

MBMBaM 784: Can You Escape Hatred Cove?

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

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

Justin: Hello, everybody! And welcome to My Brother, My Brother and Me, an advice show for the modren era. I'm the oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

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

Griffin: What's up, Trav Nation? It's your sweet baby brother, Griffin, 30 Under 30, Built Ford Tough, McElroy. Why did you send me a TikTok, Travis, the second we started recording?

Travis: Because we were talking about it—

Justin: Talking about things that you were gonna do—

Travis: Right before we started recording.

Griffin: Oh, right, yeah.

Justin: It was a—it was a travel recommendation that you requested specifically from him.

Griffin: You're right, it was a travel recommendation. I just got the notification quite delayed, so I thought you were like, "Dude, you're never gonna believe what Donkeylips looks like now," or whatever the fuck the kind of TikToks.

Travis: No, you would believe it, because—

Justin: Donkeylips—actually, I would absolutely, because I put the gentleman that portrayed Donkeylips in a cameo for Travis. So he would actually definitely believe what Donkeylips looks like now.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, that's a very good point.

Justin: By the way, if you need a cameo, the guy who played Donkeylips really delivered. It was like seven minutes long.

Griffin: Super professional, yeah.

Justin: It was fantastic.

Griffin: Really, really solid shit. Hey, we were, Rachel and I, were talking the other night—

Justin: Michael Bower, he has a name.

Griffin: Michael Bower, I apologize. I felt so bad every time I said "the guy who played Donkeylips." It was fifty years ago—

Justin: I know, I wanted to give him a name.

Griffin: Yeah, he has a name. Rachel asked me a question, we were talking about—

Justin: I wanted, sorry, I just wanted to—I wanted to clarify.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: I searched up his name, and not his political interests or affiliations. [chuckles] So, no—

Griffin: Gang, just assume—

Travis: Not to say it's bad! We just don't know.

Justin: Not to say it's bad or good!

Griffin: But we don't—we simply don't have time to vet while we're in the fuckin' flow state.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: We can't vet in the flow state. It's important.

Justin: [sings] Can't vet in the flow! [titters]

Griffin: We were, Rachel and I were talking about our boys and how they are... they're pretty ticklish. They're pretty ticklish little guys. So much so that like you don't have to be trying to, it just will happen sometimes. And then Rachel said, "You're not very ticklish." I said, "No." She said, "What about your brothers?" And immediately, I was hit with like fifteen different feelings, emotions, reactions, down in my soul. Like, I don't know... I don't know if my brothers are ticklish. Should I know if my brothers are ticklish?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: How would I know? How could I find out? Did I tickle them? I was the little one.

Travis: Years of living together as children?

Griffin: I don't think I tickled you guys much, but I was the littlest one, so it felt like the tickling—

Justin: I tickled you a lot.

Griffin: But I don't think we tickled... should I feel—

Travis: I don't want to call you out, Griffin, but I knew you weren't ticklish, and I know Justin was extremely ticklish. I don't know about his current state?

Justin: Can I say something—

Griffin: But like what's that—

Justin: I'm kind of feeling regretful now that you've brought this up.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: I wish I could go back in time, to a time when I was tickling you, and say like, "Remember this."

Travis: "Remember this. Lock this in. This will mean something someday."

Justin: You know what I mean? Because like I don't. I don't remember any time I ever tickled you. [chuckles]

Griffin: Well, here's the thing, of course I remember you guys tickling me. I was just a cute little guy pie, you gotta get in there. [titters]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: But I don't remember going after you guys. And then I felt like, should I have tried to tickle my—

Justin: The natural order is, so we know tickling is how bigger mammals teach smaller mammals where the bleeding parts are, right?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: So it's how you teach them to defend. And so, there's no need for you to teach me where not to get stabbed.

Griffin: Your bleeding arts are, yeah. I want to make it absolutely clear—

Travis: No, we used to blow on your belly, though, and you'd go nuts for it, Justin, laughing and giggling.

Griffin: Yeah, I think it's—

Travis: Griffin, I would pop your toes without warning.

Griffin: You would do that, you nasty fuckin' hog. You would do that.

Travis: Yeah. Until eventually you were like, "Yeah, okay."

Griffin: You still do that shit, if you catch me—

Travis: It's satisfying as fuck.

Griffin: If you catch the puppers out backstage at a show—

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: *Gsh!*

Griffin: "Eh..." [spoofs the sound of cracking knuckles] rak-kak-kak-kak.

Justin: The ol' pupper puller!

Travis: The goal is to get all five. All five in one go and get like—*oah!*

Griffin: You do all five at once, it's—

Justin: Yeah, they call him Petey pupper puller. [chuckles]

Griffin: Petey pupper puller, coming around the stinky feet backstage.

Justin: [laughs] Petey pupper puller pulling perfect puppies!

Griffin: People, asking, "Hey, can we come—let us get some passes back to the green room after the show."

Travis: It's not safe!

Griffin: I say, "You don't want to be there and get your puppies pulled!"

Justin: "You don't wanna be there, it's a guest list of one, it's Peter pumpkin puller." [chuckles]

Travis: "I hope you're wearing close-toed shoes!"

Griffin: I'm not—

Justin: Not pumpkin.

Griffin: I'm not tickling my kids. I realize tickling is like a charged subject these days. It just felt like...

Travis: Is it?

Griffin: I didn't know—I don't know, man. I just felt like I didn't know—

Justin: [chuckles] It feels like everything is these days, right, Trav?

Griffin: Should I have known? Should I have—am I a bad—am I a worse brother for not knowing, or...

Travis: I think on the scale of things you don't know about us, I would say whether we're ticklish or not isn't high up.

