

MBMBaM 774: Bear No Skyver

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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: Yeah, what's up, Trav Nation? It's me, your middlest brother, Travis... 'Big Dog Woof-Woof Vroom-Vroom' McElroy.

Griffin: I wonder what that's all about.

Justin: Yeah, hopefully there's a story there.

Griffin: Can't wait to crack that nut.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: And I'm your sweet baby brother, Griffin McElroy. And I've got the old magnifying lens out, looking for clues.

Justin: [chuckles] I think—Griffin, I think—[smacks lips] My old trick knee is acting up, I think we've got a sixty percent chance of a bit.

Griffin: [in a high-pitched voice] Something, a bit, fellow—

Justin: [in a high-pitched voice] A sixty percent chance of a skit—

Griffin: [in a high-pitched voice] In the state of Denmark!

Travis: You guys might not have noticed, but—

Justin: [in a high-pitched voice] I smell a bit afoot!

Griffin: [in a high-pitched voice] I feel it coming!

Travis: My energy is a little bit off.

Griffin: [in a high-pitched voice] *Yeah!*

Travis: I don't know if you noticed.

Justin: [in a high-pitched voice] *Ah, yeah.*

Griffin: *Hm.* Speak on this, Travis.

Travis: Well, I've been thinking about it a lot, and listen, I've said it before and I'll say it again, I'm so grateful. When you guys cast me in the role of Travis...

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, my career was not doing—

Griffin: Through the—yeah.

Travis: Great at the time. And ever since I got cast as Travis—

Griffin: We saved—we saved you!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: It's done wonders for my career.

Justin: Who saved who?

Travis: But I feel—

Griffin: Us, to him.

Justin: Us, him. [chuckles] That's easy.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: I'm—

Justin: It's obvious. Check the legal documentation. [chuckles] We saved him.

Travis: I'm worried that at this point, the storylines have gotten a little stale.

Justin: Not paid to worry, paid to act like Travis.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Not paid to worry—

Griffin: Real Travises worry—

Travis: I know—I know—listen, and I know I'm not the writers. But I feel like the story lines have gotten a little stale.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: We've been doing the show for a while now, and I thought maybe like I could pitch to you guys some new kind of storylines or plot points that we could—

Griffin: And maybe we could even come up with some of our own?

Travis: Oh, sure, yeah, yeah, yeah! If you want to.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Hey, I take it back. You—I know a few weeks ago, we pulled you aside and we said that you really weren't nailing the role of Travis—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] But you are crushing it!

Griffin: You really—

Travis: Thank you.

Griffin: You really owned it.

Justin: You've really stepped into it.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Thank you! I've spent—

Justin: Stepped in it and stepped into it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yes, both.

Travis: I've spent a lot of time with the real Travis, trying to get inside his head.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: To—yeah.

Justin: I am so sorry, you—receiving the special hazard pay that we do offer for that. [chuckles]

Travis: Thank you. Thank you very much.

Griffin: So what's your first pitch for us, Travis?

Travis: So—

Griffin: Because you know I like consistency! People like this product, and I'm not looking to shake things up just to be just—just to race to be last to the disruption market.

Travis: No, I think—I think that this is gonna be just a really seamless transition. So, we introduce like a cool teenage cousin character, named Skyver.

Griffin: So, this is going to be one of our cousins? Because I don't think they're still making those.

Travis: No, he's Travis' cousin.

Griffin: I still don't think—I still don't think when you're in your—in your mid-forties, I don't think you're getting a lot of new cousins.

Justin: New cousins. [chuckles]

Travis: Well, he could be like an illegitimate cousin, or something, however we want to do it. Or like a long-lost cousin? Something like that.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: And then—

Griffin: I'm just saying, we saw the fam last week, while we were—while we were—

Travis: And you're telling me that you could name every single one of them and tell me there's, with a hundred percent certainty, there's no Skyver among them?

Griffin: They could bear—that they could—and also, that they could bear no Skyver. Yeah, for sure, man.

Travis: Okay, so then, Travis—

Justin: I love, at the extended family gathering, when my wife looks to me for guidance, and I look back at her. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: The void looks back at you!

Griffin: I can tell you—

Justin: What if the void knows less than you do?

Griffin: Hey, I'll tell you who the cool ones are. I know the—I know all the cool uncles, and aunts and cousins.

Travis: Well, Skyver is definitely one of the cool ones. He skateboards and he's like a bassist in a high school band, and he's real cool.

Griffin: And is he—he's gonna be on the show we're splitting profits with?

Travis: Well, so what happens is, the Travis character and Skyver go to a museum together, or something, and like touch an old, spooky staff.

Griffin: And you switch bodies.

Travis: And they switch bodies.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. So then, like Skyver, as Travis, has to do the podcast. And Travis, as Skyver, has to like—

Griffin: And are we gonna follow Travis? Are we going to follow—

Travis: Yeah, we're gonna follow both of 'em? And then Travis—

Griffin: So, hold on, wait, which you is gonna be on the show?

Justin: This feels like an off... yeah.

Griffin: Which you—

Travis: Well, both.

Griffin: Young body, old brain? Or old body, young brain?

Travis: Well, we're going to cut between the story lines as like they weave back together, because we'll see Skyver as Travis doing the podcast, and Travis is Skyver learning to skateboard and sell drugs.

Justin: How do we communicate—I don't feel like we've ever tried to communicate like mixed timelines, like—

Griffin: Mixed up.

Justin: Hill Street Blues style.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] In like, in the podcast form, I don't feel like that happens much.

Griffin: We don't do cut—we don't do Family Guy style cutaways. We do a lot of other—

Travis: We could do like voicemails?

Griffin: Voicemails from a—

Travis: Voicemails and like, yeah, videos that Skyver sends us. That kind of thing.

Griffin: That idea is a real stinker, Trav! What else—

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: What else do you got?

Travis: Well then, you do one. And if it could have a focus on the Travis character, that would be great.

Griffin: Maybe it could even be mine? About me or Justin.

Travis: I guess. Okay, what do you got?

Griffin: I don't actually—I mean...

Justin: I don't really have anything. That's the problem.

Travis: Okay, we find—

Griffin: I am join—I am going to join the Swedish House Mafia.

Travis: Ooh?

Griffin: And that's gonna be my new thing, is I'm gonna talk a lot about all of our shows and all of our parties, and some of the new tunes we've got coasting over the UK airways. And obviously, there's going to be some pretty big lifestyle changes for me. I don't know anything about Swedish House Mafia.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Except that they're a house music super group.

Justin: It's gonna be quite a learning curve.

Griffin: There will be a huge learning curve. Have to learn Swedish! Have to—

Travis: Yeah, that's fair—

Griffin: Have to learn—have to learn have to learn Swedish. Tough.

Travis: I was thinking of another one where we win a sweepstakes, and we think it's to go on a cruise, but it's, we win the whole cruise ship.

Griffin: And then we own a boat, and then it's about us with a boat?

Travis: Yeah. And then it's like three captains.

Griffin: That's kind of cool. Let me—let me just—can we put a little—can we put some guard rails on this motherfucker?

Justin: Yes.

Travis: Okay? Okay, yeah?

Justin: Like what?

Griffin: We can't—we can't get a boat. And I don't want to pretend to be on a boat for an extended period of time. So like, any of your ideas that are like we find—we hire a teenager to now be on the show. Like, you understand the level of bits we're capable of, I became a—

Justin: Yeah, our dalliances with extended plot lines in the past have been some of our most notorious whoopsies. Like for example—

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: When we were sponsored by—remember the MBMBaM 2.0 era?
[chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, man.

Justin: When we tried to re-launch the show for like ten episodes.
[chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: And it was like, we were sponsored. That was—nobody liked that. There was the eclipse episode, where the whole thing sounded terrible. And it looked like a nightmare, because we recorded it during the full eclipse, and everyone hated that.

Travis: Sure.

Griffin: Yeah, no one liked it.

