete vacuum, I'm inserting the worst I can come up with. If they look at me and say "that's life," we're done!

**Griffin:** If you rip a huge, actual fart—

**Justin:** *Huge* beeper!

**Griffin:** If you, Justin—

**Justin:** The huger, the better!

**Griffin:** Are sitting next to someone on an airplane—

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You rip one and the cranberry juice on their tray tables like spills, and they look at you and they go, "That's life." You're gonna feel good?

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Or you're gonna feel bad, embarrassed, creeped out, weird and terrible?

**Travis:** What about—what about—instead of "that's life," what about—

**Justin:** I don't want—

**Travis:** "Pretty convincing." Now, this works—

**Justin:** [chuckles] No.

**Travis:** On two levels—

**Griffin:** That's cool, actually, yeah!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Because on the one hand, oh, it's acknowledging like that sounded almost real.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** But also, if it was real—

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** I'm convinced.

**Griffin:** Trav—

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Or Travis, even better, if you actually did fart, and then you say something like, "Sounded pretty convincing," then they think, "Oh, they thought it was a fake. They thought it was a phony coming out of my sandals."

**Justin:** Right.

**Griffin:** When, for real—it was real. That also gets rid of any of the bad feelings. That's really good. And it's honest.

**Justin:** It is honest. Comes from an honest place.

**Griffin:** Comes from an honest place.

**Travis:** Is there like a gesundheit, a bless you version, that the two parties involved, or multiple parties, can all, in a very short, maybe one or two words, agree that they are just going to erase the last fifteen seconds from their minds?

**Justin:** What about, "That's life."

**Travis:** Huh.

**Justin:** [chuckles] I mean, that's life!

**Griffin:** If someone says "that's life" to me after I... I don't know—

**Justin:** But that is life!

**Griffin:** I don't know what situation I'm in, in life, where I fart out loud enough for a stranger to hear it.

**Justin:** [laughs] Anything else!

**Griffin:** But if someone does that to me, I'm going to be creeped out by them. That is akin to them saying like, "Hm..."

**Justin:** [chortles] It's not akin to them savoring it! That's not akin to that at all, Griffin. It's not akin to them being like—

**Griffin:** It feels akin to that.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** It feels—

**Travis:** Been there.

**Griffin:** Of a nature relating to that.

**Justin:** I'm just saying, we needed to normalize saying stuff that acknowledges without judgment. And I feel like the problem with the silence is that it is judgmental. There's a ju—there's a judgment in the silence. So I feel like filling the silence with "that's life—" because it is! That's life, guys!

**Griffin:** That's life, but it's—

**Justin:** It just happened.

**Griffin:** Hm!

**Travis:** What about safe zone? You just announced safe zone.

**Griffin:** Safe zone!

**Justin:** It's not—I don't... what is that—wait—

**Griffin:** That sounds like do it closer—

**Justin:** Safe zone!

**Griffin:** That sounds—yeah, yeah, yeah. That's no good. I don't know how much longer we want to talk about this, but a fart is selfish.

**Travis:** Free space.

**Griffin:** When you do one, you're making the world a worse place for everyone around you. You're saying huff—like you are—this is a very personal experience that you may or may not have signed on for. I do not think we should be so quick to excuse a real, actual fart. I do think—

**Justin:** They pip out sometimes! Sometimes they pip out.

**Griffin:** Yeah, they pip out. But you try really hard—

**Justin:** It's not rude that they pip out!

**Griffin:** It is still rude you're hurting people with that smell that you make.

**Justin:** It's not rude that they pip out! Your body pipped them out! Not my brain!

**Griffin:** Go further away, be out—

**Travis:** And sometimes it just needs to happen! Sometimes you're—

**Justin:** I didn't know about it!

**Travis:** Trapped in the space! You're too deep in a window seat on an airplane, Griffin? What's ruder, making them get up so you could go to the bathroom just to toot?