Griffin: Okay, good.

Travis: Of bad things to know.

Griffin: Thank you. You've absolved me.

Justin: You also, you gotta let people grow, you know?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: And maybe just because we were ticklish when we were kids, doesn't mean you know how we're at now, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: I mean, the other day, because Justin's doing a pumpkin carving contest for the Huntington Children's Museum, and he put on the thing that he's allergic to pumpkins. And Teresa asked me like, "Is that true?" And I said, "I don't know?" Which is, I think, on the grand scheme of things—

Griffin: [titters] Did you really say that?

Travis: Way worse... way worse.

Justin: Oh, man... Okay, so listen, I waited to the last minute to fill out my bio for the pumpkin carving contest for the Huntington Children's Museum. And I said two things in that—[chuckles] in that bio that I wrote. I wrote in the bio, that I did wait until the last minute to do, I wrote... that I am deathly allergic to pumpkins. [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I wrote that I'm deathly allergic to pumpkins, and I wrote that if I raised five thousand dollars, I would eat my pumpkin raw. [chuckles] Now, you probably can't guess what state I was in when I filled out my bio details.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: [laughs] For the Huntington Children's Museum pumpkin carving contest. But yeah, I would just love any support I could get there, because I did not... yeah, I don't—that was not true, what I wrote. But now the posts that they have started re-sharing are like—

Griffin: "This brave hero."

Justin: "We appreciate Justin's sacrifice." [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Not a brave hero! Yeah, I would say more of a pumpkin martyr.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Well, my bit is gonna be, if I can hit five Gs, my bit's gonna be that at six Gs, I no longer have to eat the pumpkin. [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: So it's gonna be—yeah, and I'll keep like just holding myself hostage.

Griffin: That's great. That's great. Was that the story you wanted to tell?

Justin: No.

Griffin: Wow, you got so... fuckin' yarn spinner over there.

Justin: You brought up the—

Griffin: Got so much interesting shit happening to us!

Justin: He brought up the pumpkin carving thing, that wasn't even my—I didn't bring that up.

Travis: Yeah, well, Justin lives a multi-layered—

Griffin: I'm not judging you for being a yarn spinner, I'm saying you live a life full of stories, and that's like... I'm jealous of that.

Justin: [sings] Stories of passion, stories of friendship, and tales of how romance survives!

Griffin: This is a loosey-goosey one, guys.

Travis: Guys, do you ever look back over—

Justin: [sings] I have so many songs!

Travis: Like our past couple months of episodes and think we could have been talking—we could have been doing a Tron watch? And how that makes you feel?

Griffin: We could have been doing a Tron watch—

Justin: God...

Griffin: We let that one slide—

Justin: Let's let next episode be very, very Tron watch centric, Trav. Let's put the time in, because I don't want to throw that together. Instead, I just want to follow up on the Rockscar real quick.

Griffin: Fuckin' yeah, man. Yeah, man.

Justin: This is—this is, guys... sometimes I feel like the universe is kind of forming things around me. And I think that's a pretty human experience, right? And you gotta shake it. But sometimes, it gets—

Travis: Sometimes, all the time, you feel like that, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Sometimes a hundred percent of the time for some people.

Justin: Sometimes a hundred percent of the time. I try to fight that urge, because I don't think it's healthy. But I was watching—

Travis: It's the only perspective I've got, Justin.

Griffin: Kind of fucked up to say, right in front Travis?

Justin: I was watching The Graham Norton Show with my wife.

Griffin: [titters]

Justin: And season—

Travis: Your wife was on The Graham Norton Show? That's a huge thing, Justin?

Griffin: That's huge, man.

Justin: That would be a huge get, wouldn't it?

Griffin: Did she mention us? Did she say shit about our show?

Justin: That would be—no, no, no, they had a huge—they had huge wattage. They had Emily Watson...

Griffin: Yeah?

Travis: Mm-hm?

Justin: And James Norton, I think was his name—

Travis: Wait, Emma Watson?

Justin: What?

Travis: Emma Watson?

Justin: No. Emily Blunt...

Travis: Emily Blunt.

Griffin: Different—yeah.

Justin: James Norton... I think is his name, right? Yes, he's an actor, James Norton.

Griffin: There is an actress named Emily Watson, who is in Punch-Drunk Love.

Justin: No, this is Emily Blunt.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Okay? And James Norton.

Griffin: Wow.

Justin: And Graham Norton, the host, of The Graham Norton Show, no relation, right?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: It would be fucked up if he wasn't there, man.

Justin: And Matthew McConaughey.

Griffin: Wow. Holy shit.

Travis: Oh? All right, all right.

Justin: And The Rock.

Griffin: And The Rock. Look up at the sky, it's a pitch-black void, because all the stars were on the Graham Norton show.

Justin: So, guys, I want to tell you that the—that the subject of The Rock and the Rockscar, and The Rock's transformation came up. And it came up at a time when Matthew McConaughey was also on stage.

Travis: Ah-hah.

Justin: And what transpired was so fucking great that I wanted to include basically eight minutes of The Graham Norton Show in our show.

Griffin: I don't think you are allowed to... I mean, no one—

Travis: No, but if we could, can you imagine?

Justin: No.

Griffin: There is no like podcast board authority who could like do fuckin' anything to us at this point, but we should probably... be better.

Justin: Yeah, so, what there is not a law against, though, is watching it over and over and over again, and transcribing it yourself by hand, and then having your brothers read it with you—

Griffin: There's—wow...

Travis: Huh.

Justin: To like recreate. There's no law against that at all. Okay?

Travis: That's true.