Justin: You know, the Star Wars incident. Don't need to say anything else.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, sure, sure. I became a dog for a while, but that just was, basically, I said I'm a dog now.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: So like, there was no props or new—

Justin: Yes, Griffin was a dog.

Griffin: There was no overhead effect. So like, we—I'm on the, you know, financial side of things. I'm always balancing the books.

Justin: Our successes are usually almost accidental.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Less than planned.

Griffin: Accidental, and I can't stress this enough, virtually costless.

Travis: Well, I don't—I don't—

Griffin: Basically free to implement.

Travis: I hate to résumé drop, but as you guys know, I was recurring on Touched by an Angel, for its run.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: And as it went on, you know—

Griffin: You played Gordo the Slime Angel. Go on.

Travis: Yeah. And the budgets increase over time. Have you guys talked to the studio about increasing our budget to a point where we could get like a boat?

Griffin: The studio is the listeners, Trav. That's what's so great about the—

Travis: What?

Griffin: That's what's so great about the Max Fun model, is that we are directly—it's not a MaxFunDrive. I'm gonna start speaking in a tone of voice that's gonna—

Justin: If you activate him, we'll have to shoot him—

Travis: Yeah, sorry about that.

Justin: With a tranquilizer dart. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [guffaws]

Justin: For the next ten days, he'll just be prattling on about—

Griffin: It'll, Travis—

Justin: All the great bo-co.

Griffin: A budget increase from the studio is going to have to entail a bunch more people listening to our show, and donating specifically so that we can do a whole role play where we are boat captains. Like that's a dream—

Travis: Okay.

Justin: We need a slush fund sort of—

Griffin: That doesn't exist, that situation.

Travis: Well—

Justin: Let me ask—

Travis: Yeah?

Griffin: Go ahead, Juice.

Justin: As long as we're talking angels, I was actually thinking, are we wedded to the Justin McElroy character? Or are we like... we love the Justin—the Justin—

Travis: Oh, no, listen, this is Blue Sky!

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Yeah, I guess that's—

Justin: I was thinking, he finally needs a romance, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: He's been—he's been—

Travis: Absolutely.

Justin: Kind of will they—will they/won't they for a long time.

Griffin: With his mare—with—

Justin: What if he had an angel romance?

Travis: Huh?

Justin: With an angel. [titters]

Travis: Speak on that.

Justin: Angel romance, angel falls—

Travis: Like the vampire?

Justin: In love with him. No.

Griffin: No.

Justin: She is an angel—

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Who falls in love with him because he is like as close as she has seen to like—

Griffin: Perfection.

Justin: Like, an angel on Earth. Like—[titters]

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Yeah. Okay?

Justin: Both visually, and just sort of like personality-wise, and mentally.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And she falls so hard that she is like, "I wanna make myself real."

Griffin: Cool.

Travis: Oh? Okay.

Justin: "Like a real person, so I can be with—"

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah!

Justin: "I can be with him."

Griffin: Are you imagining Sydnee's face, listening? [chuckles]

Travis: Oh, that's a great question!

Justin: No, no—

Travis: Casting! Do you have casting in mind?

Justin: So, this is important. This is important. The Justin character is unaware of any of this taking place. [chuckles]

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Oh, cool.

Justin: An angel storyline is completely—it's just a very relatable plotline.

Griffin: This is good. See, Travis, this is good, because it's free!

Travis: No, this is great, yeah.

Griffin: It's free to say there's a horny invisible angel behind Justin at all times, just waitin'.

Travis: Oh, so not CGI? Because I was picturing like a CGI—

Griffin: No, Travis, free!

Justin: [chuckles] No, no! God damn it, Travis!

Griffin: No casting, no voice acting, no—

Justin: Any initials! If you do any initials, we probably can't.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Like CGI, no.

Travis: SAG.

Griffin: Now, we gotta be careful here—

Justin: SAG? [chuckles] Trav, that's a good one. S-A-G, though—

Griffin: We can't—

Justin: No AFTRA. [chuckles]

Griffin: We can't say that though, because like as fired up as people are about AI taking over creative jobs—

Justin: No AI! Can't afford it! That's another initialism.

Griffin: Well, yeah, but I think it may be worse to say it's not AI, but it's invisible and it's imaginary. [chuckles] Imagine—

Justin: If Wonka can do it! You know?

Griffin: I guess so.

Travis: That's true, that's a good point.

Griffin: Wonka had an invisible—

Travis: Is there a Wonka storyline we can incorporate?

Griffin: Not for free.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Not for free. Not for no cost whatsoever.

Travis: Okay, I'll keep that in mind.

Griffin: I could say—I could—I mean, here's the extent of it, Travis. Do you wanna see—and you let me know if this would be satisfying, okay?

Travis: Okay. Okay, please.

Griffin: It would be like—Justin would be like, "MBMBaM..." And you'd be like—and I'd be like... "Salutations! Welcome into my ccandy factory!" And I would gesture behind me to just like my office. And I would say stuff.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: But it wouldn't be timely, and I wouldn't do a good job with it. So like, a free Wonka is not even worth the—worth the attempt.

Travis: I'm not gonna say no to it. Just think—

Griffin: To free Wonka?

Travis: Just think about it! I think it works, I think it plays. The last thing I wanted to ask you guys—

Griffin: But what if he's just all about nuts?

Travis: Oh, yeah!

Griffin: What if he's Willy Wonka, but instead about like chocolate and candy, he's only about different kinds of—

Travis: Billy Tonka, what do you think?

Griffin: I'm thinking of... Nutty Wonka. And that doesn't—give me—give me two—

Justin: That doesn't even get to the legal—

Griffin: Give me two business days!

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Give me two business days, and I'll come back with something, okay?

Travis: Okay. Would you guys be—would you guys be okay if I—you know, pilot season's coming up. If I submitted my résumés—

Griffin: Travis, yes.

Travis: To some other things? Okay.

Griffin: Travis yes.

Justin: You wanna look around? You wanna look around?

Travis: I mean, I'm just, I'm not saying I wanna leave.

Justin: You think—do you think the grass is greener?

Griffin: Yeah, good luck, pal. We've been doing this for nineteen years.

Justin: Good luck, pal. It's pretty chilly out there.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Best of luck.

Griffin: I refuse—but go for it. I will say, I refuse to be the bushel under which you hide your candle.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: If you—

Travis: Because if Hank—if Hank and John want like a third brother—

Griffin: We should do a switch. We should do a swap.

Justin: Oh, wait, hold on, hold on. Now hold on!

Travis: No, wait, now—

Justin: Now hold on! Hold on! This is interesting. This is interesting.

Travis: If you guys wanted to offer me more money, I'd stay, is what I was gonna... Okay, no, you go on.

Griffin: Oh, was this just—you were just trying to flex on us?!

Justin: This is interesting now! What do we have that the Greens don't have? It occurs to me, one more brother. You know what I mean? What do they have that we don't have? Well, where do I start?! You know?

Griffin: [guffaws] Respect from their colleagues?!

Justin: Yeah, man! I mean, where do I start? So, here's what I'm saying.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: Green brothers... make us an offer.

Griffin: One for one.

Justin: One—no! [chuckles] I don't want one of their—

Griffin: A one for—one for money.

Travis: So wait—

Justin: One of—no, no, something.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Wait, I'm being traded now. Wait, hold on!

Griffin: Travis—

Justin: I'm say—it's not a—it's not a trade! It's not a trade.

Griffin: Sometimes it's—

Justin: [chuckles] I'm saying—

Travis: I just don't—just don't do it for like a second round draft pick, or some shit.

Griffin: That's what I'm saying, it's for aa future—

Travis: At least get some money.

Griffin: It's actually, Travis, can I tell you, we've hit our budget cap.

Travis: Fuck!

Griffin: Yeah, we missed the trade deadline, so like, we gotta—we gotta—it'll be a sweetheart deal for those Greens.