**Justin:** I have to go to the bathroom to toot. No way.

**Griffin:** I think I've reached my limit, guys. I don't think—

**Justin:** Okay, well, actually, let me—this is great timing then.

**Griffin:** Great.

**Justin:** When I was on the plane back from our recent—our recent shows in California, it was the second flight—

**Griffin:** Thank you, everybody came out to see us, by the way. It was fuckin' great—

**Travis:** Yeah, we didn't fart once during the whole show—

**Griffin:** Not at all.

**Travis:** You're welcome.

**Justin:** The second flight back, which should be about fifty minutes long, from Atlanta to Charleston, and I'm on the flight, and it gets to be like the last five minutes of the flight. And they make the announcement like, "Okay, everybody, strap in, because we're about to land." And I think—

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** Ah, damn it, I should have peed. Because I really need to pee. And then I like, I kind of like raise my hand and I'm like, can I like—a signal—

**Griffin:** Always cool. Always—

**Justin:** Can I—

**Griffin:** Always the look.

**Justin:** And she's like, "No, no, no, like this. Don't." So I'm like, "Okay, fine." And then I start—

**Travis:** Did she maybe think you were saying, "Can I land the plane?"

**Griffin:** "Please?"

**Travis:** Can I go with a—can I—can I take a—

**Justin:** "I wanna steer."

**Travis:** "I've just always wanted to, if I could. I'm a pilot with wings."

**Justin:** "I don't want to do the landing. I just want to do a loop." So, I—like, I'm gonna go ahead and get onto the... go to the bathroom and they said no. So then, it goes to land. And then I see the airport. And then we pass the airport. Ah, no. And then we start doing a loop.

**Griffin:** One of these. One of them.



**Justin:** And this guy is doing one of those. So now we're taking a loop. I see that loop start and I know, ah, no! I really had to pee before, but now I really, *really* gotta pee! And then the guy goes around, and then—five minutes, and he does a loop, and then he's about to land at the airport. And then he goes right past it! And we're going again. And then I'm look—I look at her, the flight attendant, and she looks at me and she's like, "What can you do, man? Sorry, man, we're loopin'."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** That's life.

**Justin:** That's life! We're loopin'. Guys, we loop for a third time, and now the need to pee has gone beyond the sort of like—I'm up against physical—

**Griffin:** Exquisite pain, I think they call it.

**Justin:** I'm up against physical limits. I'm up against physical barriers, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I'm—

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I'm—now at this point, I look at her, and I have put my backpack onto my lap. Because I have decided like I'm... I'm going to have to pee my pants a little bit. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** You know? But I'm terrified—

**Travis:** Just to release the pressure!

**Griffin:** To buy yourself—

**Justin:** Just to release the pressure.

**Griffin:** A few minutes.

**Justin:** But I am terrified that like if I start peeing, that I won't be able to stop. This is literally, this is how bad—

**Griffin:** Hubris! Hubris to think you can cut a midstream sitting pee—

**Justin:** [chuckles] Right!

**Griffin:** In pants. No way.

**Justin:** Right.

**Travis:** This is an emergency controlled burn scenario.

**Justin:** Right, I look—I—as a Hail Mary, I look at her and—[chuckles] I just say please.

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Justin:** I she—[chuckles] she picks up the phone. [giggles]

**Griffin:** Oh, god!

**Travis:** "Yeah, we got a real piss boy situation back here."

**Justin:** [chortles] She picks up the phone and she calls the pilot!

**Griffin:** Justin, how are you just now telling us this story, man? This is fuckin'—

**Justin:** Because we weren't record—

**Griffin:** Solid gold, dude!

**Justin:** We weren't recording it before now. [laughs]

**Travis:** She dommed you into begging to pee, and then she had to like let the captain know like, "I got another one."

**Griffin:** Did the captain have to stop driving the plane for a couple minutes so you could... is that—

**Justin:** There—

**Griffin:** What happened?

**Justin:** I think you could argue, Griffin—

**Travis:** "We're gonna loop three more times—"

**Justin:** That there was at least a half moment—

**Travis:** "To give him time."

**Justin:** Of some attention that I had diverted from the—from the landing of the plane, to my [person??]. [laughs]

**Travis:** "Did he say please?"

**Justin:** [chuckles] I did.

**Travis:** "Okay! Yeah."

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** I just, that's all I said. [laughs] All I said was "please."

**Travis:** "How pathetic does he look? Does he—back pack in lap like he's about to piss his pants—"

**Griffin:** Covering up?

**Travis:** "To release the pressure?"

**Griffin:** "He probably thinks he can—"

**Travis:** "Oh, right!"

**Griffin:** "Just do a little bit. But we've seen otherwise, haven't we, Patricia?"

**Travis:** Yeah, "We don't want to have to replace *another* seat, do we?"

**Justin:** She looks at me, and she says, "I'm sorry." [chuckles] And shakes her head. She says, "He says we're landing soon."