Griffin: So, who's he gonna give The Rock to? Probably Juicer is gonna take—

Justin: Who—well, I wanted to ask you guys, if you guys were gonna be—if one of you was The Rock, and one of you was Matthew McConaughey. While I'm sharing this, I wanted you guys to figure it out. I'll be Graham Norton, but like—

Griffin: Travis has just grabbed—

Travis: I think Griffin would do a better McConaughey than me.

Griffin: Travis has just grabbed a jug.

Travis: Well, I had an empty jug up there, and I didn't want to show it in the... it's not a prop.

Griffin: Oh, I thought you were getting a fucking prop. Because you were like, "Here's The Rock, and his jug. Everyone knows The Rock is never without his special jug."

Justin: His famous jug.

Travis: He's great in a jug band. He's practicing for our live action Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Travis: With The Rock as the jug band guy.

Justin: Now, I do—I do wanna say that—

Griffin: [sings] Ain't no hole in the wash tub!

Travis: *Hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo!*

Justin: Even though—even though this will be a dramatic section of the show—

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I do want to encourage, if we need to take a break at any point for discussion. It's... a deeply incredible thing that exists.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: And I don't want to rush through it, okay?

Griffin: Are you...

Justin: Have you re... have you received the script? It's called The Rock Script.

Griffin: Through what medium will we be receiving this?

Justin: I shared it in your email address.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: If you can look in your email address, you should see it there.

Griffin: I will say, written out—

Justin: And now, I will say this, I will say—

Griffin: Written out, it does look like it says "Rock Scar," which is like—

Justin: Yeah, it's hard to say the Rockscar, it's part of the appeal. Now, I will say this, please don't read ahead, first thing, because we need it fresh.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Second thing I'll say is that... I did my best at transcribing it. Please don't make any bits about how it's transcribed. Just like do your best, because obviously—

Griffin: I'll do my very best, Juice.

Justin: There's no humor in that, because I did my best.

Griffin: Let's just—let's start here. Can we start here? I don't think it would be particularly hard to throw together a Graham Norton impression. I think any one of us can handle that.

Justin: Right.

Griffin: The Rock will be tough, because his voice isn't just deep, it is... there is a richness to it that is hard to emulate—

Travis: A timbre.

Griffin: If you just don't got the vocal cords for it.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I think we start with Matthew McConaughey, assigning that one, because it feels like that's the one that a bad version of is going to stick out the most.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: So just...

Justin: I will—I will—it's just that Matthew McConaughey talks them the most in this section. And I don't want it...

Griffin: You don't want it to sound like a bad Matthew McConaughey impression the whole time?

Justin: I just don't want it to feel like I would write—

Griffin: A joke?

Justin: Yeah...

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Okay, Griffin, I'll take a shot at McConaughey. You take a shot at The Rock.

Griffin: Okay, but let's use just sort of our normal voices with a little bit—because Justin's right, we don't want the joke to be our impressions. He worked pretty hard on this.

Travis: Yeah, fair, fair, fair.

Justin: Okay! [titters] Thank you.

Griffin: It should be about the words. Justin's not gonna say that out loud, I will—

Justin: It's unreal that Matthew McConaughey is still McConaughey as hard as he is, and I am so fucking happy.

Griffin: Right. Okay.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I'm so happy. All right. [spoofing a British accent] "You know the idea of Dwayne—"

Griffin: Okay, time out. So I'll stop it right here. Because I think it's better if we stop it right away, instead of get into it, and then have to—

Travis: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Interrupt the flow state. We did just say we weren't gonna do like crazy impressions.

Justin: Yeah, unless it's like fucking sick. [chuckles] Like unless you—

Travis: Yeah. That was pretty good, though.

Griffin: Yeah, but you understand that by—

Justin: You didn't say unless it's shit!

Griffin: Okay. By doing that, you are... you are casting a shadow over Travis and I.

Justin: Placing the bar too high.

Griffin: So do you want the joke to be about the words, or the voices we do?

Justin: No, no, no, no, okay... Okay, I'll be Graham Norton, I'm just making that clear.

Griffin: Okay. But be Justin—

Justin: And he only talk—the only other thing is, Griff! He only talks for like... one little section. So, I just wanted to have a little bit of fun for the one bit that I get to talk.

Griffin: For sure, for sure. But people are going to be thinking about—because it is the introduction. While we, me and Travis, are reading the important words you wrote, they're gonna be thinking—

Travis: Also, what a sign of a great interviewer! You know what I mean?

Griffin: Sure. Sit back.

Travis: Is he just lets the people talk, you know what I mean?

Justin: Okay, I'll—yes, you're right. Okay, you're right.

Griffin: Thanks.

Justin: You're right.

Griffin: Thank you.

Justin: You're right, and I'm sorry. Here we go. "You know the idea of Dwayne Johnson disappearing in the—" By the way, just so we're clear, that is where we're at now, folks.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: Dwayne Johnson.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: "The idea that Dwayne Johnson disappearing into any role, you'd kind of think, oh, how can you transform? But you do—and it's... it's not just a physical thing, because it's obviously... this hair and... but what other things went on?"

Griffin: "It was... about twenty-two prosthetics. We had Kazuhiro, our Oscar-winning prosthetic artist, and he helped me transform. There was also vocal transformation too. But the idea, I think, of transforming for me was something that, you know, I didn't know that I was... I didn't know that was

for me. And I wanted to do that because, a lot of times in the movies that I've made in the past, the bigger movies, they're big and they're fun, and—"

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "I've liked them, from Jumanji to Moana. And I'll go—"

Justin: [chortles]

Griffin: "And I'll go back to those."

Justin: He says that! Dude, he says, "From Jumanji to Moana!"

Griffin: "From Jumanji to Moana!"

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: [sings] Jumanji, Moana.

