

MBMBaM 777: Preparation Hoops

Published on August 25th, 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. It's an advice show for the modren era, and I'm the oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

Travis: I'm your middlest brother, Trav Nation, period.

Griffin: I'm your sweet baby brother, 30 Under 30, media luminary, Griffin McElroy. Cha-ching! Cha-ching!

Travis: What?

Griffin: You've hit the—you hit the jackpot!

[slot machine sounds play]

Griffin: On this, episode seven-seven-seven. It's your lucky day, pal, because we're about to—what's wrong, Trav?

Travis: I was just thinking for this one, maybe we could try doing like a really professional, right down the middle, this is—

Griffin: Oh, man.

Travis: Like we've always said, this isn't your daddy's podcast, but this would be your daddy's podcast.

Griffin: We never really—

Justin: But we have a tag? We have a tag this time. We can talk about seven-seven-seven, that's something.

Griffin: Yeah, and we never get to do like numerology stuff—

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Because we forget. But this one seems like it writes itself. Like, we won't have to go—Trav come over here.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Because I don't want them to hear.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: We won't have to come up with as many jokes, if we can lean on our sort of numerology.

Travis: Okay, can we do it in like a professional, mature way, do you think?

Griffin: I don't understand why this is the time—this is the time and the moment for—

Justin: Let's speak on—

Griffin: Save that for seven-seven-eight! That's a great angle for seven-seven-eight—

Justin: Yeah, let's—

Griffin: When we don't have the numbers.

Justin: Let's speak on the—

Travis: Oh, and for seventy-nine, we can talk about how that's why nine is afraid of—

Griffin: Six is afraid of seven, we love that.

Travis: Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: We'll get the joke right when we—

Justin: Seventy-nine will actually be funny. That will be good. [chuckles]

Travis: Okay, great.

Griffin: Because it's another number, one, and there's less—

Justin: That's one we don't have to come up with.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: I was curious if the last time these like beautiful sevens had lined up, was, of course, we all remember episode seventy-seven.

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Which was called...

Travis: The lucky one.

Justin: The Whole Shebang, and that was from 2011. And I was curious if we had done some like... some stuff about seven stuff. [chuckles] Like, I just didn't want to retread.

Travis: Well, okay, look—

Griffin: Well, two is not as—two is not as exciting.

Travis: Yeah, look back to episode seven. Did we talk about the movie Seven a lot, and like what's in the box?

Justin: So, in seventy-seven, we said, "Cut a hole in some sheets. Cut a holes in a sheet. Candy and apple. Bob it and get ready. It's H time."

Travis: Okay?

Justin: [chuckles] So, I don't think it was about—

Griffin: [chuckles] I'm not a hundred percent sure—

Justin: But do you—but can I—but I'm using this to make a point. I actually, I brought this out because I was hoping we said something about seven. But like, I do want to make a point. This was fourteen fucking years ago, and we are still just grasping for *anything* to talk about in the first five minutes of the show!

Griffin: It's funny, I'm looking at the transcript for episode seven right now, and let me see... "What about men's rights? No one ever talks about men's rights."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah. Well, we were groundbreaking at that point.

Griffin: Yeah, we were the first ones talking about—talking about men's rights, back in 2010.

Justin: No one even thought about our rights.

Travis: I'm more interested now in men's wrongs, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, there's been—men's lefts.

Travis: What?

Griffin: I need them to—I need them to.

Travis: Yeah! Men at work? I doubt it.

Griffin: I need them—I need—I need the men's to have lefts.

Travis: [chuckles] Oh-ho-ho!

Griffin: And so, in episode seven thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, we're gonna look back on this a hundred and forty years in the future and be like, "What the fuck does that even mean, men's lefts?"

Travis: Yeah. Well, by then, all the men will be gone.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Let's hope. I had a brief update for everybody, about my hemorrhoids.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: I did notice this week—

Travis: Justin, please, herroids.

Justin: Herroids, thank you, we're erasing. [titters]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: So, I—that video popped up this week, we just happened to pop up the video about me debating whether or not I was going to use suppositories on my hemorrhoids. And I do have to—when you do a show like ours, it's very much a stream of consciousness. There is a sort of walk of shame that happens when you see that pop up and you're like, "Ah, Justin..."

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: "Did you?!"

Griffin: We don't pick the clips, we should make it clear, the three of us don't. Our wonderful like video team and social folks help figure that out for us, which is great, because that means less that I have to listen to the show. The choice sometimes to put you and your butt wounds, specifically to lift that up in front—

Justin: I think it's interaction.

Travis: I think—

Griffin: Of the algo.

Travis: I think the incorrect ass-umption they make, ha-ha-ha, is that Justin wouldn't bring it up on the show unless it was a choice he was making, that he was proud of and wanted to be surfaced. And I—

Griffin: No, this is jazz.

Justin: Once the record button has been pressed—

Travis: It's a fugue.

Justin: I have to talk for an hour.

Travis: Yeah, it's a fugue state!

Justin: That's it!

Travis: Especially the last fifteen minutes, there's no accountability.

Justin: Ah! And the first five minutes, as we've demonstrated.

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: Yeah, the first five minutes and the last fifteen, there should be no accountability—

Justin: No accountability.

Travis: For the very private things we discuss.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, I did do—I did get them, I—not on purpose, but I did call them into a pharmacy out in [redacted].

Travis: Oh?

Justin: So like, I was like way out. I did not need to be spotted.

Griffin: That's where Dustin Gackleroy gets his pills.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: When he needs a little bit of discretion.

Travis: To be fair, he's extreme and loves putting pills up his butt.

Justin: "Good evening! My name is Marcel Sweet Cheeks, and I believe you have a prescription for my collection?"

Griffin: [chuckles] "And I am not sittin' pretty!"

Justin: "Donut ask me to take a seat, without my hemorrhoid donut." So, I go into [redacted]. Damn it, I shouldn't have said—[titters] Rachel, edit out the specific pharmacy where I got my hemorrhoid prescription.

Travis: No one would have known that was the name of an actual place if you hadn't said it.

Justin: I know! That's why I gotta cut it out. So—

Travis: But if you hadn't said it, it sounded like you forgot—

Justin: Stop! This is edited!

Travis: The word pharmacy.

Justin: This is edited.

Travis: It's not edited.

Justin: So, I go to the pharmacy, I go—I go to the pharmacy, I get a—I don't want people to know where the pharmacy I go to! Okay, whatever. There's probably not that many pharmacies in [redacted]. Anyway.

Griffin: That's true.

Justin: So, I get the suppositories. They look like the ends of number two pencils.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Like the top inch and a half of a number two pencil.

Griffin: The writing end, or the—

Justin: This writing end! But we're good with that, because we do want, well...

Griffin: A tapered experience. [chuckles]

Justin: A taper is welcome. USA, tapers welcome. So—

Travis: But no flare? No flare at the bottom of this one?

Justin: But no flare. No flare at the bottom of this one. So, it's like, it's a bullet. It's a bullet, it's a bullet. It's a butt bullet, so—

Griffin: That's how people, I hope, describe our show. A fine-tapered experience, for easy—

Travis: No flare.

Griffin: Insertion. [titters] No flare.

Justin: It will come as a surprise to you folks at home, I have a physician living in the house with me. So, I asked her, I said, "So like, what... what do I do?" And she said, "I mean, you just..."

Griffin: Go.

Justin: [smacks lips]

Travis: Yeah, it's a pretty—it seems a pretty one-step process to me, J-Man?

Griffin: Yeah, Trav—

Justin: Okay, that's cool, Trav. Remember that—

Griffin: Round peg, round hole.

Justin: No, no, no, no, hold on! Griffin, you go ahead with yours.