**Travis:** Heard that before.

**Justin:** So... so we land. And at this point, I'm thinking to myself, "Please pee." I'm thinking to myself, "Pee your pants, Justin, it'll be okay. You won't die. You won't die. They'll put you in jail maybe for something, but like you're not gonna die from it. You're gonna be okay."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** And I was telling myself to pee—

**Travis:** Did you get the impression that the pilot at least tried to give the smoothest landing possible in acknowledgement of your discomfort?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Yeah, it was a—it was a humdinger. And then we land, and we are rolling up to the airport. And I'm doing the thing where like I'm just... you know, I'm ready—I'm like pushing out of my seat, ready to go.

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** And then the plane stops about twenty yards short, and they say, "Folks, due to a lightning storm, the ground crew is not able to reach us with

the jet bridge right now, so we are gonna have to give it about twenty minutes before we—"

**Griffin:** But you can get up during the twenty minutes, right?

**Justin:** Well, she immediately says, "Everyone, please... please... for your safety and for the legal—you know, for our legal culpability, please stay seated. And stays buckled—stay buckled." And then she looks at me and she says, [whispers] "It's okay."

**Griffin:** Wow, an angel.

**Justin:** So now, right after this announcement, as people are like, I'm—PS, the—I'm towards the front of the plane, and the restrooms are in the very back. So, as people are strapping in and they're thinking about how they're gonna be stuck here for twenty minutes, they've just learned, while they wait for the ground crew, I have to strut past them like, "That's right, folks. Not me! Not this special pee-pee boy—"

**Travis:** I'm a rabble-rouser!

**Griffin:** Juice, I don't know how to tell you this—

**Justin:** Three and a half minutes—I timed it. Three and a half minutes.

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Damn, that's huge.

**Justin:** These people must have—there is no way any of these people thought I was in there for a number one. No way was that a number one amount of time that I was in the bathroom.

**Griffin:** Right. That's crazy, dude.

**Travis:** That's why, Justin, when you're walking back there, you just have to look everybody, one by one in the eyes, and say, "I'm not trying to cause trouble. I've got a piss boy emergency."

**Griffin:** Now, I think there was probably something in Justin's body language and the sort of meter of his gait that probably people saw that and immediately was like, "Damn, that dude's about to pop. Get him to the restroom immediately."

**Justin:** I feel—I was—I feel like if you looked in my eyes, you would have seen Beyond Beyond. I feel like you would have learned the secrets of how the pyramids were assembled, like just by looking—

**Griffin:** Right.

**Justin:** That's how—that's how deep into the horizon my awareness had peeled. [chuckles] I had peeled through the layers. I was—I had to pee so bad that I was no longer a member of the society that we had all agreed on, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** I had—it only took this much before I was like, I think I'm gonna leave society and pee my pants in the chair.

**Griffin:** When you ascend and transcend Laszlo's traditional Hierarchy of Needs, and you reach the sort of piss orb that hovers above the pyramid, it's hard to like really relate with the thoughts and feelings of people who are still kicking it on the traditional hierarchy.

**Travis:** It's what they don't tell you, that pissing your pants is an act of rebellion.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** You know what I mean? Like, it says that there is something going on right now in the current status quo that just isn't working for this guy. [chuckles]

**Justin:** For me. There's something—

**Travis:** So, I'm just gonna go ahead and make pissies.

**Griffin:** And I do just want to say that Laszlo's Hierarchy of Needs is—that's Maslow's brother. And I didn't misspeak—

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** [chuckles]

**Griffin:** He has a different hierarchy of needs. And it—

**Travis:** Because number one on Laszlo's Hierarchy of Needs is not pissing your pants on the airplane.

**Griffin:** The not pissing your pants is very high on it. There's also like—

**Justin:** Yeah, keeping the people of Liberty City laughing. I mean, that's huge for Laslo.

**Griffin:** That's huge, huge. Bro time is like big on his.

**Travis:** Yeah, yeah, yeah!

**Griffin:** Just like a sort of amorphous bro time.

**Travis:** Not letting chips go stale.

**Griffin:** Not letting chips go stale is huge for him. Tornadoes—

**Travis:** That's the whole base of his.

**Griffin:** Tornadoes, he's just really into 'em.

**Travis:** And tomatoes!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Can we—

**Griffin:** Should we go to the Money Zone?

**Justin:** I was about to suggest—god, you read my mind, it's amazing.

**Griffin:** Yeah, man, we—

**Travis:** I think we should go to the Money Zone.

**Griffin:** Cool, dude.

**Justin:** A little delay...

[theme music plays]

**Travis:** Squarespace, Squarespace, Squarespace, Squarespace! Square-air-space!

**Griffin:** What if that was—what if we were allowed to do that? Wouldn't that be an effective advertisement if we just said the word Squarespace for two and a half minutes?