Justin: [sings] Moana. Bananas by the bunch.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles and sings] A box of Captain Crunch would taste so good! Okay.

Griffin: "And I'll go back to those, but there was something about this opportunity where there was a little... there was a voice behind my rib cage that was just telling me right."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "So I shared this—"

Travis: Does he mean his heart?

Justin: [chortles] This is the first time The Rock's ever listened to his heart.

Griffin: It's unfamiliar—

Travis: "It was like a feeling. It was... I don't know, a voice behind my rib cage. What's in there? My lungs?"

Griffin: "So, I had shared—"

Justin: "I looked at a building and thought, what if it didn't explode?"
[titters]

Griffin: [chuckles] "So I had shared this with Emily for years, like its' just—"

Justin: Emily who?! Sorry, The Rock! [titters]

Griffin: Sorry, Emily Blunt—

Justin: Okay, thanks.

Griffin: Or Watson, from Punch-Drunk Love. One of the two.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "For years, it's just... it's gnawing at my gut to do more and challenge myself, and grow and do something where I'm not chasing box office. But I'm doing it for me, yeah. And it wound up being the most—greatest most gratifying thing. And I've said this before, and I mean it... The Smashing Machine changed my life.

Justin: Okay, now, guys, this is important. So far, Matthew McConaughey has not, to this point, as far as I could clock, spoken.

Griffin: At all, on the whole segment.

Justin: At all, on this entire episode of The Graham Norton Show, period.

Griffin: Okay. This is—

Justin: Maybe at the beginning, like some like whatever. But then like... Matthew McConaughey is fully awoken by the story that The Rock has just told about the journey for the Rockscar. Travis, if you would?

Griffin: And Travis, again, this is quite a—quite a speech, so, just don't write any cheques.

Justin: We are—yeah, we... yeah.

Travis: [spoofing Matthew McConaughey] "I had that four AM, in my solitude, on my own truth, it hit me—"

Justin: Now, wait. Now, let me stop you right here—

Griffin: That's a little bit much, dude.

Justin: Because we were both so brave in our not doing—

Travis: "I had that four AM, in my solitude, on my own truth, it hit me. That lands—"

Griffin: Fuckin' good start.

Travis: "Like a butterfly—"

Justin: It's like, dude, yeah! I know, but wait—

Travis: Guys!

Justin: Griffin—

Travis: You've gotta let me get a rhythm going!

Justin: Yeah, you've gotta let him get through a sentence, Griff, seriously!

Griffin: You're right, you're right, you're right.

Travis: Gotta let me get a rhythm going here, okay?

Griffin: Okay, it's a lot.

Travis: "I had that four AM, in my solitude, on my own truth, it hit me. That lands like a butterfly and strikes like a lightning bolt at the same time—"

Griffin: Jesus Christ...

Travis: "That truth that you go, okay, tomorrow, when the sun comes up and I'm back in the masses—"

Justin: Now, Griffin, do not read along. Focus on your brother. Just listen to your brother right now.

Griffin: You're right. I'm gonna full-screen my brother.

Justin: Yeah, full-screen—

Travis: That truth—

Justin: Your brother.

Griffin: I don't think The Rock talks again in this fuckin' segment—

Justin: Yeah. Yeah.

Griffin: So, I'm clocked out.

Travis: "That truth that you go, okay, tomorrow, when the sun comes up and I'm back in the masses, and all the world's coming at me, and all those offers, I need to remember this truth. Now, I've been trying to get dramas, and was even offering huge pay cuts, and they were like, 'No, stay in your lane, McConaughey. You're the rom-com guy. You got that down.' Mind you, I enjoyed them, but I was wanting to do something different, because I couldn't do what I called—"

Griffin: From Jumanji—hey! Hey! Hey!

Justin: [yells out] From Jumanji to Moana!

Griffin: From Jumanji to Moana! I like you—

Travis: I—

Justin: I am gonna—dude, read it—

Griffin: "Please ask me to do more of those, please!"

Justin: If a My Brother, My Brother and Me episode goes by where I do not say "from Jumanji to Moana!" Then I have failed. [chuckles] Okay.

Griffin: Sorry.

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "I said... I—" wait, what... yeah. "But I was wanting to do something different, because I couldn't do what I wanted to do. I said, I gotta stop doing what I'm doing. So I said, no more. No more rom-coms. Called the agent, I said, 'Let the town know it's not going to happen.' I went to Texas."

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "Camila was pregnant on the ranch. Quiet down there. Camila says to me, 'Look, you don't know how long it's going to be dry. How long you going to not go with work. This could go on, but this is non-negotiable. We're not going back.' I was like, not going back. Now, a year goes by. No, nothin'. Nothing!"

Griffin: He did go dark for a bit.

Travis: "I called my agent. I called my agent, he goes, 'Matthew, I haven't heard your name in six months.' Am I going—okay... I may have just wrote myself a one-way ticket out of Hollywood. I start to think about other vacations, school-teacher—"

Justin: Wait, no, no, no, Trav, Trav, Trav—

Travis: Oh, vocations, excuse me. "Other vocations. School-teacher, wildlife guide, maybe I go back—"

Griffin: Can you imagine—

Travis: "To law school?"

Griffin: How—

Justin: Now, we will take a brief—

Griffin: Take a brief break!

Justin: Rest break here. [titters]

Griffin: How... how... how much—how little of the syllabus is Matthew McConaughey, the school-teacher, gonna cover in any given day? I feel like you're gonna get—once you reach long division—

Travis: "Mr. McConaughey?"

Justin: "We don't need this thing!"

Travis: "Yeah, I did say only sixteen questions today, before we even get started. But Todd, yeah, go."