Griffin: Round peg, round hole.

Justin: Okay, thank you.

Griffin: Easy.

Justin: Easy. And that's what she says to me, easy. So, I don't do it, for a while, and—

Griffin: Did she say, "Is it tapered, for your comfort?"

Justin: She didn't even ask. I just told you the entirety of the conversation, and that will become important soon.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: So, she says yes—

Griffin: Can we skip over the part—if you do put it in your butt, can we like tastefully just—I'm not on Travis' like grown-up beat.

Travis: Like, can we cut to the windows with curtains blowing, and then come back?

Griffin: Give us this story from Syd's POV, so we don't—

Justin: I literally can't! Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah! I will! I will! Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah! Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah!

Griffin: Thank you, thank you. Tasteful editing, that's all I'm asking.

Justin: I will. So...

[transition music plays]

Justin: A random morning, that had no real significance to me, Sydnee McElroy. I'm in the kitchen, taking care of our children—

Travis: Is there a bird outside the window? How's the sunrise?

Justin: Getting them ready for school in the morning, right? I'm working hard and I'm getting my kids ready for school. There is an announcement throughout the speaker on the home speaker system, and it sounds like this. "Syd, come to the bathroom, please. I need your help."

Griffin: Jesus, man...

Justin: When Sydnee comes to the bathroom, she finds me, Justin McElroy, with my pants around my ankles, laying on the floor, sweating, as though I've just been drenched in a bucket of mop water. And trying to—

Travis: Like a weird ice bucket challenge.

Justin: Trying to rend the shirt from my chest so I could breathe again. That's what Sydnee walks into. So, here's the thing about putting in a suppository.

Travis: Yeah, go off, king.

Justin: You should—you should not do it standing up.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: Yeah, that's not the way, yeah.

Justin: Because if you do it standing up, you can press a thing, or do it—this can happen regardless. But the reason we don't do it standing up, is while the suppository is going in, you can, Sydnee called it vagaling. And basically—

Travis: Huh!

Justin: You press the wrong tube in there, and you basically explode your whole—your blood pressure gets fucked up, you can't stand, you burst into a sweat, and you basically have to lie down on the ground because you think you're going to die.

Travis: Yeah?

Justin: From putting the pill in your butt wrong!

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: So—

Justin: Your wife said you couldn't do it wrong! She said, "Just pop it in there!" She did not say lube it up. She did not say lay down. She said, "Just pop it!"

Griffin: She didn't say mind the vagaling.

Justin: She didn't say, "Mind the vagaling, because you could fucking die, Hoops!"

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Do you think you're stronger now than you were before?

Justin: She remembered the conversation exactly. When she walked in the bathroom, she knew. She knew what she had done.

Travis: Justin! Justin!

Griffin: She was like, "Oh, the vagaling. "

Justin: The expression—

Travis: When she heard the announcement on the Alexa, she knew.

Justin: She was like, she was like, "Oh my god, he vaged." "

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "Oh my god, he vaged. My sweet boy." She thought she was gonna walk into a big pile of blood, you know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, Justin...

Griffin: Now I have to Google vagaling.

Travis: Justin?

Justin: So, yeah.

Travis: The good news, now you have this—if like when someone talks about like how hard childbirth is, you can be like, "Well, I put a suppository up my butt wrong, so I understand like ten percent of it."

Justin: Here's the only thing I'll say about the suppository. This is the tip for the future. This is the only challenge with it. It's not putting it up there. It's that there is a certain point where your body says, "I will take it from here."

Griffin: [titters] Sure.

Justin: And you don't know exactly what that point is. And if you guess it wrong, your body's like, "No, no!"

Griffin: Yeah, no.

Justin: But at a certain point, your body's like, "Yes. Now it is inside me. I will take it from here."

Griffin: You gotta trust the peristaltic foreman inside your body that's like, "Oh, all right, boys, back it up!"

Justin: "This is what we practiced for, guys! Let's do it! Just like I told ya! This is why we train, guys! This is why we train!"

Griffin: Esophagus is like, "We heard it was medicine time. We're ready and raring to go."

"Don't worry, boys, take the day off."

Justin: "We've got this round." It's easier to teach—it's easier to teach an anus to dissolve a pill, than it is to teach an esophagus to cure hemorrhoids. It's like the Armageddon thing, you see?

Griffin: Right, yeah.

Travis: Do you think, when that happens, the foreman of your butt hole feels like when a defensive tackle gets an interception and runs it in for a touchdown? And he's like, "I never get to do this!"

Griffin: Just like clumsily, thump-thump-thump.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, "Medicine? What a treat!"

Justin: It was a presence, too. There's a—you're aware of a presence.

Griffin: The Lord, it sounds like, because you had an NDE on your bathroom floor.

Justin: Holy crap, though, but can I tell you guys?

Travis: Please!

Justin: The combination of—[laughs] the combination of learning that I was not dying—

Griffin: Yeah, stoked.

Justin: And learning that I... my wife had messed up in a way where I was right about something and she was wrong.

Griffin: A medical thing!

Justin: A medical doctor, *and* I no longer had pain in my anus? I could have lifted a fucking truck, guys!

Travis: Hell yeah, dude.

Justin: I was invulnerable that day, dude!

Griffin: Yeah, sure, man.

Justin: I was right! Do you know how rarely Sydnee messes up? It's like never. So, I had that. My butt didn't hurt at all.

Travis: Once is seven hundred and seventy-seven episodes.

Justin: Yeah, this is a first. And like, I got a brand-new shirt on because I sweated through the last one, that's kind of like a—

Griffin: That feels good.

Justin: Null... it's like null. But like a clean shirt, like, I was—

Griffin: It feels nice!

Justin: It was feeling really good for the rest of the day. Until I realized—

Travis: Justin, do you know what you—

Justin: I would have to tell you guys about it.

Travis: You know what you got, Justin? Triple seven jackpot, baby.

[slot machine sounds play]

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah, baby!

Griffin: That is a triple seven, baby.

Justin: That's the kind of promise that we're making you on this episode. Everything's coming up—you, the listener.

Griffin: I also don't know if you've noticed, but the video that we did post of you talking about your hemorrhoids did get some actual interaction, I believe on TikTok, with the Preparation H account. This is a brand partnership that I think we've all been waiting for, Preparation Hoops special.

Travis: Oh my god.

Griffin: It'll be like... it'll be like the McDonald's meals where it's like, "I'm Travis Scott, and this is how I fuck around."

Travis: Oh, like a Shaq-a-Roni pizza?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Dude, I would be such a good spokesperson for Preparation H. Just clip this out, y'all, you can use it for free. Hi, it's Justin McElroy. When I'm packing a bag for travel, here's my rule. The first thing should be—you pack should be the last thing you'd ever wanna ask for. That's why Preparation H is the first thing in every bag I have. I probably have seven tubes of it just lying around, like a smoker who swears they're gonna quit soon, man. I got Preparation H all over this place. I'd be dead without it.

Griffin: Dead dropped.

Travis: Justin has it in the lining of his suitcase like a smuggler. [titters]

Justin: Click my link below to head on to the shop, to use my special code to get the package with my face on it.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: And it'll come to you from China. I don't know why they're doing that. I asked them to not do that. [chuckles]

Griffin: [titters] I think you could offer—this SKU could really stand out on a store shelf if you didn't have to go to the pharmacy and say like, "Let me get some Preparation H for my ruined bung." And instead, you could just walk up and be like, "Let me get some of that Hoops Goop!"

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: And they'd be like, "I don't know what that is—"

Justin: I like.

Griffin: "Slide me some Hoops Goop."

Travis: And listed as like performance enhancer.