**Justin:** Our dad was in a local ad that—the jingle for a—for a shoe company, and it was, "Half price, half price, half price, half price, half price shoes."

**Griffin:** I'm sure everyone's familiar, Juice.

**Justin:** No, not everyone's familiar. I know because they sell stickers of it at The Red Caboose. So... I can't imagine that they—everyone's familiar with our dad—

**Griffin:** Squarespace is, first, not our dad. Not our dad. A sponsor of our podcast.

**Justin:** But they've done—

**Travis:** We'd love—



**Justin:** More to take care of us than our dad in recent years. [chuckles] I mean, to be fair.

**Travis:** That's true! Our dad hasn't—our dad has not sponsored a single episode.

**Griffin:** If our dad tried to make a website, that shit would not boot, or whatever websites do to get started. But you can get started making a Squarespace—a website so easily with Squarespace. The three of us don't know fuckin' anything about computers or like programming and stuff. But Squarespace—

**Travis:** Love.

**Griffin:** What?

**Travis:** We don't know anything about love.

**Griffin:** We do know about that, we... that is the only thing we know about.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** But—

**Travis:** Oh, do we?

**Griffin:** Squarespace does the other stuff. They give you the tools you need—

**Travis:** Oh!

**Griffin:** To make an incredible, professional-looking, beautiful website. If you're a professional who needs a website, you can offer services, get paid all in one place, with on-brand invoices and online payments. So many different systems to get that cheddar. And all the websites look amazing. There's a library of professionally-designed and award-winning website templates. You pick the one that you want, designed for whatever category

that you need it for, and you customize it how you want it. And it's easy and it looks great.

**Travis:** So, head to [squarespace.com/mybrother](https://squarespace.com/mybrother) for a free trial. I wanted to take credit for all the good work you just did.

**Griffin:** Fuckin' kill steal, yeah, bro! Shit, dude!

**Justin:** Whoa, dude!

**Travis:** Yeah, man, I wanted to—

**Justin:** You just snuck in there, man!

**Travis:** I wanted to swoop in—

**Griffin:** That sucks, man.

**Travis:** And make it seem like I had done—

**Justin:** Travis, as punishment, you have to do the next ad!

**Griffin:** Well, let's finish the—

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Finish your swoop.

**Justin:** I've already just—I was just telling 'em about it.

**Travis:** Head to [squarespace.com/mybrother](https://squarespace.com/mybrother) for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use offer code "MyBrother," all one word, to save ten percent off your first purchase of a website or domain. Squarespace! You bring the love, we'll bring the website. What do you guys think about that?

**Griffin:** I don't... I don't like it. Zocdoc is now the next one.

**Travis:** Okay, Zocdoc. Let me tell you a little bit about Zocdoc. Maybe you've caused a deep rift between yourself and your younger brother by stealing his ad read. And you're like—

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** We need to do some therapy to work on this.

**Griffin:** Mm-hm.

**Travis:** How—where do we even start? Is there a couples therapist that specifically works with brothers? Ideally, a throuple's therapist for three brothers to work on.

**Griffin:** I really, I do hate everything you just said.

**Justin:** Everything that's happening.

**Griffin:** Fuckin', I do.... I revile it.

**Travis:** I just came up with that word, is that something already?

**Griffin:** Yeah, man. Yeah, it's a word that people use exclusively to describe their flesh and blood kin, real brothers. That's the word they use—

**Travis:** Oh? Okay.

**Griffin:** Is throuple, to describe them.

**Travis:** Interesting.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Interesting.

**Griffin:** So, keep using—

**Travis:** But using doc-doc—

**Griffin:** Keep using it just like that!

**Travis:** Okay. So, using Zocdoc, you could make a throuple's therapy appointment for you and your brothers.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Travis:** Do you really want me to keep using it, Griffin? Because I will.