Justin: Do you know what's—honestly, we didn't know how to broach it with you. But when you were like, "Pilot season's coming up," I was like, thank god.

Griffin: Ding-ding-ding-ding, yeah.

Justin: Ding-ding-ding.

Travis: Well, now hold on! Because Trav Nation might get—you know, maybe consider just upping the budget?

Griffin: Travis—

Justin: I'll take the tea business and leave them the coffee. You know, what about that? I'll—how about this, the tea—the tea will still be for charity. That's even—they can use that if they want. And then the coffee side, pure profits for me. [chuckles]

Griffin: Can you—

Travis: Oh, this is a literal thing about their thing. I thought that this was an extended metaphor about me, and I wasn't following. [chuckles]

Justin: No, no, no!

Griffin: No.

Justin: I say we have—we have the power—the additional power of a third brother, right?

Griffin: Right.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: That's huge for us! And it's really all we have to offer. So like, if they've got something where they feel—if they wanna cut us in on—not even cut us in, but like I would really love like the merch biz or whatever, like maybe—

Griffin: They can drop all the lawsuits that they have against us? And that could—

Justin: [chuckles] Even some of those—

Travis: That would be nice.

Justin: Would be so choice!

Griffin: All those law suits. The one's where they're like, "We're the brothers doing—"

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "Doing podcast shows." And it's like—

Travis: They tried copyright brothers.

Griffin: They tried to copyright brothers doing podcast shows. Like... like last year. It's like we—come on, guys! So like, drop that.

Justin: Come on, guys.

Travis: I could guest on the—I don't have to leave this show to do a crossover guest, right?

Griffin: Can you imagine how disruptive you would be to the finely-tuned machinery of those—of those brothers? And the way that they—

Justin: He could be the third heat they need, though?

Griffin: You could also be the sloppy, wet rag thrown into the gears of the grandfather clock, that is the Green brothers.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: You could be the sloppy, wet rag that gets all the gears all sloppy and gross and rusty.

Travis: Mm-hm. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: And I love the—

Travis: Well, I think—

Griffin: We love the sloppy rag here, Travis. I'm saying I love—

Justin: You could be the—

Griffin: Getting sloppy with the dogs.

Justin: You could be the powdered coffee creamer cast on to the campfire that starts forest fire that burns the whole thing down. [chuckles]

Griffin: We're all sloppy dogs here, and I love it. I'm saying, if you went over there, man...

Justin: Yeah, you could be the mustard stain—

Travis: Maybe I could—maybe I could—

Justin: On the pope's jacket.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, as they say. Maybe I could go over there and just do some like insider—like bring them down from the inside to up our—

Justin: Hell yes!

Griffin: That could be good. Hell yeah.

Justin: Oh, dude—

Griffin: Any one of us could—

Travis: Now we're talking storylines! Now we're talking storylines!

Justin: Now it's a storyline.

Griffin: Yeah, that's good shit, actually, yeah.

Travis: Some corporate espionage!

Justin: And you could be like—

Travis: Brother V brother! Okay.

Justin: If you do that, Trav, we are perfectly willing to be like, that was the plan all along.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] I'll play along with that if you want.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Can we do advice?

Justin: "I've been invited by a company—"

Griffin: Sorry, I do need to stop. I need to share this with you, because it's going to be relevant if you see me on video trying to move over. My back is covered with stickers right now for an allergy test.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: I've got—guys, I've got—

Travis: So you're allergic to stickers? [titters]

Griffin: I've got seventy-eight goddamn stickers on my back right now.

Justin: Is that exaggeration?

Griffin: No, seventy-eight. Seventy-eight big ones.

Justin: Okay. Did they apply them individually?

Griffin: No, they came in six big patches. So—

Travis: How many of them are like Paw Patrol and—

Justin: So twelve.

Griffin: I'll show you if we blur out the video, because I don't really want this—

Travis: No, not for those back perverts. Oh, my? It looks like you got a bunch of tattoos that are now covered up.

Griffin: This feels like I'm in fuckin' Red Dragon. This feels like I'm in The Da Vinci Code.

Travis: No one made you do this!

Griffin: Well, I know, but—

Justin: [in a strained voice] Is this what you want?

Griffin: I can't turn my body like this, and I knew it was gonna come up.

Travis: No one would have noticed.

Justin: No one would have asked. You brought it up, dude.

Travis: Oh, my?

Justin: What the fuck? All right, now I'm so—I'm so excited to talk to you about this, Griffin.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Speak on it.

Griffin: Yeah. As you know, I have sensitive skin. I have skin sensitivities. And in order to kind of get to the bottom of it, I'm doing a little bit of sort of like looking inward. And like trying to figure out what makes me tick.

Travis: At the outside of your skin?

Griffin: At the outside of my skin, to see what I'm allergic to. Each one has a little bit of common household product... stuff on 'em. And then they're gonna take it off and they're gonna say, "That looks fucked up. So, number fourteen, what is that? Oh, no, it's... soap. Like any soap."

Travis: Have you thought, Griffin—

Justin: So you are def—

Travis: That maybe one of 'em is blank and it's a test to see if you're faking it?

Griffin: Maybe. I like the way it feels, if I'm being honest. I might just—

Travis: The stickers?

Griffin: Yeah, I feel like John McClane at the end of Die Hard, when he has the gun behind his back. That's basically what I'm working with.

Travis: Huh. Seems a stretch.

Griffin: It gives me a lot of core support, yeah.

Justin: Do you promise that you are going to tell us the details of this? Like are we gonna know—

Griffin: Yeah, Juice, I promise on the next episode, I'm going to tell everyone exactly what I'm allergic to, so that they can kill me next time they see me. Nice try, no.

Travis: No, Jason Mantzoukas made that mistake, and now he's on the run. He had to go to England to stay safe.

Griffin: He can't step outside without someone throwing an egg at him on the street.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Left and right.

Justin: How did you come by this sheet? Did you just see it at CVS and you were like, "Let's go." Or—

Griffin: Yeah, I went to CVS, I said, "Give me the biggest, stickiest sheet you have. I would love to not—"

Justin: Where'd you get this sheet? I'm just curious about the sheet. I've never had one, so I'm just curious where you got this sheet.

Griffin: I went to a special sheet doctor. Do you think I'm freestyling this?

Justin: Did you have to like wait—

Griffin: Do you think this is a home project?

Justin: Did you have to like wait—you had to wait in a waiting room and everything, right? You had to drive there, wait in a waiting room, the whole thing, right?

Griffin: Yeah! For this—

Justin: How bad are-like, what is happening to you? [chuckles] Griffin, like what is happening to you—

Travis: Can you feel—can you feel like—

Justin: What is happening—no, no, no, like—

Travis: Pinpoint grid?

Justin: What has been going on with your skin where you're like, "I have to go through this whole—"

Griffin: Look, man, before we can—

Justin: What is happening?

Griffin: Before we can take any serious measures, before I can start huffin' that fuckin' Skyrizi, and changing my fuckin' biochemistry of becoming a stronger, better, more engineered brother, I gotta see what makes me fuckin' tick, dude. They don't just give Skyrizi to anyone, duh.

Travis: These are more storylines! This is great! The Skyrizi arc—

Griffin: This is too—but the Skyrizi is too—

Justin: The Skyrizi is good.

Griffin: Skyrizi's too real, dude. I can't bring Skyrizi into the conversation. Unless they want a—unless, one, I ddo end up taking it. Two, it does end up working. And three, they want to sponsor us.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: For a lot of money, I—

Travis: You start taking the Skyrizi, and then you become the Dovakizzy, right?

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: And you can do all of the shouts, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, fizzy rizzy dizzy.

Justin: Okay, guys, can we—

Travis: [chortles]

Justin: Did you say fizzy rizzy dizzy? [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chortles] Eight people are bussin'—bustin' up.

Griffin: Eight people are bussin' right now.

Justin: Eight people are bustin' up!