Griffin: Performance enhancer, yeah—yes.

Justin: Maybe all—maybe this is kind of like the coke thing, where you like give a buddy a Coke, give a pal a Coke.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Maybe the H could stand for something different on each of the packaging. So like mine could be like Preparation Hoops, but you could be like, Preparation Hug, or like Preparation Helping. You know what I mean? Like every pack—

Travis: Preparation Hemorrhoid!

Justin: Well, see, that is what it—

Griffin: [chuckles] I think that's maybe—

Justin: Might be what it—

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: What it—

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, I see it now.

Justin: That has been my suspicion from the beginning, yeah. "I started a new job a little over a month ago. I really like the job, but I have made a huge whoopsie. This morning, I used the microwave to warm up my breakfast. However, when I pushed in the lever to open the door, it wouldn't open, no matter how hard I pushed the lever or pulled the door. I assumed it was broken, and I pried the door open with my hands and a pocket-knife. Only after I destroyed this poor microwave, did I see the button that said 'lock/unlock.' Nobody saw what happened." [titters]

Griffin: That's really, really, really rough, man.

Justin: "Nobody saw what happened. A lead walked by afterwards, and I said, 'Hey, this microwave is broken.' He looks at the damage and says, 'Oh, man, they're gonna be mad. This thing was brand new.' This happened first thing in the morning, so they're blaming night shift. Dear brothers, what do I do?" That's from Microscrewed in SoCal.

Travis: First, can I compliment you? I want to give big props to you for using the passive voice of, "This microwave is broken."

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: "It has become broken."

Travis: That was a good first step.

Griffin: That's strong—

Justin: [spoofing Yoda] "Broken, this microwave is."

Travis: [chuckles] Oh!

Griffin: [chuckles] Don't, Justin, please.

Justin: Sorry.

Griffin: Please don't conjure him. Yeah, man, you stabbed a—[chuckles] if the knife hadn't been part of it, if you had just like broken it a little bit and like—

Justin: Certainly not the knife.

Griffin: Yeah, if you had been like, "The door got weird, and I don't think it's working anymore," you have plausible deniability. If you insert a blade into this thing, you can't say that's unrelated.

Justin: If you—if you're a—if you're a knife person, everything looks like something that can get stabbed with a knife. The problem is, I see—I see

knife as like an extension of me. So, I don't really think of it as an escalation, so much as it is my like claws or ink sack.

Travis: Yes. Yes, it's what you would use!

Justin: You know what I mean? It's a natural—I always have it, so it doesn't—like I don't think the TSA should be able to take my knife.

Travis: No, you're a knife guy.

Justin: Because this is my knife! This is my knife.

Griffin: Well, it's also, Justin, I have to say, the smallest knife I've ever seen.

Justin: Exactly! I just want a little bit of a knife. I just need that much knife.

Travis: Yeah, he's not out there hunting crocodiles, Griffin?

Griffin: Yeah, he wants a treat, a little knife.

Travis: Now, here's—I think what this is, too, is a perfect encapsulation of new job panic when something goes wrong.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Because the fact that you went to stab, and I'm going to assume here because you didn't clarify, a plugged in microwave with a knife, that you weren't thinking about best-case scenario. You were thinking about, "How do I get away from this as quickly as possible, before anyone in the office clocks that I have broken the microwave with a breakfast sandwich?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Because if I'm at home and my breakfast sandwich gets stuck in the microwave, I'm like, well, time will fix this. And I walk away.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: All right, I'm just gonna pop off then, if we're not—if nobody's gonna talk about it.

Griffin: Go, king!

Justin: Microwaves are horrible.

Travis: Oh?

Griffin: Thank you so much, Justin! This is exactly where I wanted it to go.

Justin: Microwaves are designed by maniacs for no one, okay? Here's the thing about microwaves, right?

Travis: Say it.

Justin: You wanna defrost. You wanna cook. You wanna—

Griffin: That's it.

Justin: That's it. There's cook it hot, cook it not as hot, two things. And then how long I wanna do it. That's it. The fact that these fuckin' things all have a popcorn button, and everyone universally knows, don't fuck—don't press that.

Griffin: You'll fuck it up real bad! It'll burn real bad.

Justin: Don't press the popcorn button if you're making popcorn.

Griffin: I love it. Can you imagine, if you rolled up to a stove top in a kitchen and it was like, "Hey, we would love to give you selections for the heat and how high you want the heat to go. Instead, we have one big button that says 'fish' on it. And so—"

Justin: Imagine you're making stovetop—

Griffin: "If you were hoping to do that—"

Justin: Imagine you're making stovetop stuffing on the top of your stove. And your mom comes in and she's like, "No, god!" It's like, "What, Mom? It's stovetop stuffing?"

"Yeah, but you don't make it on the top of the stove? Not stovetop stuffing." That's the popcorn button. That's microwaves. That's where we're at.

Griffin: Yeah. It's terrible interface design. And anyone, anyone could fix it.

Justin: There's three things I ever wanna do with this box. Why are you asking—the weight is what kills me. You think I'm gonna trust you, the microwave, I'm gonna tell you I have a pound and a half a chicken, and you're gonna be like, "Hm, well, let me see—" Fuck you! How about this? How about I—

Griffin: Carry the one—

Justin: Carry the one!

Griffin: Decimal point.

Justin: How about this? How about every fifteen seconds, I open it to see if you burned it yet, idiot! Because that's what I do, every single time!

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Justin: I'm not gonna trust you with this?!

Travis: I assume that the lock/unlock button is a safety feature to keep like kids from climbing into it, I guess? Like—

Griffin: Little, tiny microwave-sized kids, yeah, for sure. That's probably an option.

Justin: You shouldn't lock it!

Travis: Yeah, I'm trying to figure out a scenario in which you're like, "This is my microwave safe."

Justin: Is it a—is it an unlock so you can open it while it's running? Is that the—is this—is this the feature? It's like, "Well, if you're sure, I guess you're an adult. Go for it, man. Unlock it. See what happens."

Travis: I think you did him a favor.

Griffin: Yeah, getting rid of this shitty microwave. This is sort—

Justin: You know what? Good call. It's definitely under warranty, though.
[chuckles]

Griffin: This is sort of a trolley problem for me, where I need to know how many people are on the night shift.

Travis: And is there a real stinker among 'em.

Griffin: That is—well, that changes the math, I guess, a little bit. But I'm mostly thinking in terms of like, what share of the guilt are these people gonna carry? If it's three people, that's too much, and I think that you're like, those three people are gonna be looked at very suspiciously. If it's like five, six, seven folks, they can carry the weight of a microwave mystery amongst them. As long as there can be some doubt.

Justin: I will say, also, it's—next time... next time, don't jump to a levering action. Perhaps an unscrewing or a deeper examination with the knife. If you have a multi tool, maybe the world's smallest screwdriver. And you see if you could do that a bit. Levering is almost always, you know you are going to break it. Like the idea is like, it will break before you do, so—

Griffin: Of all the simple—of all the simple machines—

Justin: Simple. Right.

Griffin: It is the one that can do certainly the most harm to a consumer product.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: I think it would be wild to have a microwave that's designed to be like, you can either push the button to open it, or wedge something in the door—

Justin: Yeah, and you can hammer it—

Travis: And kind of crack it open—

Griffin: Of indeterminate width!

Travis: Either one works!

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You can either—you get a railroad spike and a gandy dancer to come over and freaking pound it in for you.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Or you can press the lock/unlock button.

Travis: Either one.

Justin: The lock/unlock button is still bothering me, because like, there is a state called on and off for this thing. And if it is on, this—do not open!

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Should not be able to open! That should be as locked as it gets.