**Griffin:** I'd rather die!

**Travis:** Okay, great! And you know, it's not just therapy. There's all kinds of doctors on there. You could get dental appointments, dermatologists, your just regular checkups, all kinds of stuff. It's easy, it's fast, and it's comprehensive. So, Zocdoc makes it easy to find the right doctor right now, and it's all online. And you'll probably be able to book an appointment before probably the end of this episode. I don't know about ad, because I'm about to wrap it up.

**Griffin:** He's about to finish.

**Justin:** Yeah, man.

**Griffin:** I can always tell.

**Travis:** Yeah! But Zocdoc is a free app and website where you can search and compare high-quality in-network doctors, and click instantly to book an appointment. It's easy, it's fast. Griffin used it when he moved to DC, and set himself up for all his important doctor's appointments, of which there are so many.

**Griffin:** Literally just—literally just used it yesterday. Amazing.

**Travis:** There you go! So, stop putting off those doctor's appointments, and go to [zocdoc.com/mybrother](https://zocdoc.com/mybrother) to find an instantly book a top-rated doctor today. That's Z-O-C-D-O-C.com/mybrother. Zocdoc.com/mybrother.

[break]

**Justin:** [mouths Munch Squad riff]

**Griffin:** Your camera's off, Juice.

**Justin:** [continues riffing]

**Griffin:** I can't see you.

**Justin:** [continues riffing]

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Oh, shit, that's why, okay.

**Travis:** Whoa!

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I want to munch!

**Griffin and Travis:** Squad!

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I want to munch!

**Griffin and Travis:** Squad!

**Griffin:** Hi, Count Donut!

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Hello, boys, it's such a pleasure to be back with you on your program.

**Griffin:** It's been a minute—

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Do you need some dirt from underneath your keep? Because you look a little... raggedy, my friend.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** It's the sunlight, it is burning my eyes.

**Travis:** It's a new, beautiful cape, I must say.

**Griffin:** It's a nice cape.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** My cat pissed on my other one.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I want to tell you boys about the dual release from one of my favorite practitioners of... donut delights. Krispy Kreme.

**Griffin:** You don't wanna—just right to business, huh? You don't wanna—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Krispy Kreme—

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** And Warner Brothers—

**Travis:** We haven't seen you in a while.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Discover a global... Consumer products are powering up fan's taste buds, with the all-new Hungry for Heroes collection!

**Griffin:** Cool.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Featuring three donuts, celebrating comic DC superheroes.

**Griffin:** And I'm imagining—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Superman!

**Griffin:** A fourth donut that has had a very, very light amount of customization, perhaps even—not even part of the color palette of the other three donuts, yes.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Landing today for limited time at participating US shops, the Hungry for Heroes donuts will rescue your sweet cravings.

**Griffin:** Cool.

**Travis:** That's great, because every time I look at like Superman or Batman or Wonder Woman, I think, I wonder what they taste like.

**Griffin:** For sure.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Yes, capture the taste of your favorite heroes. I'm going to share with you boys the images so you can virtually eat them with me.

**Griffin:** Okay. All right.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** There we go.

**Griffin:** There we go.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Mm-hm...

**Griffin:** So that's... okay...

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** It's time to take your taste buds to heroic heights. This is the Superman donut. "Take your taste buds the heroic heights with Superman, the donut! This unglazed shell is filled with smooth white cream, dipped in light blue icing and topped with fluffy buttercream flavor clouds. Finished with a bold Superman piece and colorful Superman sprinkle blend. [chuckles] It's a sweet celebration of courage, strength and sky-high flavor!"

**Griffin:** I don't like there being something on the donut I'm going to eat called "a bold Superman piece." Piece of what?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Very bold, it celebrates courage with a donut. Next up, Batman.

**Travis:** I love, if we could scroll back up there, Count Donut, that it's clearly Superman flying through the clouds. But from the perspective, it could also just be seen as Superman bursting out of the middle of a donut—

**Griffin:** [chuckles] Yeah.

**Travis:** [chuckles] To be like, "I live in here!"

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** "I live in this donut!"