Travis: One of them's on this call. You got him. [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah. "I have been invited to a—buy a company to dinner to discuss a really cool project it'd be amazing to be a part of. They are paying for the dinner. The thing is, my favorite item on the menu is quite expensive, and I don't want to seem like I'm taking advantage of the free meal. Additionally, I don't want to seem nervous by only ordering the cheap stuff. How can I find a perfect balance between seeming grateful of them paying, while also being professional and cool? PS, this is a charcuterie board restaurant."

Griffin: God, that's a helpful postscript. Thank you so much.

Justin: That's from Troubled in the Treasured Valley.

Travis: The charcuterie board restaurant edition is great because it gives the context of like, "Hm, I'm looking at this board with some meat. But you know what? I think I—oh, I kind of want the one with a lot of meat on it. Hm..."

Griffin: Yeah. If you take someone somewhere where there is a forty-dollar slice of Iberico ham on the menu, I don't think you can get upset when they spend the forty dollars on a single slice of Iberico ham. It's been—

Justin: There is no—I mean, here's what I'll say. There is no way that you will order the charcuterie board for yourself and it will stay for yourself.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Everybody is gonna wanna have a poke and a prod.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So I would maybe lay it out like this, "You know, I was thinking about the charcuterie, but do any of you guys like it? Because they bring so much that if—"

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: "You guys are gonna have a little bit—"

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: That's cool.

Justin: "It's not really worth getting." And then everyone will be like, "Oh, you should go for it!" And then as soon as they bring it, you start giving them looks like, "What do you think I don't want?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, you start scooting—

Griffin: Awesome.

Travis: Just slowly sectioning off.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Take the—

Justin: Make it—

Griffin: Take the—

Justin: But just take all the olives. Putting all the olives at three o'clock. All the olives at three, everybody.

Griffin: Take a single sad apricot. That's yours now.

Travis: You see 'em reaching for the honeycomb and you swat their hand away. Be like, "No!"

Justin: "Not that. Not that. Boy, those olives are looking good, though, huh?"

Travis: "Mm!"

Justin: [spoofs eating sounds] "Pimiento!"

Travis: "Look at that weird spicy, jelly! Ooh, wouldn't you love some of that weird, spicy jelly? *Ooh.*"

Justin: "Wouldn't you love a fig?"

Travis: [chuckles] "A *fig*?"

Justin: "What about a fig? Maybe some [pashoot??]." I don't like any charcuterie, so like honestly, I could ding the whole thing.

Griffin: It's so wild, man.

Justin: Sometimes I'll be like, "Don't take the one kind of cracker I like. [chuckles] Please, That's all I'm eating tonight. Why did we come here?"

Travis: You can always do the like, "Oh, I'm torn—I'm torn between, I kind—I want this, but I don't know." And let them tell you to do.

Griffin: Give them—they give you permission to get the—

Travis: Right. That's the unspoken, right? Like if you take someone to dinner and they're like, "Oh, you know, I immediately—ah. you know, the porterhouse grabbed me."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "But I don't know, man, maybe I need like a—" And they'll be like, "Oh, you should get it!" And then... you get that and—

Griffin: Then you're off to the races.

Justin: Oh, you're saying like open it—you're saying like have an opening offer that's higher, then settle back that—like have an opening bid that's like way at the top.

Griffin: No, he was suggesting like, "I want to get this, but I don't know." And get—let them give you permission. I do like that move, Justin, though, of like, "I'll take... hm, should I get a hundred slices of the A5 Wagyu beef? Nah, I'll just get this—"

Justin: Nah!

Griffin: "Other still pretty expensive thing instead."

Justin: But they have clarified, it is *the* most expensive thing on the menu. That's tough. That's tough. There's nothing better.

Travis: Oh, you could also point it out like, it's a rare—like, "Oh, man, I can't believe they have this. Did you guys see they have this on the menu?"

Griffin: "Shit. Guys, holy shit, they have pâté here? We gotta—they don't just make this anywhere, man."

Travis: "They sell it by the pound? That's wild!"

Griffin: "A pound of pâté, for—just for me? Damn."

Travis: "I've never had it. My grandfather used to talk about it all the time. I've never seen it on a menu. He's a—he said he loved it more than my grandmama." And then let them say it. "Let's all try it."

Griffin: We pretty famously have been pretty hot on charcuterie in recent years. And I just want to update sort of my feelings about it, publicly—

Justin: Oh, good, I bet everyone was wondering, yeah.

Griffin: I think the—I really feel like the worm has turned for me on charcuterie. I now longer know—

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: I no longer know where it fits into a meal. I no longer know—I don't understand how to effortlessly slide it in between a salad course and, you know, the sandwich that I ordered. Justin, the face you're making right now is—

Travis: No, I think he's just, he's in.

Justin: No, I'm just listen—it's interesting because we have had a pivot in my house to where the only thing Sydnee eats is charcuterie.

Griffin: So that's interesting. I noticed that while we were there—

Justin: So I just bought—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Did you notice that? It's just—

Griffin: I noticed you put out a charcuterie board while we were there, and I was like, that's crazy.

Justin: And I just keep a charcuterie board out for... pretty much all the time.

Griffin: That's so good, man.

Justin: And Sydnee's a lot, a lot happier, I will say—

Travis: I'll go right—

Justin: As long as I got some charcute within reach—

Travis: I'll go right down the middle—

Justin: A lot more pleasant.

Travis: And say that I'm now at a place where the problem is, I don't know what's coming. I order—used to be, you order a charcuterie at a restaurant, you're getting a fancy board. Now they say like charcuterie, and it comes, and it's just like a grown-up Lunchable.

Griffin: It's a pizza.

Justin: Yeah. Sometimes you're at a restaurant and your brother orders charcuterie as an appetizer, and then it comes, and it's eighty different types of bad pickles. [chuckles] And then everyone's sad.

Travis: Some people like pickles, and olives and—

Justin: Some people love the funky, funky pickles.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: The cheese.

Travis: Sometimes—

Justin: What are you trying to prove with that funky cheese, everybody? Come on. That's the part that makes me feel like I'm right.

Travis: It's supposed to pair with things Justin! It pairs with things!

Griffin: You can pair it with an old jock strap!

Justin: I know, but like, but if you're looking at—

Travis: You eat the funky pickle! You eat the stinky cheese with—

Justin: I understand—

Travis: The honeycomb!

Justin: Right, but here's what I'm saying. If you can accept—people give me a hard time for the raw cheese thing, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But if you look way down at the other end of the tunnel—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You see people eating some *funky* cheese. Like some really, truly decrepit shit, that would really turn a lot of—you know that if you go way down the pipeline, it gets funky and bad, right? Can we agree this?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, but Justin, I don't do—

Justin: Stop! Stop!

Griffin: Let him finish.

Justin: Stop!

Griffin: Let him finish.

Justin: If we know that the end of the tunnel is sin, is distance from that sin not a virtue?

Griffin: Wow.

Travis: Wow, Justin—

Griffin: That's cool, man.

Travis: Powerful. Powerful. Let me tell you how I live my life, Justin. I think that I would be a person who just absolutely went ham for cocaine. But I don't do cocaine.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: It would be very bad for me, right?

Griffin: Oh, yeah, man, we've all had that thought of like, "Oh, if some—"

Justin: Yeah, it would be a huge brand shift for us. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yes, it would—it would be—

Travis: Yeah, it would—but it would be bad for me!

Griffin: Huge for any of us. It would be so—

Justin: Hey, listen—

Griffin: So bad.

Justin: A *brief* golden era for My Brother, My Brother and Me, to be sure.

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: [guffaws]

Justin: But so brief!

Griffin: We would never—

Justin: [chuckles] So brief!

Griffin: We would never, must make this clear, we would never. Not our— not our thing, but—

Travis: Not our brand.

Justin: But it would be a killer—I mean, six weeks of killer material!

Travis: [yells out] For like, yeah, six episodes! Whoa!

Justin: Whoa!

Travis: But the problem is, Justin, I don't do that.