Griffin: "Go, please."

Travis: "In Sahara, when you were working with—"

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I was not even thinking about, of course, the constant Q and A people would have. I was just thinking of Matthew McConaughey trying to

like, you know, get into the Battle of Versailles, and just really just taken a long time. Take a long walk to get there.

Travis: His vocations that he lists off—

Griffin: School-teacher.

Travis: Are school—and listen, I'm not one to hate on Hollywood people. They're working hard, and I'd love to be one. But it does show a little bit of a disconnect with the job market when you're trying to think of jobs and you're like, "School-teacher, wildlife guide..."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And then maybe to me, the most... go back to law school?

Justin: Okay, but like if you were to look at Matthew McConaughey, I think this shows—

Griffin: I think it makes sense.

Justin: A wonderful awareness of who Matthew McConaughey is as a person, like, "If I wasn't doing this?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Eh... probably like a fuckin' teacher or a wildlife guy, or something!"

Griffin: What if we—what if he kept going and he'd be like, "Or like a treasure hunter, or... an astronaut physicist."

Justin: Travis, I thought you'd be more excited that The Lincoln Lawyer was so close to being an actual reality.

Travis: Justin! This is what I'm saying, is he has done quite a few movies where he has been a law guy.

Griffin: Yeah, for sure.

Justin: Right.

Travis: My question is, was there a time when Matthew McConaughey was in law school, that now would necessitate going back to it?

Justin: I mean, let's hope, right?

Griffin: Yeah. Let's hope. There's more.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Anyway, back to the script.

Travis: "All right, eighteen months goes by. I really think I've done it, I'm out. I get this romantic action comedy, comes with an eight million dollar offer. I read it, I passed. I say, no, thank you. Comes back with a ten million dollar offer and I said, no, thank you. Comes back with a twelve million dollar offer and I said, no, thank you. It comes back with a fourteen point five million dollar offer and I said, let me read that thing again." [laughs]

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: "Same words as the eight million dollar offer, but it was better. It was funnier. I could see myself in it. This could work, right? But I ultimately said no."

Justin: This fuckin' story, by the way, killed. I was like dying on the ground—

Griffin: Oh, for sure.

Justin: When he was talking about the fucking, "It was funnier, I could see myself in it." Fucking love Matthew McConaughey. Still in his element. Everyone else on stage, still just kind of listening to Matthew McConaughey.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: He continues—oh, sorry... Graham Norton does say something here. "That must be so hard to say no to?"

Travis: "It was. But saying no to it, I think, sent a little invisible message to Hollywood. 'Oh, McConaughey is not bluffin'.' We were talking about not flinching. Yes, ask permission. 'Oh, he's playing offense. He's not just doing nothing. He's playing—he's on to something.' And twenty months, two months after I turned that down, the offer came in that I was looking for. And they came in, in droves. It went Killer Joe, Mud, True Detective, Dallas Buyers, Magic Mike, it came in, everything I was looking for.

And I would not have—they would not have come in, if I wouldn't have unbranded for that twenty months. Yes, all right. Now, Dwayne, you didn't have to unbrand. You had enough steam going. 'I can make whatever choice I want, and I'm going to make this thing happen over here.' It was a time for me where I had to unbrand, and it took twenty months. But then I was doing it, and all of a sudden, my work was challenging the vitality of my life. I was like, there you go. Yeah, I know, absolutely."

Griffin: He puts a lot of... he throws a lot of like seasoning on the ends of his sentences. Which I guess like he came up with, to be like, "Yeah, today I went to the doctor and I got some routine lab work done. Yeah, all right. All right, cool."

Justin: It is his like—but he's like, he spins it a little bit, just to give himself another half second to come up with like just the dopest stuff, man! [chuckles] Like just the best stuff.

Travis: Yeah, we all have filler words. His just happened to be fuckin' chill-ass—

Griffin: Trademarked famous movie lines.

Travis: Yeah, like, "All right, yeah."

Justin: Unbelievable.

Griffin: Yeah. That's cool.

Justin: The idea that The Rock would be like... But this is the moment that I got to see, is like The Rock being like, "I'm trying so hard to get the Rockscar."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "And there's like nobody that could appreciate my journey." And then Matthew McConaughey is like, "Well, hold on now."

Griffin: "Hold on one second."

Justin: "Hold on. You know, the great thing about that story—"

Griffin: Yeah, my—

Justin: "It keeps getting older, but I keep seeing myself in it. And that is—" [chuckles]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: I also... I want to point out—

Justin: Guys! That was fucking great!

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Really, really, really unhinged. Really truly, truly like peak outer-space, fuckin' space alien shit, man.

Travis: Outside of Matthew McConaughey on a talk show, if you're out at a party and just some random person, you're talking, and they jump in with this, the only response you will logically give is, "Okay. Cool!"

Griffin: "All right! Great."

Justin: "Cool!"

Travis: "So..."

Griffin: "Awesome."

Travis: "What I was saying was—" [chuckles]

Griffin: I do think it's a little fucked how he says, "You didn't have to unbrand, The Rock. You were a smashing machine already, and the stars really aligned for you." To that, I would say, hey, Matt McConaughey, why not just be in a really good rom-com?

Justin: Well, yes.

Griffin: You want to be pushed and challenged, and get big awards for your work, just...

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah!

Griffin: Be in a super good rom-com that does that?

Justin: This is what The Rock—all The Rock asked is, "I would like to still play a wrestler. I just don't want to also wear a dress."

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Like, "I want to be a wrestler. I just also don't want to be the Tooth Fairy and have magic powers. That's not asking so much?"

Griffin: Yeah, "That's all I want."