**Griffin:** "Happy birthday."

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Ah, that Batman donut. Is this one—this—can you describe the Superman? For people—

**Griffin:** The Superman donut is, it looks like a big, full, blue donut with light blue icing. And there's like a little cartoon Superman flying out—

**Justin:** Thick, blue donut.

**Griffin:** I don't know—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Next up—

**Travis:** What I love there too is they've reimagined the Superman character to be that, when he flies, he leaves a cloud of sprinkle dust behind him.  
[chuckles]

**Griffin:** That's—

**Justin:** That's how he does it.

**Griffin:** That's canon, watch the—

**Travis:** Like he was Tinker Bell.

**Griffin:** That's James Gunn's whole shit.



**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Wonder Woman—

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** The donut. "Inspired by the power and grace of a true hero, the Wonder Woman donut begins with our classic, original glazed donut, dipped in red raspberry flavored icing. It's topped with blue sprinkles and bright, white star shapes, capturing the essence of strength and courage in the medium of sprinkle."

**Travis:** Hm?

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** "Finished with a Wonder Woman piece and belt. This donut is a tribute to fearless leaders and everyday champions alike. A balance of flavor and flair that's ready to save your snack time!"

**Griffin:** There's a—there's gotta be a middle ground for marketing writing, between nothing and—

**Justin:** These sprinkles communicate courage—

**Griffin:** The sprinkles are brave. The sprinkles have courage.

**Travis:** Do you—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Lastly—

**Travis:** Do you think when they were writing that description, originally, it said "white stars." And they were like, "Hm, we're worried people will think we put actual celestial bodies—"

**Justin:** Actual stars. [titters]

**Travis:** "We better clarify that they're just star-shapes."

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Shaped. Not actual stars.

**Griffin:** The arrangement of the donut is also wild, because half of it does have the blue and white stars, to resemble Wonder Woman's pants. And the top is just red icing with a little Wonder Woman piece on it. [chuckles] So it's like they've given the donut a shirt and pants. There is no... there's not a lot of great bites you're gonna get out of this thing.

**Travis:** No...

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** It's gonna be either a whole bunch of sprinkles—

**Justin:** One bit is—there's a few bites that are gonna be about taking off that Wonder Woman piece. And a few bites are gonna be about knocking off sprinkles.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Also, if I'm watching you eat the Wonder Woman donut, and you eat the pants first? I'm gonna be like, "You pervert."

**Justin:** "You nasty dog." Okay—

**Travis:** I also—we never get follow ups on these, Count Donut, of like—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Yes..

**Travis:** This is what ideally they look like when a donut artist has sat down and spent—

**Griffin:** Gotta see 'em IRL.

**Travis:** Twenty-five minutes to make it look like this. I want to see what they look like—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** They're always perfect.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I don't think they are.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Lastly, the Batman donut. Step into the night with the Batman donut.

**Travis:** No.

**Griffin:** [titters]

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** "A fearless, unglazed shell—" what? It says—

**Griffin:** What does that mean?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** "A fearless unglazed shell!"  
"I am not afraid—

**Travis:** Finally.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** "Of my lack of glaze. I've made peace with it."

**Travis:** These other unglazed shells, they're cowards! But this one?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** They power in the—their lack of glaze! "Filled with cookies and cream filling, cloaked in the bold, black chocolate icing! And slashed with bright yellow signal streak! Topped with a heroic symbol, it's the ultimate treat for those who rise to any challenge."

**Travis:** [titters] Thank you.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Dace Skena says—

**Travis:** I want—I've been looking for a donut for people who rise to any challenge for decades now.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Decades. We can't promise—

**Travis:** I'm actually a little disappointed that they didn't go further with this description, and talk about how like the cookies and cream represents the balance of dark and light within—

**Justin:** Bold.

**Travis:** Batman and Bruce Wayne's soul—

**Griffin:** Within Batman's soul.

**Travis:** As he struggles—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** He dwells—

**Travis:** To... exist in the world of darkness, but not become darkness himself.

**Justin:** "We can't promise you'll reach Superman, Batman or Wonder Woman level by bringing a dozen donuts to the office or your next get together, but you will be a hero!" [as Count Donut] Says Dave Skena, chief growth officer—

**Travis:** Ah, Dave.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** At Krispy Kreme. Now, I want to mention one thing before we leave this topic. Are you looking at the...

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Okay. All right, you see this...