Griffin: It would be un-listenable!

Travis: Un-listenable!

Griffin: It would be fucking non-stop—

Travis: You would have to play it at 0.75 speed to understand a word we were saying.

Griffin: We would interrupt each other so much that there would be four voices talking at once sometimes.

Travis: [chortles]

Griffin: It would be be—we would be Tuvan throat singing to interrupt each other.

Justin: "Me and the rest of the ghost hunters have isolated this one track."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "This one man is just yelling about horses. Who is this man?"

Travis: But my point being—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I can't live a fully clean lifestyle.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I know I don't have that kind of self-control. So I must do things like eat funky, stinky cheese, right?

Griffin: Eat a funky cheese. They should—

Justin: Let the evil—to deal with your passenger.

Travis: To let that—to let that dog out. You know what I mean?

Griffin: I tell you, I would be less worried about ordering a too expensive charcuterie board, and way more stressed out about properly eating it and doing all the right combos and all the right pairings, and... you know, not focused. Sometimes you go too hard on like one of the meat types, and you fully, fully finish it before anyone's touched the other meats. And you feel so self-conscious about that.

Travis: Yes, that's why you have to shuffle it together like a big sandwich, like they do in Scooby-Doo or Dagwood.

Griffin: Well, make them do that for me! Let—make the restaurant do—bring it to—bring me a charcuterie board that you've done like nachos.

Travis: That's nachos, though?

Justin: That's nachos. That would be good, though.

Travis: What they should do is bring it to you laid out like Candy Land, where you follow the path, adding the pieces together as you go.

Griffin: That's awesome, yes.

Travis: You get a line of stuff, organized in a way of just like, yeah, just keep going down the line, eating these together.

Griffin: Yes, give it to me on like a ski. A long ski that I can tilt.

Travis: Yeah! A luge! A charcuterie luge!

Griffin: A charlagerie. And I wanna shoot it down—

Justin: Charlagerie!

Griffin: Like I'm at a—like I'm at a frat party. But it's—

Travis: Give me an illusiory charcugerie, just—[chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, man. Just for me. We need to go to the—should we go to the Money Zone?

Justin: Yeah, let's go to the Money Zone.

[theme music plays]

Travis: Squarespace is completely unaffiliated with anything we were just talking about. I cannot stress that enough, they have nothing to do with anything that might have happened previously in this episode. [chuckles]

Griffin: It actually says here first thing in the—

Justin: *Boop!* Sorry, guys, that was pre-recorded. That's a pre-recorded thing we play before every Squarespace ad.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: They've asked us to start including that before. [chuckles]

Griffin: They asked you guys—

Justin: Hi! I'm Justin McElroy, a paid professional endorser for Squarespace.

Griffin: They were like, "Do you guys do pre-roll? So we stop coming in hot on the heels of your fully-throated cocaine endorsement." [chuckles]

Justin: Here's what I'll say about—can I say something serious about Squarespace? They are probably our longest advertiser. They've been with us the longest.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And here's what I'll say about Squarespace. A lot of companies will tell you what they want you to say. And we've been working with Squarespace so long that, I shit you not, it's just a big list of don'ts. [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: Like we don't—they don't have stuff they want us to do, it's just a big list of things they don't want us to do. And that's great. That's a good fit for us.

Travis: This might be a—it's a bit of a niche reference, but I think they're like the Oliver Platt to our Bear restaurant. Like they're our uncle who shows up like, "Guys, you know I love you. You know I love you."

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, for sure, for sure.

Travis: "You gotta stop doing this." [chuckles]

Justin: "You got to!" Listen, what they do do is they make it really easy to build a website.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: And you know, I would even say kind of fun. If you wanted to make a little project, a little micro thing, just to entertain yourself, get a dream going, just something to noodle with an idea you've had, a website is a great place to start. If only just like to organize your thoughts. I've used Squarespace to build websites for a few different things, and I have had a really enjoyable time making the site. And they have these templates that are made by people who *really* know what they're doing.

You pull those in, you pull in your own photos, your own text. You can sell your own stuff, you can do whatever you would like with a Squarespace website. It's really powerful, even though it's really easy to make. So, head to squarespace.com/mybrother for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use offer code My Brother to save ten percent off your first purchase of a website or domain.

Travis: If there's one thing about me that everyone knows, it's that I am financially responsible.

Griffin: You are not! That is why you need to use Rocket Money.

Travis: No, I am now because I use Rocket Money! Ha-ha-ha-ha! Got you!

Griffin: That's an interesting—

Justin: Oh? Ha-ha-ha, wow!

Griffin: That's a really positive—

Travis: Got you!

Griffin: I guess using Rocket Money does make you fiscally responsible. But also, Rocket Money is the thing you use when you are not particularly fiscally responsible, because they handle a lot of the heavy lifting on that stuff for you.

Travis: Yeah, but I got a bionic enhancement to make my arms stronger, Griffin, I would say, I'm strong now. You wouldn't be like, "No, your bionic enhancement is strong."

Griffin: That's a good point, Travis.

Travis: Rocket Money is a bionic enhancement for fiscal responsibility.

Griffin: It's a bionic enhancement. It's an implant in your brain that says like, "Hey, you forgot to unsubscribe to Super Slime Maker 3D free—lite version. The subscription you did—

Travis: Adults only.

Griffin: Adults only. And it was like, "Three day free trial." And you were like, "Pff, I'll remember." And you don't fucking remember. And then you've been paying sixty-nine ninety-nine a month for Free Slime Maker, lite version. Rocket Money is an implant in your brain that says, "Hey, cut that out. Start saving lots of money." I genuinely have used it so many times, every time—genuinely, every time, it's caught some shit. Whether it's an MMO RPG I haven't played in a year and a half, or...

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Most of the time though, it is slime apps for the kids.

Travis: Yeah. [chuckles]

Justin: And you know, the good thing about Rocket Money is they don't tell your friends. They don't tell your friends if you do dumb stuff.

Griffin: They do not.

Travis: Discrete!

Justin: That's not part of the service.

Griffin: Yeah, discreet.

Justin: Very discreet.

Griffin: They've got five—

Justin: They don't rat you out.

Griffin: They've got five million members who've saved over a total of five hundred million dollars in canceled subscriptions, with members saving up to seven-hundred and forty dollars year when they use all the app's premium features. Cancel your unwanted subscriptions, reach your financial goals faster with Rocket Money. Go to rocketmoney.com/mybrother today. That's rocketmoney.com/mybrother. [Rocketmoney.com/mybrother](https://rocketmoney.com/mybrother).

Travis: Rocket Money, elite, discreet, so sweet.

Griffin: That's got to be a tagline for something else also.

Travis: That's probably true, yeah.

Griffin: That they maybe don't wanna... take.

[break]

Justin: "I recently drove past the local barber shop and noticed something cool. The barber shop has an original Donkey Kong arcade machine, a good old classic! I want nothing more than to get my hands on that arcade machine just to play a few rounds, and maybe even get on that high score board. However, I am bald. I do not need haircuts, and I do not need beard management. How does a bald man with a well-kept beard get into a barber shop to play some Donkey Kong?" And that's from Desperate Kong. Well, there's always massage! But what's the problem with that? Maybe a barber doesn't do massage. And if you ask a barber that doesn't do massage for a massage—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I think you'll be escorted from the premises.

Griffin: Sometimes I'll be on YouTube, and the algo will be like, "I got some new ASMR stuff for you. It is an elderly man on the streets of Pakistan, and he is doing this to a guy."

Travis: Oh, yeah!

Griffin: Like fuckin' slapping the shit out of his head, and his—

Justin: Ah, slapping his head.

Griffin: Grabbing his—

Travis: Ah, yeah!

Griffin: Ears and just fuckin' pullin' his ears as hard as he can. And you see it and you're like, that looks chill, actually.

Travis: I'd love that.