Griffin: Yeah, it shouldn't be on and unlocked. Those are two binary states that should never overlap.

Justin: You're basically turning it into a display case at that point.
[chuckles] Like, "I want to—I don't want to cook anything in it, but I don't anybody to steal it. Like, I just want to keep it in here and hot."

Griffin: Is that it? Is it an anti-theft mechanism? Because what are you going to do, use a locked microwave?

Justin: Is it for like—

Griffin: It's useless.

Justin: You know, it could—

Travis: You wouldn't download a boat. What?

Griffin: Yeah. For sure, man. [chuckles]

Justin: Whenever I make Cooper breakfast corn dog, though, she is like ready and raring to rip that out of there, and she will burn a mouth on it if she's hungry enough.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Maybe that's it.

Griffin: Well, a corn dog is a—is a burning food.

Justin: A breakfast corn dog.

Griffin: A breakfast corn dog is still the same concept and sort of molecular structure. It's a hot—it's a lava-hot core inside of a sort of obfuscating shell. Another question?

Justin: "Whenever I order pasta at an Italian restaurant, the server always comes around with fresh parmesan and says, 'Tell me when to stop.' The problem is, I want an ungodly amount of parm on my pasta. I'll sit there watching them great for what feels like forever, and at some point, I feel like the server gets uncomfortable, and I worry they'll just stop without me

saying anything. Brothers, how do I politely tell the server to 'stop when I tell you to stop?'" And that's from passionate parm lover. Okay. Okay. The first thing I do want to say is, we don't need you guys to explain to us everyday occurrences. So like, if you were to—like we know when you go to an Italian restaurant and someone grates the parmesan, you don't have—that's not something that happens special at your local spot.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Or like... a quirky thing that you like.

Griffin: "I go to the factory where the spaghetti is made! Thank you very much. They do it a little different here."

Justin: So, we do know about that. So you could just say like, "When he's grating it up," like I'll know. [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah.

Justin: You know?

Griffin: We'll understand.

Justin: We'll get it.

Griffin: Just trust that we'll get that.

Justin: Yeah, we'll get it. Because we all—we all think about this. I think what he is wanting—what the server is wanting you to balance is your desire for cheese with your discomfort from taking more cheese than you are deserved.

Griffin: That's interesting.

Justin: Like that you are owed. Because you should know, obviously, it's not your cheese. So, there is an inbuilt guilt.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: And the waiter is asking, "What's your limit for discomfort in taking my cheese?"

Travis: This is, I think, if I were to ever open an Italian restaurant, first, it would be terrible, don't eat there. But second—

Griffin: It would not be good, man.

Travis: It would be bad, I don't—one, I don't know anything about running a restaurant. Two, I don't know like how to make food, so... But I would have a rule of like, if you grate more than ten seconds, it becomes a side, and there will be an upcharge for it. You can do it!

Griffin: Interesting, yeah.

Travis: But at this point, you've now added a new element to the pasta—is now an ingredient. It's a side.

Griffin: Mine would be, I would make the server move the grinder all around, and so you have to move the pasta bowl underneath it to try and catch—to catch all of it. And if you drop too much on the table, it ends. The game ends.

Travis: What would you guys think about this move?

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: Let me take the helm.

Justin: What were we talking about? Sorry, what were we—

Griffin: Parmesan.

Travis: Parmesan cheese.

Justin: Okay. Oh, okay! Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Travis: What would you think about this move? "Why don't you let me take the helm. Let me take the stick on this one."

Griffin: Oh, grab it.

Justin: Oh!

Travis: No, you don't grab it! You don't grab it, Griffin. We don't—we don't—

Griffin: You grab their hands.

Travis: Grab. But you say, "I'll do the cranking. Let me crank it." Right? Because my worry would be, whatever—whether it's a grating motion or a cranking motion, their arms are gonna get tired if you get the amount of parm that you want. Right? But you say, "Let me do it."

Griffin: You're doin' 'em a favor.

Travis: "You tell me when to stop." [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, I like it—you say, "I like it chunky. I like a chunky grind."

Justin: It's not the—it's not the grinding they mind, it's the fact that they have to walk back to the kitchen.

Travis: To get more?

Justin: Once this cheese is done, they have to go get more. So, every nanosecond of cheese you're getting is condemning this person to walking back sooner. Like you're giving them a chore, right? That's the balance. You're balancing that with how much delicious, salty, zesty parmesan you want. And it may be a lot!

Griffin: Yeah, that's gonna make the pasta taste—

Justin: That fine.

Griffin: It's gonna make the pasta taste s so good.

Justin: So good. [laughs]

Travis: What about a pre-tip? What about a pre-tip? Where you're like—

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: "Listen, I'm—you're gonna grate, and you're gonna be grating so long that you're gonna think I've forgotten to tell you to stop. But my friend Jackson here is gonna get added to the tip if you just keep going until I tell you to stop."

Justin: The problem is—with that is, if I realize that someone is doing a protracted bit with a server like that—and that's what It feels like to me. It doesn't feel like there—it's not a common courtesy, because courtesy would be just having enough cheese, right? We waved bye-bye to courtesy.

Griffin: Yeah, a normal amount.

Justin: You're not being courteous by saying like, just for courtesy's sake, "I'm a total... it's the dog in me, and I will just go ahead and eat all the crummy cheese you have. And like—"

Griffin: To be polite—

Justin: "I'll buy my—and I might—just to be a gentleman up front, I might bite your hand if you take the cheese away, because I love the cheesy, if you know what I mean." [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Okay, then just call ahead before you get there and say, "Hey, is it okay if I bring my own grater and parmesan with me? I don't want to use up your guys' parmesan, and I know I've got that dog in me when it comes to the grated cheese."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "So, I'll bring my own from home. And if there's any left over, and anyone around me, even at other tables, wants some, I'll take care of that too. I'm not trying to be greedy."

Griffin: Do you offer a sort of 401k parmesan matching program?

Travis: Oh, good call.

Griffin: Where you will, however much I bring, you also will add to the dish, because I can't get enough of this fuckin' salty stuff.

Travis: A lot of restaurants will have corking fees where you could bring your own bottle of wine.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: And you just have to pay to like open and drink it. They should have that with cheeses.

Griffin: Yeah, that's cool. You could also do, I really like the useful hack of, whenever I get a haircut that looks good, I'll take a picture of it so I can show the barber next time. Maybe when you get an ideal cheese pour, you take a picture of that. And when someone says, "Tell me when to stop," you can be like, "Up-up-up-up-up! Just this much, please. This is the perfect amount. My boy Tony hooked me up last time I was here, are you gonna play ball, or what's up?"

Travis: Okay, when I open my own Italian restaurant—

Justin: "I've had some trouble in the past with some of your less generous coworkers." [chuckles]

Griffin: "Gotten some look—someone looky loos I didn't appreciate."

Justin: "A little bit of static!"

Travis: When I open my own Italian restaurant, we will have a cheesing fee—

Justin: Paint—hey, Trav?

Travis: Where you—

Justin: Paint a scene for me.

Travis: We can—first of all, it's not good. It's being run very poorly. It's either overstaffed or understaffed at any given time. I can't—I can't seem to find the right amount of people to have.

Justin: Right.

Travis: But we will have a cheesing fee, where, for a fee, you can bring any cheese or cheese-flavored thing you want to put on your pasta, no judgment. You want to come and crunch up some Cheetos over your pasta?

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: It's yours, man. Do it. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, the chef—they should bring the chef out to watch you do it, though.

Travis: Yeah, that's what the fee includes.

Griffin: And just be like, "Ah, man... Ah, gosh..." Counseling for the poor chef.