**Griffin:** Yeah, it looks like the Bat-Signal shining up into—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** It's looks like Bat-Signal shining! But if you can just look, can you see this—

**Griffin:** Enhance that—

**Justin:** Can you—I just—

**Travis:** Yeah, he's got—it's got a little cream nub in there.

**Griffin:** He's got a little—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** So, this is—this is what I want to ask you boys. Do you think—you have a perfect donut, it looks so beautiful. We love it, to add the cream and the frosting and everything. And then the upper—at about... about 1:30—[chuckles] about 1:30—

**Griffin:** [chuckles]

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** PM, you run into these little... schloppy blob. [chuckles] Right? A little—

**Griffin:** Yeah, there's a—they're left a schloppy blob on their product shot.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** A little schloppy blob. And if you look at Superman, if you zoom—

**Griffin:** Superman has it too.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Enhance at their eyes—

**Travis:** A little sloppy blob.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** It's a tiny schloppy blob, and I'm wondering, boys, you're experts in marketing. I hear you do advertisements and commercials.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Do you think they had to show the sloppy blob?

**Griffin:** Yeah, the sloppy blob suggests that when you bite into this Batman donut, there will be a—there will be such a... a deluge of cream.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** It's gonna be—there's so much—we're giving you so much—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Full to bursting. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** We're gonna give you so much cream spelled with a capital K—is real and off putting. You're gonna fuckin' freak out.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** What they communicate with the schloppy blob is that they have so much cream that they're willing to part with that even all fridges, cream. More cream than even the donut shell is prepared to intake.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah. Jeremy went wild with this one, you guys. He used so much cream in there. Do you think that they missed an opportunity to have just a plain, unglazed shell, with nothing decorating it, and call it like the Lex Luthor donut?

**Griffin:** Hm... eat his bald head. Is that what you're saying?

**Travis:** One, it's his bald head, and two, that's gonna be the donut that everyone's like, "Why did you get—that's evil." That you just got an empty, unglazed shell!

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "What's wrong with you?!"  
"That's a Lex Luthor donut."

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I would like to ask a question to you—

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Two boys. If these—if you could have a different superhero-themed donut—

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Which one do you think would taste the best?

**Griffin:** Polka-Dot Man?

**Travis:** Ooh?

**Griffin:** Could be fun. Polka-Dot Man could be fun.

**Travis:** I would love a... like a Green Lantern one that has mint chocolate chip filling.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Hm... hm...

**Travis:** Or Moon Knight.

**Griffin:** Are you gonna do anything with this information, Count?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Just curious.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** That's cray—that's fuckin'—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I'm more of a—

**Griffin:** That's fuckin' crazy, man!

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I'm more of a literate—I'm more of a—I'm more of a literature guy, but I'm trying to take an interest in you two. I don't see why that's such a crime.

**Travis:** You should check out like graphic novels and stuff? It's literature.

**Griffin:** Yeah, you would enjoy—

**Travis:** We have—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I like my novels extremely graphic! If the novel doesn't have at least four beheadings by the third chapter, then I quit reading it.

**Griffin:** How many books—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** That's how graphic I like my novels.

**Griffin:** How many books fit that... description?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Are you... are you using your own podcast as the platform to flaunt your own ignorance of literature?

**Griffin:** [titters]

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** How an embarrassment for you.

**Griffin:** That's just—

**Travis:** I'm pretty—

**Griffin:** That's a huge beheadings to chapter ratio.

**Travis:** I actually think The Adventure Zone graphic novel does fit that criteria.

**Griffin:** It gets you close enough.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** My sub-authors have the strength of their convictions, Griffin! And they're willing to take a head if it moves the story forward.

**Griffin:** So, what superhero would you want to be a donut—

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I don't know, the Count of Monte—

**Travis:** Probably Morbius, am I right?



**Justin [as Count Donut]:** The Count of Monte Cristo! That's the only superhero I know of. Maybe Scarlet Pimpernel—

**Travis:** Maybe Man-bat?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Can I have a Scarlet Pimpernel? Is he—is he a superhero for you?

**Griffin:** A Scarlet Pimpernel donut would be all right.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I'd like that—

**Griffin:** Scarlet pumpernickel?

**Travis:** I don't know, it's too close to pimple.

**Griffin:** Yeah, there's a lot.

**Travis:** To have a cream-filled donut?

**Griffin:** That's true—

**Travis:** It's upsetting.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I just wanted the Green Lantern for the lime of it!