Griffin: I don't—I don't know where one can request that particular—I don't think you can go to your normal, everyday cutter of hair and say like, "Slap my fuckin' scalp twenty times and pull my ears 'til they make noise, please."

Travis: Well, what you have to do is, when the barber says, "What are we doing today?" You pull up that full video and say, "This." [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Pull up a video and you say, "You're gonna jerk my neck to the side so hard, I'm gonna go limp for a minute and a half. That's what you're gonna do! And also, I'm thinking like a size four guard clippers around the sides and faded up into the top. Please, thank you."

Justin: I feel like if I'm reading between the lines here, there's something this person is not saying to us. [titters] Okay, so they want to go in and look at the Donkey Kong arcade machine. If they were to go in and—

Travis: And assume play.

Griffin: Play.

Justin: They wanna say like—if they were to go in and say, "Hey, I'm a big fan. You care if I play a few rounds?" They'd be like, "Did you bring quarters? Like, absolutely, that's a profit center for us. Thank you so much." That's not what this—it's the part where he says, "And maybe get on the high score board." Uh-oh. Wait a minute, how long... maybe you're gonna be there a little while, huh, pal?

Travis: Ooh.

Justin: Maybe it's not just you want to go in and play a few rounds! Maybe they're gonna have to start explaining to people why the ball man in the corner keeps shouting "fuck" every thirty seconds.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, this is not a—

Justin: You know what I mean?!

Griffin: This is not a... you're saying that you're looking for a new home for your—

Justin: Yeah—

Travis: Yeah!

Justin: This is not a casual—

Griffin: Hobby.

Justin: Yes, right. This is not a casual. This is not someone who wants to duck in. Because you—it is not odd to go in and play a few rounds. It is odd to be like, "Well, we're closing up shop for the day, sir. Did you need something?"

Travis: "What time do you open tomorrow?!" You could get your eyebrows shaped.

Griffin: I love a good eyebrow shaping.

Travis: Say like, "Hey, can you—"

Justin: They polish? You can get polishing services, right? You can get polished up.

Griffin: They do all kinds of stuff there, man. It's not just cutting hair.

Travis: Maybe start going in with different designs of beards from The Hunger Games movies?

Griffin: Yeah?

Travis: And just like, "Give me one of these."

Griffin: That's good.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Could you go in—listen. Could you go in when it's busy, really busy, with a toupée, okay?

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: And you put your name in, okay?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And then there's like a long wait, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: So you're just kicking it, playing all the Kong you want.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And then they say your name, and then you've got choice. [titters]
At that point, you can, A, let him cut your toupee.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I don't think that's a good idea. They're gonna be—that, you could throw the toupée on the ground. Say "never again," and then you—

Griffin: Gotcha. Say "gotcha."

Justin: Bust out the door.

Griffin: Yeah. But then you do come back—

Justin: They got you.

Travis: Or—

Griffin: Tomorrow.

Travis: Grab your toupée like you're really mad at the long wait. "Argh! Hua!" [spoofs a ripping sound]

Justin: And pull your own hair out.

Travis: [chuckles]

Justin: Oh, you could do that! Get huffy and be like, "I'll come back when you're less busy!"

Griffin: Yeah. That's cool.

Justin: That's the voice you have.

Griffin: And they'll be like, we're ready for you now. And it's like, "It's the principal—"

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: And then you start throwing barrels!

Justin: "I have to give back to my wife's office!"

Griffin: What do you do—

Justin: "I've got her lunch in my trunk."

Griffin: What—I gotta ask, Juice. You're on the run of your life. You're about to hit that fuckin' Billy Mitchell kill screen. You are about to make history. And then they call—

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And they call your name, you can't be like, "Shut up. Shh! Shut up."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "I need an hour and a half. I'm getting so close to Billy Mitchell's kill screen."

Justin: Now, hold on, wait! If no one clocked you write your name down, no one clock—[chuckles] And when they call your name, you can just look around like, "Huh, nobody? Okay!"

Griffin: "Weird."

Travis: "This is a Mr. Konkey Dong? Is there a Mr. Konkey Dong here?"

Justin: "And then as—like about forty-five minutes in, maybe you start giving like a perfunctory like, "Hah! Oh, man, the wait's really getting out of hand."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Hey, do you guys think, on the opposite end of this question, if when you own a barber shop and you think about getting a Donkey Kong arcade game, that you have like this conversation on the other side with anyone else that you're like, "Okay, but here's my one concern if we get the game—"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "That someone's gonna come in, they're bald, neatly-trimmed beard, they're gonna wanna play the game for hours. What do we do then?"

Griffin: I mean, my bigger concern as a stylist at this salon would be that I don't want to hear every twenty seconds, [sings] Boom-boom, bum-bum-bum-boom-boom, boom-bum-bum-bum! I don't want to hear—[spoofs various arcade machine sounds]. I don't want to hear that fuckin' a million-billion times a day while I'm just trying to do my craft.

Justin: That's a very—that's a good point, actually. It must make a lot of money, because otherwise, it's... the novelty—

Griffin: I love this man, I love this big gorilla, I love Mario, I love the way he jumps.

Justin: Love it.

Griffin: That's not the golden era for hearable sounds. And so, I don't want that. Give me a—now listen—

Justin: [sings] Daytona!

Griffin: [sings] 'Tona! It's on the way!

Travis: Yeah! Hell yeah.

Justin: [sings] Go away! Let's go away!

Griffin: [spoofs guitar sounds] Fuckin' rips, man.

Justin: 'Tona!

Travis: Hell yeah.

Griffin: They had a Daytona USA machine at Huntington High School, and you could hear that shit from the cafeteria. [chuckles] And it was such a cool learning environment.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [sings] 'Go away.' Yeah, the—

Griffin: [sings] Let's go away.

Justin: Yeah, just when you thought the wait for lunch couldn't be any more intolerable, with the siren song off—

Griffin: [spoofs guitar sounds] And also—

Justin: Hey, speaking of—

Griffin: There was a loose ground wire on the machine, so if you touched the right bolt on it, it would electrocute you. Which was also a lot of fun—

Travis: Good times.

Griffin: When you were bored at lunchtime and you didn't have quarters.

Justin: [chuckles and sings] Let's go away.

Griffin: [sings] Let's go away.

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff]

Griffin: Oh, that was effortlessly.

Justin: [continues riffing]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Uah!

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

Travis: Squad!

Griffin: Squad.

Justin: [continues riffing] I want to munch!

Travis and Griffin: Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing] Welcome to Munch Squad, a podcast within a podcast, profiling latest and greatest in brand eating! Today, I have kind of an A-B testing thing for you guys.

Travis: Ooh?

Justin: I do a—we do a lot of upbeat, feel-good stories on the Munch Squad. And I would just—

Travis: We do?

Justin: Yeah, that's mainly what we do here. It's a feel-good thing. And I just wanted to share with you guys two stories. And I would love to know which one makes you feel the worst.

Griffin: Awesome!

Travis: Cool!

Justin: Both emotionally, physically, which one makes you feel worse to—.

Griffin: Great, man.

Travis: Now, I should—I should warn you, Justin—

Justin: Experience.

Travis: This is one of my biggest anxiety triggers, like when I'm at the optometrist, and they're like, "One or two?" Where I start second-guessing myself so hard every time.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: I don't think this is—

Justin: Well, let me say this, it's a loose structure.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: How about that?

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Not really that important.

Travis: But this isn't going to change the way I see forever, or whatever, if I get it wrong?

Griffin: No, you're not gonna get this question wrong and then have headaches forever.

Travis: Okay, cool, man. Cool.

Griffin: It is a high-stakes game, Travis, as a fellow glasses-wearer.

Justin: First up, can you guys see?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Travis: Ha, ooh.

Justin: Smoothie King introduces a new fibermaxxing smoothie, to support wellness goals. Look at this, guys. Just so you—this—how would you describe the shake that you're looking at right now? [chuckles]

Griffin: I would describe—

Travis: This—

Griffin: I would—

Justin: [chuckles] It is—

Griffin: Describe it—

Justin: Colossal!