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: If you gave—if they said, "I'll stop when you say when," if you gave them like one little look and was just like, "That's great, but fair warning, I got that dog in me." And a little bit of a wait—

Griffin: I think that's—

Justin: Would that get you thrown out? [titters] Or do you think you'd just get a lot of cheese?

Travis: My—I said the same thing—

Griffin: I think they like it! I think it's funny.

Travis: I said the same thing, but you're paying them money for it, Justin. You're doing—your version is, do it—

Griffin: Yeah—

Travis: But wink at them.

Griffin: Tipping is—

Justin: Do it, but like—

Griffin: Tipping is so uncomfortable, though.

Justin: It makes it dirty, offering the—[titters]

Griffin: It's a bribe—

Travis: [yells out] Yours had a wink in it!

Griffin: It's not a tip, it's a bribe.

Travis: Yours had a wink in it, Justin!

Justin: The money makes it dirty. The joke makes it—[chuckles] the joke makes it dirty, Travis.

Griffin: The joke and the money makes it dirty, and the dirty bribe. And I think they should get paid, but I think they'll also just—

Justin: We should pay servers a living wage. Thank you. Yes.

Griffin: We should pay servers a living wage, brave and bold.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Thank you.

Griffin: Can we go to the Money Zone? Because I also think we should get paid.

Travis: I love getting paid.

Griffin: Great!

[theme music plays]

Travis: I got a new kitty!

Justin: Yeah!

Griffin: Yeah, you did!

Travis: She's two months old. Her name is Jasmine. We've had her for about three days. She's great, and I love her.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I'm looking forward—

Griffin: I'm on the—I'm still undecided! But it takes me a while sometimes.

Travis: You're undecided on whether you love my kitty or not?

Griffin: Sweet, pretty kitty, but like, there's a lot of time for the—for the apple cart to spoil, if you know what I mean.

Travis: That's true, you have a like hundred different point metric that you use. It's very—

Griffin: Prove it to me.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Prove it to—show me what—show me what you got, kid.

Travis: But I'm excited, maybe—I'm not gonna say the whole reason I got a kitty was to try Smalls. But I've heard such good things from Justin—

Justin: Yeah!

Travis: About how his kitties love it. And it gives that ability to maintain consistency with food while still changing up the flavors and keeping your cat all interested and hooked on it. And I'm really looking forward to it.

Justin: Mm-hm. It's been a great relationship between us and the cats and Smalls. Everything has been better since we started serving them wet food. Like Travis said, you can pace out how much you're feeding them. Their coats have looked better. And I feel good about the stuff that we're giving 'em. And you know that little—there's like little a bonus in there, sometimes like there's some treats in there.

Travis: Ooh?

Justin: That's fun. Kids—the kids love that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: They'll go digging for the treats, it's fun.

Griffin: Justin's kitties hate my fucking guts. And that is because they know I will—I do not hook them up with Smalls. And they've told me as much.

Justin: For a limited time only, because you are one of our beloved listeners, you can get sixty percent off your first Smalls order, plus free shipping, when you head to smalls.com/mybrother. That's sixty percent off

when you head to smalls.com/mybrother, plus free shipping. Again, that's smalls.com/mybrother.

Griffin: Summertime's wrappin' up, and we're all panicking and freaking out about all the stuff on our big summer list that we were gonna get around to we said this—

Travis: I did it all.

Griffin: Said this—well, that's good for you, Travis. You—

Travis: Because I said, have fun. That was the only thing on my list, have fun.

Griffin: Yeah. Mine was—

Justin: Have fun.

Griffin: More ambitious. Ride the big roller coaster at Funky Park.

Travis: Yeah, that—you did say that, yeah.

Griffin: There was learn to... learn to swim. Have my first kiss.

Travis: Yeah, get taller was on your list, which I thought was weird.

Griffin: Get taller while having a first special kiss. And like a lot of stuff that I didn't—

Travis: You said you wanted your first kiss to be like the Spider-Man kiss, specifically from Toby McGuire.

Justin: Yeah, your first kiss would be a special Spider-Man kiss, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, fetch my—

Travis: You wanted to be Kirsten Dunst, right?

Griffin: And I haven't—I haven't gotten around to fetching my special baseball hat out of old man Murphy's yard with the junkyard dog. But if I'm gonna have time to do that shit, then I can't be wasting time in the kitchen, cooking up meals, doing prep, doing all the stuff that I absolutely hate to do in there. I want to eat good food. I don't have time to do it because... Mr. Murphy's junkyard dog is so scary, and I have to learn how to run real fast to get away from them. So—

Travis: You need P.F. Flyers, Griffin, I told you. You gotta get P.F. Flyers.

Griffin: They don't make the—

Justin: Yeah, gotta get 'em.

Griffin: My feet are too fuckin' wide for traditional baseball shoes.

Travis: I know, Griffin.

Griffin: Damn it. And you know that, and you embarrassed me on purpose. But Factor is where I go to get delicious chef-prepped meals that are delivered right to my door. So I don't have to stress out about the time I'm wasting in the kitchen, when I need to be training for dog survival. They've got over sixty-five weekly meals to choose from and—I don't think they send you sixty-five meals, that would be a really tremendous amount of food. Maybe there's some way to request that.

But they have so many different meal options, regardless of your diet. They got premium seafood choices, like salmon and shrimp, no extra cost. Just flavors from all around this big, beautiful world of ours. I've used Factor, and the food genuinely is quite good. It's always sort of a crap shoot, I know, with certain services like this, and Factor is one of the good ones. [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: So, what we want you to do is eat smart at factormeals.com/brother50off. And use code "brother 50 off" to get fifty-percent off your first box, plus free breakfast for one year! That's code "brother 50 off" at factormeals.com for fifty percent off your first box, plus

free breakfast for one year! Get delicious, ready to eat meals delivered with Factor. Offer only value for new Factor customers with code and qualifying auto-renewing subscription purchase. Bold of them to think that we can handle that level of disclaiming, but I feel like we stuck the landing completely.

Justin: Nice job, Griff.

Griffin: Thank you.

[break]

Griffin: Oh, what are we—what's this, Juice?

Justin: [mouths Munch Squad riff and sings] I want to look at Sabrina Carpenter mouth!

Travis: I don't.

Justin: [sings] Make my brothers look in Sabrina Carpenter's mouth!
[continues riffing]

Travis: There's a string of saliva in the picture?

Griffin: This—why are you—

Justin: Remember when you could sell donuts without blow job ads? Neither does Dunkin' Donuts. [chuckles]

Travis: [yells out] Hah!

Griffin: Jesus Christ, man.

Justin: Guess who's back? Back again. Sabrina Carpenter—

Travis: More like Junkin' Blownuts!

Justin: [chuckles] "This fall, Dunkin' has taken mornings back to where they began, with the clink of a spoon in a cereal bowl." That's the craziest—

Travis: What does that have to do with this image?!

Griffin: What does that have to do with Ms. Carpenter?

Justin: That's the craziest fuckin' sentence! "Dunkin' is taking mornings back to where they began?" What in the fuck could that mean?

Griffin: Dunkin', you're already—

Justin: To when the fuckin' primordial ooze slicked out of the oceans?

Travis: To when God called, "Let there be light!"

Justin: [titters] When God...

Griffin: Yeah, you—

Justin: "Launching nation-wide today, the all-new Cereal N' Milk Latte transforms that memory of the beginning of time into a sweet, nostalgic sip."

Griffin: Why did you have to screen share this extreme close up on Sabrina Carpenter's mouth way before you were gonna—

[excerpt plays]

Sabrina Carpenter: Hello, there. Dunkin' Daydream Hotline. What can I do for you today?