Travis: Yeah, "I would like to be a big man that throws people around, but not work for Santa Claus, if that's possible."

Griffin: Yeah. Well...

Travis: Actually, I haven't seen The Smashing Machine. I don't know for sure that that guy doesn't work for Santa Claus.

Griffin: The Smashing Machine?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: He does.

Travis: It's not brought up in the trailers, but you can't show everything.

Griffin: I don't think the softies would... pedal in such... such low-brow, mainstream ideas.

[pause]

Travis: Should we do a question on our advice show?

Griffin: I'd love to.

Justin: Yeah, "In our storytelling world, you can't control box office results. But what I realized you can control is your performance and your commitment to completely disappear and go elsewhere. And I will always run to that opportunity. It was my honor to transform in this role for my director, Benny Safdie. Thank you, brother for believing in me. The truth is, this film has changed my life. With deep gratitude, respect and radical empathy, D.J."

Travis: Can I also point out, Justin, that another theme, yeah, a clear theme is, he wants that Rockscar. Another clear theme is, this—he doesn't think this movie is going to do well at the box office. [chuckles]

Justin: Travis, that is... that is settled—

Griffin: Almost guaranteed.

Justin: Travis, that is settled. It looks to lose between ten to fifteen million dollars.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Now, the question you're asking yourself is, how many little gold statues could he have bought with that money? *Well...*

Griffin: Well, we shall see, I suppose.

Justin: We shall see! Well, perhaps the—perhaps the losses are not so great when one's going home with Oscar gold. [titters] Hm-hmm!

Griffin: I can't fuckin'...

Justin: No price too high for the Rockscar!

Griffin: I can't care this much about the results of an Oscar. I can't have that hanging over me. I can't be watching the Oscars fucking scared that it won't happen. I can't actually—

Justin: No, Griffin, that assumes—that assumes that you are... that assumes there's going to be a period between the nominations and the awards where you're still wondering if The Rock will be winning it or not. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: So, I'm... I hope you're right! I hope you're right. I would love for just a nod. The nod would be a huge victory.

Griffin: The nod would be huge, but I... it's not the same.

Travis: You can also live in the comfort, Griffin, of knowing that, because we live in a multiverse, no matter what happens, there is a universe that exists somewhere where The Rock maybe wins all of the Oscars that night.

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: That's true. Anything's... yeah.

Justin: But Travis, in that—in that... what you're saying, though, is in that... in some reality, The Rock is winning an AVN award for The Smushing Machine. Like, you could apply that to anything, you know?

Travis: I didn't say—I said all the Oscar—well, yes, Justin.

Griffin: The Rock... The Rock—

Travis: Justin, yeah!

Griffin: The Rock could not be The Rock, but instead, like a... a Hyundai Sonata that you can drive around in. Like it can—

Justin: [chuckles] A sentient—

Griffin: Be a different thing.

Travis: In a nearly infinite multiverse, perhaps infinite.

Griffin: And if you put an apple in a box forever, eventually it'll turn into an iPhone. [titters] That's...

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Saw that on YouTube, guys.

Travis: Huh...

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: A Rock can neither be created nor destroyed.

Justin: [laughs] What are you saying?

Griffin: Man, we gotta do a question at some point! But if you put an apple in a box forever, eventually, it'll take every form of matter, and be everything—all it could—it could possibly become. Including an iPhone. What I said wasn't any different from what you said.

Travis: Now hold on, because I also want to point out, Griffin, that implies it could happen right away.

Griffin: No, it'll take a minute. That's what I said for—

Travis: So, there has to be a set amount of time! You can't just say for forever. There's got to be a set amount of time between Apple and iPhone that you don't need to check the box.

Griffin: If you put... if you put all the apple particles in the box, they'll dissolve and turn into different particles, and they'll bounce off each other—turn into anything and be any form of matter imaginable in this magic box.

Travis: That's a great box.

Griffin: It's a pretty kick ass box. It can—you can put anything in it, and it'll be in an iPhone.

Travis: Forever?

Griffin: In six-hundred-trillion years. No, for like a little bit, until it breaks—

Travis: What are you making a box out of that's lasting forever?

Griffin: [sighs] Hah... Can we do a question?

Justin: Yeah. "My friend's grandma makes cool quilts, and I want to get one of them. The problem is, I've never met her grandma, and I can't think of a not rude way to ask my friend to ask her grandma to make me a quilt. My birthday is in a couple of months. How can I suddenly hint to my friend to get me a quilt from her grandma, and make her think it was her idea?" That's from Quizzical Quilt Quandary, in Queens! Well—[titters] huh... That's a heck of a thing to ask someone's grandma...

Griffin: It's like—

Justin: Someone else's grandma.

Griffin: The quilt is like... the gift of the grandma. Do you know what I mean?

Travis: Mm-hm.

Justin: It's... I have my one—I got a quilt from my granny.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I got one. And I don't use it, ever, because if something happened to it, I would be heartbroken.

Travis: One of the things—

Justin: That's my one I got!

Griffin: That's his one he got.

Justin: That's my *one*!

Griffin: He did not—and he—more importantly, he didn't have to reach out to granny on Etsy to get her to make it for him. It was just a sort of gift of the grandmother.

Travis: I do love the idea of like just sitting there and being like, "Hey, your grandma made this kick ass quilt. How much does she charge for quilts?"

Griffin: Yeah. "How much do you think raw materials plus labor, for your grandmother?" Bearing in mind—

Travis: "If I give her a bunch of old fabric things that mean a lot to me, will she make me one?"

Griffin: "Here's a box with a hundred T-shirts in it. Tell your grandma to—"

Travis: "Here's a box with a hundred apples in it. How long before it turns into a quilt from your grandma?"