Griffin: As a Grimace Shake that has been whipped to stiff peaks.

Travis: Yeah, a Grimace Shake who decided to like, "Now that Debbie's left me, I'm gonna get back—I'm gonna get a body that makes Debbie sad that she left me!"

Justin: There's a measuring cup in front of it with something that's supposed to stand in for, I guess—

Griffin: Fiber.

Justin: Pure psyllium husk fiber! And then, if that is at scale, the cup behind it is roughly two feet tall. [chuckles]

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah, you'll be maxing your fiber, for sure.

Travis: What's great too is, on this page, they have, in that image, four blueberries, and what looks to be a gallon of fiber. As if to say like—

Justin: [chuckles] A bunch of spinach.

Travis: "We want to let you know what you're going to be tasting when you drink this drink. It's going to be like a fiber factory that looked at some blueberries earlier. Enjoy!"

Justin: Prepare for a really sinister adjective in this opener. "Smoothie King announced the launch of its new fibermaxxing smoothie. A *functional* offering designed—"

Travis: [cringes] *Auh!*

Justin: "To support good health and meet the growing demand for the wellness-forward food choices." [chuckles] It's a fuck—hey, guys, this is a functional offering!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You are not in it for—

Travis: This is an offering that does something.

Griffin: You're not getting it for the flavor, you're not getting it for the mouth feel. You're getting it—

Justin: Right, this is a you—this is a you—this is a hardware store now. [chuckles] You buy this to do something. This is an active food.

Travis: Can I ask you guys, does it bother you as much as it's bothering me that there's only two Xs in fibermaxxing?

Griffin: It does feel like they've taken a middle—a middle—

Justin: If you do three, it's porno.

Travis: Yes, but—

Griffin: And if you do one, it's not—

Travis: Why not—would it be amazing at that point. Like, it just feels like it should be one X?

Justin: Intentionally increase— "Inspired by the rising wellness trend of fibermaxxing, intentionally increasing daily fiber intake to reach the recommended twenty-five to thirty-eight grams per day—"

Travis: For them powerful shits!

Justin: Just eating that fiber, I guess, is—yeah.

Griffin: [titters]

Justin: "The fibermaxxing smoothie delivers a powerful sixteen grams of fiber in a twenty ounce serving, providing over half the recommended daily—"

Griffin: Are you telling me I gotta drink two of these fuckin' things to even—

Justin: I was gonna say, man!

Griffin: [Make it work??] anymore, dude?

Justin: Can you imagine drinking one of these and being like, "Nope, didn't quite hit my fiber goals for the day!"

Travis: Hey, I'm just throwing this out—

Justin: Jeez-o Pete!

Travis: Do you think it's possible that when people are like, "Hey, here's the daily goal of fiber." And everyone's like, "I have to work so hard to hit that!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: That maybe it's not a reasonable goal.

Griffin: We should lower it. Yeah. Yeah. I've been banging this drum for a while, Trav. If you put the correct amount of Metamucil in there, it becomes a sort of citric oatmeal. And it's not—it's no good.

Justin: Yeah, it's rough. It's rough.

Travis: If in order to get the amount of fiber my body needs, I have to do something called fibermaxxing? [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I have a real issue—

Justin: That's true, Travis, but it's like—

Travis: With the whole process.

Justin: Yeah. Okay, so, just lastly, some ingredients. It's crafted with a nutrient blend of wild blueberries, peanut butter, dates, bananas, almonds, organic spinach.

Griffin: Yuck.

Justin: And I guess they can afford to use wild blueberries if they're only doing four. They can just go out back and grab 'em whenever they have to make one of these guys.

Griffin: Yeah. [chuckles]

Travis: They do throw it—

Justin: And it's lightly—

Travis: Throw in at the end of that list of ingredients, added fiber. Yeah! [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: No shit, dude!

Griffin: No kidding—

Justin: Yeah, man.

Griffin: Man!

Justin: Yeah. The smoothie is lightly sweetened with plant-based stevia, for a naturally delicious taste. Hey, why don't you go ahead and use a heavy hand on that? Like, you know what I mean? Like how about you not—we got a lot of fiber to mask, right? How about we go ahead and—

Travis: Yeah. Hey, you gave me a chunky, silty drink. How about you give me plenty of sugar in there?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. Now, that is one—

Travis: You've given me like the Mississippi Delta of drinks. [chuckles]

Griffin: You've given me whole—purple coal slurry. Yum-yum-yum!

Justin: And now, it's time. Now, it's a... next up, for the B segment, I have a donut story that was too sad to tell Count Donut about.

Griffin: Oh? Good.

Justin: Yeah. Krispy Kreme invites fans to experience a taste of the sweet life, with all new passport to Italy donuts.

Travis: [chupses] Huh...

Justin: Cool.

Griffin: [chupses]

Justin: Hang in there, guys. Krispy Kreme is helping fans transport to "la dolce vita" this summer...

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Fuck! I told myself all I gotta do this, because I feel like I can put my hand on the scale. To "la dolce vita" this summer with its all-new Passport to Italy Collection, a sweet escape to Italy's vibrant deserts and culture.

Griffin: And culture, huh? You're getting the culture in there?

Justin: The culture of Italy is rich!

Griffin: You got the culture up in there? Cool, cool, cool.

Justin: They said culture, that was—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: They said—they wrote it.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You know?

Travis: Why did—they should have put that in quotes. [chuckles] "Culture."

Justin: Available beginning today, for a limited-time at participating Krispy Kreme shops across the US, Krispy Kreme's Passport to Italy Collection features three of Italy's most iconic desserts, re-imagined as irresistible donuts. Including the cannoli-inspired donut. It's an unglazed ring donut, half dipped in chocolate icing and Cookie Crunch, dusted with powdered coating and topped with a cannoli-flavored buttercream dollop.

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: I'm looking at these. There are places all over—

Griffin: How are you looking at these? Because Justin didn't give us a picture. Did you just search these yourself?

Travis: No, I'm looking at the list of 'em.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Travis: I'm saying that there are places all over the US of A where you can buy a cannoli.

Griffin: Yeah, you could get—

Justin: Right!

Travis: Where you could buy a tiramisu.

Justin: Right, but—

Travis: These are not unreachable, like these are not unattainable flavors.

Griffin: But Travis, okay, maybe the—maybe those places can give you the cuisine of Italy, Travis—

Justin: Right, but are they giving you the culture?

Griffin: It's about the culture.

Travis: Holy shit, one of these donuts has a little Italy flag on it, and that's maybe—

Justin: I'd ask that you not get ahead of me.

Travis: Okay, thank you. Sorry.

Justin: The Limone Delight Donut, an unglazed shell donut filled with lemon delight flavored cream. Kreme. Dipped in zesty lemon-flavored icing, and topped with candied lemon.

Griffin: Fucking would. Yes.

Justin: Yeah. Tiramisu Inspired Donut. It's an unglazed shell donut filled with tiramisu flavored Kreme, topped with sweet buttercream and dusted with cocoa.

Griffin: I mean, these all sound pretty—

Justin: Quote—

Griffin: Fucking good, actually.

Justin: Yeah, they do sound good—

Travis: Of course they do! They're pre-existing desserts that are great.
[chuckles]

Griffin: That's a good point.

Justin: Yeah, man. Yeah. Yeah. This—quote, "This summer, Krispy Kreme is transporting you to Italy's sweet life, no passport required," said not Dave Skena, but Alison Holder, Krispy Kreme Chief Brand and Product Officer. They wouldn't even get Dave out of storage for this one!

Griffin: They only get Dave out for the nasty shit. For the—

Justin: There's a taste—

Travis: Wouldn't it be wild—

Griffin: Really nasty shit.

Travis: Wouldn't it be wild if a passport was required? [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Prove you've been to Italy, because otherwise, these flavors—

Travis: "Oh, you wanna buy these donuts? Yeah, of course. Just scan your password face down—"

Griffin: Do you have the—

Travis: "Right there on the glass."