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: Oh? You—

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: You're hot? [chuckles]

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: I see...

Travis: The fuck?

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: I think I know what you're really craving.

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: A strawberry daydream refresher.

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: I'm sorry, did you—

Ad Read: Creamy cold foam and strawberry bliss. Sabrina's—

Travis: The fuck?

Ad Read: Strawberry daydream refresher.

Griffin: I'm sorry, what—

Ad Read: Only at Dunkin'.

Griffin: So, what was the cutoff there? Did he bust?

Justin: What?

[excerpt ends]

Griffin: What is—why did it cut off?

Justin: The video that's playing right now? I mean, is the—

Travis: No, no, no, when she was talking.

Justin: I just... it was just—

Travis: No, she was talking to him—

Griffin: Rewind it like ten seconds.

Justin: Okay! Okay! I'll rewind it! I'll rewind it! I'll rewind it, here.

[excerpt plays]

[muffled called response]

Sabrina Carpenter: I'm sorry, did you—

Ad Read: Creamy cold foam and strawberry—

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Did you creamy?

Ad Read: Sabrina's strawberry—

[excerpt ends]

Justin: So like—

Griffin: So the suggestion with that I think is—

Justin: So the suggestion is—

Griffin: The man she's talking to jizzes?

Justin: [titters] Do you remember, earlier, listener, when I said, remember when you could sell donuts without a blow job ad? And you thought, "Oh, Justin's being a little puerile." Not really? I mean—

Griffin: The man busts.

Justin: Not really, the man busts in the creamy—

Griffin: A man busted on my Dunkin' ad. A man busted on my donut commercial.

Travis: All I'm saying—

Justin: The man busted!

Travis: All I'm gonna say—

Griffin: The man busted.

Justin: That's nonsense. I mean, that's nonsense.

Travis: At some point, a room full of people watched this finished product, and I'm going to bet unanimously said, "Yes, that's exactly how we want to do it."

Justin: That's exactly it.

Griffin: "The man should—how much of the man busting can we show?"

Justin: And then—and then one guy in the back was like, "And but I add *boy-oy-oy-oy-yoing!*" [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Can I add one *arooga?!?*"

"No, Jim, you can't. How long have you been the CEO—"

Griffin: I appreciate—

Justin: "Of this company? You know you can't add aroogas."

Griffin: I appreciate Sabrina Carpenter's brand a lot.

Justin: Me too!

Griffin: it requires a certain suspension of disbelief that talking to someone on the telephone about a cold and frothy beverage being offered at the local donut restaurant would be enough to make you bust. And Juice, show me the time code on the moment of the busting, because I think it's like twenty seconds? That's crazy, dude!

Travis: I also...

Griffin: Wait, hold on, I gotta see the time on this.

[pause]

Justin: Okay, so—

Travis: Thirty-three.

Griffin: Thirty-three seconds from nothing to busting, by hearing about a donut drink? Are you okay, sir?

Travis: There is also—

Griffin: Because that's wild!

Travis: There's a level—there's a level of sincerity to this commercial too. Like, where's the winky, jokey part, exactly?

Justin: No, she's—I love—this is—this is... I want to be specific here, because you did mention Sabrina Carpenter's brand of... nonsense, to be specific. I think this is great. Like, if you—if I was Sabrina Carpenter, and Dunkin' was like, "You want to do this ad?" And I was like, "Okay, but I'm gonna... I'm gonna be kind of insane with it. Like, you know me, I'm Sabrina

Carpenter, I'm gonna put some like sex stuff in there." And Dunkin's like, "Yeah, absolutely. We love this. Can you put a cum joke in? We're Dunkin' Donuts, like we—like, can you put a cum joke in for us, Sabrina?" Get the money! I'm saying go for it, Sabrina.

Griffin: Go for it.

Justin: Good for you!

Travis: Here's what it is—

Justin: It's a wild partnership—

Griffin: It's a wild story.

Justin: For a place where they do the spider donuts that are orange, with the donut holes that have a fake spider in them.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: They just did Superman donuts!

Justin: You just... no. No, Krispy Kreme—

Griffin: What is—Travis, I don't think you watched the same movie I—what, Juice?

Justin: That was a Krispy Kreme promotion, and a Dairy Queen promotion. But there was not a Dunkin' promotion with Superman.

Griffin: Also, Superman would be all about a guy bustin' thirty-three seconds into a phone call.

Travis: Yes. Here's what I'm gonna say. If this show—

Griffin: That's what being a human is about.

Travis: If this showed up as one of their funny fake commercials on Saturday Night Live, or SNL, as we in the know call it, I'd be like, oh, yeah, they nailed this. That's hilarious, that's great.

Justin: That's the tone.

Griffin: The lines are blurring though, yeah. But if it was on SNL, you know they would put more of the busting in. Like they would make it louder and more pronounced—

Travis: How—

Griffin: And not like kind of suggestive.

Travis: How long do you think the discussion was about what noises the person on the phone should be heard making?

Griffin: A lot of debates.

Justin: Unthinkable. Unthinkable that that was not scripted. It was probably like they do with Kenny on South Park. [titters] They knew exactly the nasty stuff he was saying.

Travis: There was almost certainly a version that contained, let's say, more explicit sounds. And they were like, "We... we can't."

Griffin: And less. They probably had a version in there that was very like Peanut's teacher—

Travis: Wah-wah-wah. *Wah*—

Griffin: Muted trumpet—

Travis: *Wah!*

Griffin: *Wah-wah-wah-wah-wah.*

Travis: *Wah! Wah! Wah!*

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I'd like to continue—

Griffin: That's no good.

Justin: With the news, please.

Griffin: Yeah, sorry.

Justin: Can I continue with the news?

Griffin: Yeah, absolutely.

Justin: "Dunkin' is serving up a latte that tastes like childhood all grown up. The new Cereal N' Milk Latte combines espresso with cereal milk, for a marshmallow cereal flavor that's creamy, rich and unmistakably nostalgic." I should stop here and mention—hi, I'm Justin McElroy, the human being. I will fuck with this on an incomprehensible level. I'm gonna add an extra shot, and it may be the first decent thing at Dunkin'. Fuck yeah, dude.

Griffin: It's rare for you to be excited about a Dunkin' offering like this.

Justin: Hell yeah. All right, back to the—

Griffin: This means something.

Travis: I also, I do want to point out, that this is another of my favorite—and Dunkin' is guilty of this a lot in their press releases, of like talking about this like it is a metaphysical, spiritual experience, and not just like—

Griffin: Right.

Travis: "Hey, we had an idea for—like, I know this is gonna sound nasty at first, but hear us out. What do you guys think?"

Griffin: "A cereal drink."

Travis: "You guys are gonna love this," right? But instead it's like, "This is your childhood. You can get back—get back to a simpler time."

Griffin: "You can be born again."

Justin: We can— "Building on the success of the Dunkalatte, Dunkin' is taking its taste latte innovation to the next level with cereal milk, made with real cereal. Unlocking that unmistakable bottom of the bowl sweetness." Now, let's pause here... "It's latte innovation to the next level with cereal milk, made with real cereal." Hey, why?

Griffin: Yeah, what do you do with the cereal?

Justin: And how?! And how?!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Why and how? Are you making cereal, so you can destroy the cereal, and put it in the milk? That's cruel!

Griffin: Who's eating that?

Justin: Who's eating that?

Griffin: Someone's gotta be eating that. I'll be—

Justin: Why are you making it with real cereal?! You have fuckin' science, man! Go get the vial that says Fruit Loops!

Griffin: Synthesize it.

Justin: And scootch it in there!

Griffin: Scootch it in, don't waste all the—

Justin: Ah, don't destroy the cereal!