Griffin: [chuckles] It'll turn into a hundred quilts, Travis. It could turn into anything.

Travis: No, if there's more apples in the box, shouldn't it happen faster?

Griffin: So—

Justin: You could do a Tuesdays with Morrie in this scenario, would be a good thing.

Griffin: God, so many situations—

Justin: If you go to your grandma, if you go to your friend and you say, "Hey, I heard your grandma will be passing away soon."

Griffin: Wait.

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: Why would you say, dude?

Justin: "I would love to spend some time with her—"

Travis: Do you just mean statistically?

Justin: "I would just love to spend some time with her, before she passes away. And I... I—" [chuckles]

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "I would just love it if she could teach me how to live, by showing me how to die. If your grandma could do that." And I think that in that—

Travis: "And maybe how to quilt, would also be cool." [titters]

Griffin: And that's what they say—and the guy says that in Tuesdays with Morrie.

Justin: "I don't want to learn how to quilt!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: This person's pretty clear about that. They don't want a hobby, they want a quilt. [chuckles]

Griffin: My favorite part of Tuesdays with Morrie is when Morrie is like, "I'm about to—I'm fixin' to die. But first, I'll teach you how to live!"

Justin: Yeah, that is what it is. I mean—

Griffin: That is what it is, is what he says.

Justin: What it says on the jacket, you know? It is—

Travis: Yeah, but the guy doesn't go to Morrie and say, "Hey, you're looking not so great. Before you go—" And Morrie's like, "What? The fuck—what are you talking about?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Is that what happens in the book?!

Justin: Yeah, man, it's like, very much about that. [titters] Like what you're saying is like-

Travis: But he doesn't say that!

Justin: Yeah, dude, that's why it was so sad, and everybody was so horny for it, because it was—it was such a huge bummer. [chuckles]

Travis: You're hanging out with Morrie, and his dog, Marley, and you're like, "Hey, you two look like you're gonna die soon."

Justin: Marley and me is another—it's the exact same premise! Yeah, it's the exact same premise as Tuesdays with Morrie.

Griffin: Exact same premise. Yeah, but with the dog. I... you're—this—I don't... if you want to quilt, I'm sure you can—there are quilt artists in your

area that you could contract to do this. What is it about these grandma's quilts? Is it because it would be presumably gratis? If that's your logic—

Travis: It sounds like it's a real dank quilt.

Griffin: Maybe it's a really dank quilt. But it's—that's grandma's gift, guys.
[chuckles] Like..

Justin: It's the gift of a grandma. Are you willing to put in the work?

Griffin: Yeah!

Justin: You know what I mean? Because like grandma means like... you gotta take the calls. You gotta put in the phone calls. You gotta buy the... you know, you gotta buy the frame. You gotta buy the Aura Frames.
[chuckles] You gotta do it.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: You gotta put it in!

Griffin: You gotta put 'em in.

Travis: And not just until you get the quilt, because she'll reposes that shit. She'll show up.

Griffin: She will take your quilt back.

Justin: What? No she won't?

Travis: If you stop taking the calls?

Griffin: She'll show up and take the quilt, yeah.

Justin: No, the quilt has got—if the—if the grandma gives away the quilt—
[chuckles] if the grandma gives away the quilt too early, that's on grandma.
You know what I mean? You gotta—

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: [titters] You know what I mean?

Travis: Why the buy—why buy the grandma if you can get the quilt for free,
am I right?

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Thank you for saying it, Trav. Thank you, we're all thinking it.

Griffin: I bet she would be—I bet you get burned like that with one
grandkid. You're not gonna let that shit fly with another one. You'll know.
You'll know the grift.

Justin: No, no, no, you learned your lesson.

Griffin: "You want a what now? Oh, so you can fuckin' bail? Because we're
supposed to—we're supposed to go... to Bonnaroo together."

Travis: "I'll add one square for every Bonnaroo you take me to."

Griffin: Fuckin', that's good! That's good.

Travis: "What about Bumbershoot—"

Justin: Every treasure—"

Travis: "So we can get two a year?"
"No! Fuckin' Bonnaroo only. I don't wanna go—"

Griffin: "Bonnaroo only. The hottest, Junest sun."

Justin: That would be a sick—grandparents should do—

Travis: Burning Man is three squares. [chuckles] Bonnaroo is one.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: Yeah, it's a system! It's a bargaining system. It's like, "If you take me to lunch, that's like one quarter of a square. [chuckles] And I'll like—"

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah! Absolutely.

Justin: "I'll maybe put like a one small sandwich or something in there. But like, if it's a really good dinner, I might do a bigger steak in there. And that'll take a more of a quilt." You know what I mean? It's like a bigger square.

Travis: "If we go see a movie together and it turns out I don't like it, I'll take a square away."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, unstitch it.

Travis: "Better research that film before you take me."

Justin: "Now, if it is Stich—if it's a Stitch movie, then I'll put double. Because I love Stitch."

Griffin: "I love Stitch so much—"

Travis: I love Stitch.

Griffin: "I'll just get in the mood for it."

Justin: "I just like quilting Stitch."

Travis: "But it will be—I'll put like four Stitch squares, whether you like Stitch or not."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "And sometimes you'll just be talking—if you say some dope shit like, 'Grandma, you might be dying, so I can learn how to live,' I'll smile, and I'll put a square in right there, so you know that was dope. That was great shit."

Travis: "It's live update."

Griffin: Live update.

Justin: That'd be sick, if grandma's like, "I'm gonna make you a quilt, but it's gonna all be Stitch, because I love Stitch!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Why do you think I got into sewing?!"