Justin: Yeah. "Oh, you've never been to Italy? Sure, I'll sell you this tiramisu inspired donut. If you want to go fucking insane!"

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: [chuckles]

Griffin: Your mouth couldn't handle this without the—

Justin: You can't handle it!

Griffin: Correct documentation!

Justin: You'll spit it on the ground! [titters] Oh, sorry, she continues, "There's a taste of Italy's sweetest dessert traditions in every bite of our Passport to Italy donuts, from tiramisu to cannoli to lemon, dipped, dusted and drizzled to perfection."

Griffin: The commercial is this. A customer walks up to the counter, buys a box these Passport to Italy donuts, goes to lift it to their mouth. Fucking a haggard Diane Lane runs up and slaps it out of their hand and says, "You're not—you're not fuckin' ready for this shit. Unless you've walked beneath that Tuscan sun, you can't even fathom the depths of these flavors."

Travis: I'm picturing, Justin, one of our listeners, who turns out to be like a big head honcho in Italy, listening to this segment right now with their hand hovering over a big button that just says "war."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] Well, this is—these are out now. You can buy 'em off Krispy Kreme's app, the website—

Travis: Oh—

Justin: Individually and by the dozen.

Griffin: Yeah. One of the two products that you brought today, Juice, would put me in the bathroom for two calendar days. So I'm gonna say that—

Travis: Griffin's been fiberminning his whole life. He's not ready. [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs] I've actually made a pledge, by 2027, to be perfectly fiber-neutral. And I hope that—I hope you—

Travis: [chortles]

Griffin: I hope you two will consider joining me. I consume exact—

Justin: You know what—

Travis: Yeah, actually, for every amount of fiber I go over the limit, Griffin actually gets a certificate that lets him go under. And it balances out and backwards and forwards.

Griffin: Yes. I produce ten times more fiber than I consume.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Guys, do you want to know the worst thing about me? And I know everybody is always too hard on themselves, I guess, and I'm no exception. But the worst thing about me, well, it's top twenty, is I'm sitting here

thinking like... maybe not enough fiber is a problem. You know what I mean? Like I'm sitting here thinking like—

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Maybe I should be getting more fiber.

Travis: That's called—

Justin: You know, like we're all having a lot of fun here, but I'm sitting here like—in my head there's like, most of it's show, and then there's like ten percent that's like—

Griffin: I hate when that ten percent is like—

Justin: Fuck, thirty grams of fiber? Fuck, you're not getting—

Griffin: There's no way—

Travis: That's called capitalism. Where you've been programmed—

Justin: Are you having any fiber?

Travis: You've been programmed to think that buying something will make you feel better.

Griffin: Well, I think fiber is—

Justin: That's what the—why we do it, though, right? That's what the whole—

Travis: That's why they up—they keep upping the fiber and selling us the fiber!

Griffin: Justin—

Travis: Big fibers' out here!

Griffin: Juice, can I invite you to come with me on my journey of self-discovery? To learn what makes your body tick, by covering your back with seventy-eight really annoying little stickers. And then one of 'em will come off and it'll be like, "Yeah, man, it's your potassium levels." And then you take a potassium supplement, and then you're back at fucking a hundred percent.

Justin: If I get—

Travis: Wait, you could do that? Because that's all I want. When you see in like a sci-fi movie and someone gets scammed, and they're like—

Justin: [spoofs a scanning sound] *Prrr*.

Travis: "We've scanned everything. Here's a—"

Griffin: We don't have that technology! You know what we do have? Seventy-eight stickers to let you know which detergents you shouldn't use.

Justin: Now, I assume—

Griffin: Don't mind if I do.

Justin: If I get this test done, I assume I am legally required to tell my brothers during a podcast recording about it.

Travis: Correct—

Griffin: If you move your back—

Travis: Just like a vasectomy. It's vasectomy—

Griffin: If you move your back all weird—

Travis: And stickers!

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You have to talk about it.

Griffin: Anytime any of us gets any kind of bio mods, any kind of synth hacks, any kind of augs, I do think we should be transparent about it with each other and our listeners.

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah, I—okay, well, then, fine. Just before we close here, my hemorrhoids got so bad that I went to get medicine. And then when I picked up the medicine, they said, "They're a dollar a piece. Do you want all ten?"

Travis: Huh.

Justin: And I said, "Yeah, sure," right? So then I got home, and I looked at the shape of the medicine. And then I realized that it wasn't mouth medicine.

Travis: Oh...

Justin: And ever since then, I real—ever since I got that container, I've spent most of my time just kind of like slowly walking around and looking in the distance contemplatively, trying to weigh the various costs. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: Like thinking about how much relief is worth to me.

Travis: Not the cost of a dollar a pill.

Justin: No, that's not—

Griffin: For the cost of a dollar a pill—

Justin: Literally.

Griffin: We could put a suppository in Justin's butt. [chuckles]

Travis: With your support in the MaxFunDrive, we can put suppository in—
[chuckles] for just a dollar a day.

Justin: That's why—that's why the thing my kids have heard me say the most this week has been, "Ah, nothing, sweetie, just thinking."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [chortles]

Justin: "Oh, was I crying, babe? Hold on, let me try those tears, baby. No, I... it's just allergies. Yeah, Uncle Griffin did, all seventy-eight turned red, babe. That's what they told him. That's what they said."

Griffin: "He's allergic to everything."

Justin: Everything.

Travis: It turns out—

Justin: Hey, thanks for—

Travis: All of his allergies have been like awkwardly leaning against each other to hold him up this whole time.

Griffin: A mesh. A mesh of allergies.

Justin: Thanks so much for listening to our podcast. We hope you've enjoyed yourself. We really appreciate you, every week, coming to listen to us and hang out with us. And we hope you had fun.

Travis: Yeah, man!

Justin: That's the whole point of doing it. Thanks. Thanks.

Travis: Hey—

Griffin: If—

Travis: Can I tell you, I'm very excited. Coming up, we're going to be in Atlanta for Dragon Con, which I'm excited about, because I love Dragon Con. And we're going to be doing live shows there, doing a My Brother, My Brother and Me, and Adventure Zone Versus Popeye at our Adventure Zone live show. I predict might be our stupidest Adventure Zone Versus live show yet.

Griffin: You can't even possibly predict that.

Justin: You can't even...

Griffin: They've all been pretty—

Justin: It's impossible to quantify.

Griffin: Pretty silly.

Travis: I'm just saying, everyone should be there, because it's gonna be something! It's gonna—

Griffin: How do I get—

Travis: Be something.

Griffin: How do I get tickets to those—to that show and MBMBaM, and also the shows we have coming up in Texas, Utah and California, Travis?

Travis: Griffin, you don't have to get tickets, you're in the show—

Griffin: It's bit.ly/mcelroytours! You were too slow. We have merch up at the merch store, over at mcelroymerch.com. I'm talking about a "Keep Your Grades Up" pin, and the Flaming, Not Poisoning, Raging Tea of Doom, which are... they're back in stock! That's fucking amazing news.

Justin: Whew.

Griffin: This tea is so fantastic, guys. The pin is wonderful, too, but I drank buckets of this stuff. And it's a yummy way to wind down at the end of the day.

Travis: I also wanna let you know, we're doing a back to school sale, with select items up to forty percent off. And we have three different back to school bundles that are on sale, so go check those out. And you get a free mystery pin with purchases of thirty dollars or more. With ten percent of all merch proceeds this month going to World Central Kitchen.

Griffin: So again, that's mcelroymerch.com. And thanks to Montaigne for the use of our theme song, My Life Is Better With You. Check out Montaigne's new album, it's hard to be a fish, if you like good music that makes you feel good and feel cool listening to it.

Travis: Hey, Justin, would you read our Fear this week?

Justin: I'd be happy to. "This year, I will be faster than my fear of the Goodyear blimps."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: To the point. I'm 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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