Griffin: That's good cereal.

Travis: You say that.

Griffin: Also—

Travis: But I bet, for employees of Dunkin', this is a great unexpected benefit of like, "Hey, and Jimmy, we need you to eat all this cereal. That's your job today, is just sit here."

Griffin: I don't want—but I don't want Jimmy's dirty mouth anywhere near my cereal. Like, I don't want it to be pre-eaten.

Travis: There's a sieve associated, Griffin!

Justin: Sieve. There's a—

Griffin: I'm still, I don't... I... yeah.

Justin: Hey, do you want to see the—they're doing some gear. Do you guys wanna see the gear?

Travis: Ah, hell yeah.

Griffin: Does it specify what cereal the milk is tempered with?

Justin: No. Isn't that—isn't that absolutely—

Griffin: That's fucked up!

Justin: It's erasure. I mean like, I don't know how else to say it, Griffin. That's certainly not what I meant to say,, but—

Griffin: A Coco Pebbles cereal milk up—

Justin: It's so different.

Griffin: Against like a Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal milk? It's two completely different textures and—

Justin: There's three families, right? There's the cinnamon family, there's the fruit family, there's a chocolate family. You can overlap some of those—

Travis: Well, and then there's the one where—

Justin: But like, I gotta know where I'm going!

Travis: Then there's the one that the parent buys where it's like, "No, this is the one we're getting."

Griffin: The Kashi family!

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Fuck that.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: No, thank you. No, thank you. Those don't taste good.

Travis: Get your Cracklin' Oat brand of flavored—-[chuckles]

Justin: Oh, sorry, I was gonna show you guys the gear. You can guess for free, if you want, which I bought. But I'm not gonna tell you. Eh, Dunkin' gear... Dunkin'—they called it a Dunkin' pop up shop. Oh, good, you fooled me. It's neat. [titters] A neat little tent, right here on the internet!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [titters] Thanks.

Griffin: That says Dunkin' at the top and bottom, and all over it.

Justin: Yeah. And you've got dunkingear.com. This is a Cereal N' Milk...

Griffin: Can we get a zoom on the milk in the bowl?

Justin: I don't think I can do that for you, Griff.

Griffin: That's a shame.

Travis: It's consistency is like yogurt.

Justin: It's a yogurt, it's a very thick milk. We've got—level up your—there's a T-shirt. There's a sweatshirt. There's a trucker hat. [chuckles]

Travis: Oh, you got the trucker hat, Justin.

Justin: No, I didn't. I got too many baseball caps. I got the sweatshirt and the T-shirt. So, that is the story on that. I did want to also let you know, guys, more of a public service kind of thing, but mark it on your calendars. 21st of August, we're talking about it, the return of pumpkin at Dunkin'. Pumpkin at Dunkin'—

Griffin: Say again?

Justin: The pumpkin at Dunkin' is back.

Griffin: I thought you said... I thought you said 'pumkim.'

Travis: It's back already?

Justin: Pumpkin at Dunkin'. Guests can add pumpkin swirl to their favorite hot or iced coffee cold brew or espresso drink. So, I just wanted to let you know—

Griffin: Can I pumkin—can I pumkim up the cereal milk drink?

Justin: I would—

Griffin: Put pumkim in the cereal—can it be Cereal N' Milk N' Pumkim?

Justin: Yeah, you can punkin in the cereal drink.

Travis: You can put pumpkin in the cereal drink, and then call and talk to Sabrina Carpenter about it.

Justin: [spoofs having an orgasm over the phone]

Griffin: What if that commercial was like, "Oh, you put pumkim in the cereal drink? Yeah, that'll make you jizz for sure, sir. Don't worry, I'm connecting you to the poison control hotline right now. You shouldn't be busting in thirty-three seconds. That is a result of the bumkum toxin."

Justin: So, that is the scoop over there at Duncan HQ. I gotta get one of those... soon.

Griffin: How about one more question?

Justin: I'd love that. "I've just gotten off work and I'm walking home. As I was crossing a parking lot, I saw a young man walking on a sidewalk nearby. He had a very long stick and was doing some kind of bō staff movements as—with it as he walked. I'm talking spinning it, twirling it behind his back, even swing it as he was fighting off a group of assailants. In—"

Griffin: Fuck yeah.

Justin: "In context, it was sort of a strange thing to see, but it did look pretty cool. I admire this young man's skills and confidence to practice them while walking down main street during rush hour. And I want to say something like 'sick moves,' but I was worried that I'd come off as mocking him, and didn't want to feel embarrassed. So, I stayed quiet, and I didn't watch him for long. Is there a way I could have paid this young warrior a genuine compliment that would be taken in the way that I meant it?" And that's from Bō Staff Bystander in Kentucky.

Griffin: Some additional details—

Justin: The guy was probably a college student, and they work at a college. So there's like—are on campus. The college does have some kind of Jedi club, or LARP group, or something. So, maybe he's in that?

Griffin: Man, if he's not, go grab him, because you got fucking great news.

Travis: Get him recruited!

Justin: Yeah, you should try to get some of the details sketched in for yourself, because you shouldn't run up and be like, "Hey, just so you know, we got some kind of nerd club here. Look into it!" Like, thank you. [chuckles] Excellent.

Griffin: If you're not the president of the Jedi club, you should join them, because that's—

Justin: Is it a Jedi club or—okay, sorry—

Griffin: What's up?

Travis: I just watched a video the other day of Ewan McGregor and Hayden Christensen at some kind of like convention, where somebody handed them both lightsabers. And they were kind of like, "Eh, yeah..." And then they start busting out full like whip it behind their back and still doing the moves.

Justin: Hell yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, they—that—muscle memory.

Travis: It was the coolest thing I've ever seen!

Justin: That's so cool, man. So cool. You can't unlearn it!

Griffin: You can't. [titters] No, yeah, I mean, I still—

Justin: And credit, by the way, credit goes to Hayden and Ewan. If I can?

Travis: Please.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: They have just clung to that fuckin' shit and refused to acknowledge that those movies are dirty dishwater. And somehow, just through the sheer force of will, they waited a fuckin' generation, and have snowed these young people into thinking that is one of the good movies. It's insane. Just by like being there and hanging in there long enough, we have just like decided to ignore the fact that those movies suck!

Griffin: Well, they didn't have to fuckin' look forward to it in real time and drink the Star Wars Mountain Dew, and go to Phantom Menace opening night with their dad. And then have like, a really weird energy on the drive home of like, "Was it not... was it not—" Like they didn't have to deal with that sort of trauma.

Justin: Right.

Griffin: They can just watch the fight scene with Yoda on YouTube and be like, "Fuck yeah! These dudes beat ass!"

Justin: They can watch the yo—

Travis: Yo da man!

Justin: Yo da man, indeed!

Griffin: Yo da man!

Justin: Yo da man, indeed!

Griffin: We've said his name more than three times in this one episode—

Justin: I—this is—

Griffin: We're playing with fire so fuckin' hard.

Justin: What's difficult is, I often get this, just because like someone's lifestyle choices makes me happy. Because it makes me happy that they're like just living their life and doing whatever. Like I saw a lady like just talking to her dog, as it used the bathroom, like full-on talking to her dog.

Griffin: Awesome.

Justin: And it was like making me so happy. And I was like driving, and the—my consistent rule is, if you are driving, there is nothing you can say to anybody that will not be taken as bullying. I'm going to assume, if you're saying from a car, you're bullying.

Travis: It's the bullying doppler effect. Like as you get close—

Justin: Right, exactly!

Griffin: Yes, exactly!

Travis: Yes, it's...

Justin: Exactly.