**Griffin:** You like the tropical taste, Count Donut? We're learning a lot about you this visit, pal.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** I had some free time. Normally, I'm in such a rush... Sorry... As always, if you'd like to try a sample of them, there's... the store. You can go to your local Kroger! Or Publix! Or Piggly Wiggly! And perhaps they will be in stock there.

**Griffin:** That—it actually, I'm looking at the website, it doesn't say Piggly Wiggly. It just kind of seems like you wanted to say that in that voice, Count Donut. [chuckles]

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Look who just lost access. And I've closed the page.

**Travis:** It was available the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>, and it's now the 17<sup>th</sup>, so...

**Griffin:** So—

**Travis:** I doubt you'll find 'em.

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** Boys.

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Travis:** Yeah?

**Justin [as Count Donut]:** This has been so great. I've loved spending time with you. Thank you so much. Thank you for accepting me the way I am. I love you.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, it's always on your terms.

[pause]

**Griffin:** Where did—

**Travis:** He flew away!

**Griffin:** Holy shit, wow! He flew—he z—wow! I didn't know he could do that. He didn't—

**Travis:** He's a hero!

**Griffin:** And he didn't turn into a bat, which is the usual way that you see—

**Justin:** [chuckles]

**Travis:** No, Superman—

**Justin:** He rose his arms! Hey, guys, it's me, I was watching from across the table. He rose his arms and he just—

**Griffin:** He lifted his arms over his head and—

**Justin:** Flew into the sky like Superman. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Yeah. That's cool—

**Justin:** Awesome.

**Griffin:** I didn't know he could do that.

**Travis:** Speaking of flying to places, we're going to be coming to Atlanta for TAZ Versus Popeye.

**Justin:** Holy crap. I love it. I love doing shows in Atlanta. It is always so much fun.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** We're gonna do TAZ—TAZ Versus Popeye is gonna be great.

**Travis:** And we're doing My Brother, My Brother and Me while we're there, and we're going to be at Dragon Con. Also, coming up later in the year, we're going to be in Texas, Utah and California. All the TAZ shows—

**Justin:** We were just in California.

**Griffin:** Yeah, we're going fuckin' back, bro.

**Justin:** Hell yeah.

**Travis:** I guess—

**Griffin:** I left my wallet.

**Justin:** [titters]

**Travis:** [laughs] All TAZ shows this year will be TAZ Versus. Tickets for all shows are on sale now. If you go to [bit.ly/mcelroytours](http://bit.ly/mcelroytours), you can get the info and ticket links there. Also, dad is doing D&D in a Castle November 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>. Check out all the information at [bit.ly/mcelroytours](http://bit.ly/mcelroytours)!

**Griffin:** We have some new merch up in the merch store. We've got a "Why Not a Wizard" pin and a "Fuck off King" pin, both designed by Evan Crews. Ten—

**Justin:** The second one was designed by Daredevil.

**Travis:** Oh, I get it, Kingpin. Fuck off, Kingpin.

**Justin:** [chortles]

**Griffin:** Shit, man, yeah. Cool, dude. You're so stoked.

**Travis:** I love it.

**Griffin:** I love how happy you get about stuff sometimes, man. It's inspirational—

**Justin:** I'm glad, I—we need that joy to buoy us. If I'm gonna be the Shirley Temple of my generation, I need to generate all the smiles I can, you know?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Ten percent of all merch proceeds this month will be donated to the Immigrant Defenders Law Center. Oh, also, we have a newsletter, you can sign up for it at [bit.ly/mcelroynewsletter](http://bit.ly/mcelroynewsletter), and be the first to know about new tour dates, projects and more. And one more huge thanks to Montaigne for

the use for a theme song, My Life Is Better With You. Check out Montaigne's new album, it's hard to be a fish. It really is terrific music. I keep coming back to it. And do we have a Fear?

**Travis:** We do.

**Justin:** Oh, you mean for the show, yeah...

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Sorry, go ahead.

**Travis:** Justin, would you read it this time?

**Justin:** Yeah, I'd be happy to, Trav. "This year, I vow to be faster than my fear of being tweeted about by Tony Hawk for not recognizing him in public."

**Griffin:** Haven't we done a Tony Hawk related Fear this year?

**Justin:** Amazing.

**Travis:** Everybody's afraid of Tony Hawk.

**Justin:** Everybody's afraid of Tony Hawk. My name is Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** I'm Griffin McElroy.

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

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

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