Griffin: If you're hanging out of the passenger side of your best friend's ride, there is nothing you can holler at me that is going to come off as like a positive thing. But just a walking, just a pedestrian pass by, there might be a way. I do think we're gonna have to—

Justin: The problem is that from the... So, the power imbalance in the first scenario is obvious, and that's why it's not okay. But there is a power imbalance to paying someone a compliment, and then being sort of chained to your own foot speed. [chuckles] Like, for—and then you're really, foot speed then becomes incredibly important. How fast are you—

Travis: Yeah, if you're going the same direction?

Justin: *Agh!*

Griffin: Yeah...

Travis: *No.*

Griffin: Yeah, velocity, angle, there's a lot of geometry that goes into whether or not you can do this compliment.

Travis: I'm gonna give you the universal—I think there's a universality to the compliment, "Hell yeah!"

Griffin: "Hell yeah, brother!"

Travis: "Hell yeah!" I don't think you could take "hell yeah" as insincere.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Hell yeah!"

Griffin: No—

Justin: Yeah! Hell yeah!

Griffin: It—

Justin: "Hell yeah" is always pretty—hell yeah. Yeah, I don't think you can—

Griffin: "Hell yeah!" Even if I think they're goofing about it, it's still like kind of a fun way to do—

Travis: Right.

Griffin: I don't think that's gonna hurt so bad. Also, you're twirling a bō staff in the middle of the college grounds, you know you'll be seen. There's a certain extent to which you know you'll be seen. I'm not saying that you're inviting commentary, but you're walking around, twirling—you must—I'm excited for you. You must understand it's an uncommon practice.

Justin: You should also understand that if you go to someone and you say, "Hey, moves are looking good." This person's doing the moves in public.

With all due respect, they know they're looking good. [titters] You know what I mean?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: Like, they didn't come out here day one. You're probably seeing day one hundred and fifty eight of their bō staff journey, right? They just now decided to treat us all to it. This is—they've been on the grind inside.

Travis: I would also worry, I think where my particular brain would go, is if I complimented anything with any specificity, this person is now going to start talking to me about how they could introduce me to the way of the bō staff.

Griffin: You want nothing to—that's not—yeah—

Justin: I'm not part of this. Like, you can't perceive me. I perceived you. Don't perceive me back. That's—no, I'm a character in this, I'm not—

Travis: No, that's why "hell yeah" is like, I support this from a distance. "Hell yeah!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And then—

Justin: Hell yeah!

Travis: Clearly, that's all I needed to say. I was moved by the spirit. This wasn't a planned response. It just bubbled up. But if I'm like, "Sick moves," that's gonna feel like—

Griffin: "Sick moves" is not—

Travis: Let's compare and contrast. Like, "Now, let me show you my bō staff moves."

Justin: So many greeting—oh, man... okay. So many greetings that we have are societal-based, in that like I'm trying to signal to you that I'm a normal person in society. And you're a normal person in society. And we're both safe and normal. So we do this like common, accepted greeting, whatever it may be, right? There's not a good way of acknowledging that both of us are like in on the joke. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: That we are approaching this whole thing with the appropriate amount of levity. It's hard to signal that in a life-affirming way. Because genuinely, when I see people who are just like going for it, it brings me a lot of joy, I want to communicate that to them. But also, it's none of my business. [chuckles] You know? That's kind of the whole point with being on your own journey, you're just kind of doing your own thing. And it's hard to say to people in a non-ironic way like, we both kind of get that this is kind of silly, huh?

Travis: But this is—

Justin: We're having a good time here.

Griffin: But cool!

Justin: It's cool!

Griffin: You're into it.

Justin: We're having a good time, though, right? No, I mean life. Like the whole thing, right?

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: Like, we're having a good time!

Griffin: Not the bō staff—

Justin: Not the bō staff!

Griffin: The whole human experience, yeah.

Justin: The whole human experience! Like, you're having fun with it. You're not like, I don't know, *never* having a bō staff. You know?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: My personal—my personal view of this is if someone has made a clear choice, that is a very visual—like, if I wear my suit jacket that's covered in like gold sequins, I didn't wear that so people wouldn't compliment it. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: This dude's out here twirling his bō staff with his sick moves, walking down main street, he didn't do that to blend in! He wants to get noticed and perhaps complimented.

Justin: He's being impeccable with his word. I got my bō staff out. I want people to come tell me my bō staff moves are cool.

Travis: Yes!

Justin: Then tell him the bō staff moves are cool.

Griffin: Hey, to approach this from a different angle, maybe he's on his way to kill somebody?

Justin: Yeah, maybe you—

Griffin: And you just let him fucking go because he's carrying a weapon around, and flailing it around because he's going to kill someone dead.

Travis: Okay, but—

Griffin: And you just let it slide.

Travis: But Griffin—

Justin: It would be so hard to fight the temptation to challenge him to a fight, wouldn't it?

Griffin: Yes!

Travis: Griffin, imagine you're a homicide detective. And you get the call, and you're like, "Okay, what's the murder weapon? What do we think?" And it's like, "Guy came in with a bō staff. He was sick as shit!" [chuckles] Like, there's a level to which you, even as a homicide detective, would be like, "Holy shit, really?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "He killed him with a bō staff?"

Griffin: "Blunt impact trauma, many, many hits, and he was humming Duel of The Fates the entire time. So, I think we actually know our guy."

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: "Cool, you can go home. Clock out."

Travis: "And it was kind of cool."

Griffin: "It was cool, yes—"

Justin: "Kind of cool, have to admit it. Not to him, but I did." Hey, thank you so much for listening to our podcast! We hope you liked it. Did our best.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: We did our best, and we had a good time. And at the end of the day, that's all that really matters. But it would also matter to us a great deal if you'd come see us live, if you live in Atlanta—

Justin: Or near Atlanta—

Griffin: It's this week.

Justin: Even.

Travis: Or you're willing—

Griffin: Or near Atlanta.

Travis: To travel.

Griffin: If you're willing to travel, Atlanta is beautiful this time of the year.

Travis: It's a delta hub.

Griffin: Yeah, we're going to be there for Dragon Con, doing stuff there this weekend. We're going to be there doing The Adventure Zone. It's TAZ Versus Popeye, which I'm very excited for, and My Brother, My Brother and Me, all during Dragon Con in Atlanta. If you're coming to the MBMBaM—

Travis: And Dragon Con events too! We'll put that up on our—

Griffin: Yes, of course.

Travis: On our McElroy Family Instagram, so you can see where we're going to be and everything.

Griffin: If you are going to be at that MBMBaM show in Atlanta, and you have a question you want answered or a fear you want read aloud, email it to MBMBaM@maximumfun.org, and put Atlanta in the subject line, and we'll consider it. We got other shows coming up too, in San Antonio and Austin and Utah and San Diego. You can find ticket links and everything at bit.ly/mcelroytours.

Travis: Also want you to know, we've got a back to school sale going on. It runs through August 31st, with select items up to forty percent off. We've got three different back to school bundles on sale, check that out. And you

get a free mystery pin with purchases of thirty dollars or more. Ten percent of all merch proceeds this month will be donated to World Central Kitchen. Mcelroymerch.com!

Griffin: Thank you 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 haven't already. It's got so much—so much wonderful music to offer you. And it's all right there, and you can just listen to it. Do we have a Fear?

Travis: We do. Griffin, will you read it this week?

Griffin: Sure thing. Here it comes. Just gotta shrink this big tab of you guys out of the way. Get out of here, brothers. What is this? Get out of there. You still there?

Travis: Yup.

Justin: Right here.

Griffin: Cool. Here it goes. "This year, I will be faster than my fear of being bullied at the farmer's market."

Justin: [laughs] 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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