Griffin: Oh, damn, that would be so brutal, if you're like, "Yeah, I'll make a quilt for your friend." He shows up, it's just all Stitch, but it's like—

Justin: [chuckles] It's your friend's, Stitch!

Travis: It's a Stitch waifu blanket. [chuckles]

Griffin: [titters] Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] What's that, Travis?

Griffin: I don't know what a blanket—

Travis: I'd rather not talk about it.

Griffin: I know what like a pillow is, but a blanket...

Travis: Like it's a... it's a quilt, with like a sexy bikini stitch on it that you would wrap yourself up in to feel love.

Griffin: In quilt form?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: My understanding is that the—those were usually—that's usually the domain of pillows. Because then there's a—there is a depth to it. An embraceableness to it.

Travis: That's why they can only get it from this grandma. She's the only person making waifu quilts.

Griffin: She's the only one making lewd quilts. Lewd Stitch memorabilia.

Travis: It doesn't have to be lewd, Griffin, it could be beautiful.

Griffin: Okay...

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Beautiful.

Justin: Hey, let's go the Money Zone?

Griffin: Spread eagle. [chuckles]

Justin: [chuckles]

Travis: I'm sorry?

Justin: You didn't have to. The door was right there.

[theme music plays]

Travis: When you're feeding yourself, ah, there are so many factors to consider, you know?

Justin: Oh! I just—

Griffin: Man, that's good.

Travis: How much time you've got, what ingredients you have in the home, if you're definitely allergic to pumpkin—

Griffin: Chat, you're about to realize this—chat, you're about to realize this, Travis just set up a fuckin' banger with that. Because the company is—

Travis: But there's one Factor you don't have to worry about—

Griffin: The company we're doing is—the company we're doing is Factor. You're gonna be like, "God damn—"

Travis: Griffin!

Griffin: Good one, Trav.

Justin: God, Griffin... he was in the flow of it.

Griffin: I'm just trying to hype you up, dude!

Travis: Can we strike that from the record? Could we... thank you.

Griffin: That I'm hyping you?!

Travis: No, but you said the reveal!

Griffin: Well, that's only so they know when and you hit it later, that they're gonna be like totally amped, because they'll know what a kick ass jojb you did set—

Travis: But I was just about to hit it?!

Griffin: Okay, well, go ahead. You're the one holding it up now. I'm sitting here waiting, watching.

Travis: The one factor you don't have to worry about is Factor meals. Because they...

Griffin: What did I tell you, folks? He's done it again.

Travis: With Factor—

Griffin: Keep reading—

Travis: You can—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: [sighs] Hah—choose from a wide variety... of meal options, including premium seafood choices like salmon and shrimp, at no extra cost.

Griffin: If you sound sad while talking about the incredible salmon and shrimp that Factor offers—

Travis: You're right. For the first time!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: [yells out] Try Asian-inspired meals with bold flavors, influenced by China, Thailand and more, with Factor!

Griffin: Kind of middle—a middle ground.

Travis: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Factor is great. How was that?

Justin: That's really good.

Travis: I love the variety of options. I love knowing it's there for me.

Justin: Like this week, just this week, I'll give you an example. Here's a ready-made meal. Two minutes, you could be eating pepper fondue, shredded chicken.

Travis: *What?*

Justin: How about some sweet potato grits and sage chicken? *Aah!*

Griffin: Oh, shit, that sounds good.

Justin: Don't mind if I do. That sounds great. Likem and it's made by actual... you know, actual people that actually care about what the food tastes like. And it's gonna be—

Travis: This isn't AI food!

Griffin: No way.

Justin: No, this is real human food, for real people.

Travis: So, eat smart at factormeals.com/brother50off, and use code Brother50off. That's B-R-O-T-H-E-R, five-zero, O-F-F, to get fifty percent off your first box, plus free breakfast for one year! That's code Brother50off 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 valid for new Factor customers with code, and qualifying auto-renewing subscription purchase.

[break]

Justin: [Mouths Munch squad riff]

Travis: Yeah!

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

Travis and Griffin: [yell out] Squad!

Justin: [continues riffing and sings] I want to munch!

Travis and Griffin: [yell out] Squad!

Justin: [concludes riffing]

Griffin: Travis, stop cross-stitching.

Travis: I'm not cross-stitching, I'm sewing leather!

[pause]

Griffin: We're plugged in now, dude.

Justin: Thanks.

Griffin: That was us getting plugged in.

Justin: Thanks.

Travis: I was mid-stitch, you have to understand.

Justin: Griffin, do you watch Love Island?

Griffin: You were mid-stich last night with your special Stitch blanket. No, I watch Love Is Blind. Love Island is weirdly the only one of those that I don't watch.

Justin: Son of a—

Travis: I love islands?

Justin: Son of a gun. This is gonna be tough. So, you guys are gonna have to help me decode this, and we're just gonna do a little guesswork here. Maybe a little quick googling, but—

Griffin: I watch so many shows like Love Island, I think I could probably—

Justin: I just wanted to tell you, Griffin, that Sweetgreen launches new Ranchy Baddie Bowl, in partnership with Love Island reality TV stars.

Griffin: Ranchy Baddie Bowl?

Travis: Ranchy Baddie Bowl?

Justin: Ranchy... ranchy baddie—[titters]

Griffin: Ranchy baddie—

Justin: Ranchy Baddie Bowl.

Griffin: Oh yeah.

Justin: On the heels of Sweetgreens' viral fall campaign, featuring Nick van Steenberg, Nicolandria Nation fans—now that, Nicolandria Nation is the name of the fans of the pairing of Nick van Steenberg and Olandria Carthen.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: Okay. So, there—

Travis: It's not a good portmanteau—

Justin: Very, very fame—

Travis: They just smashed the names together.

Justin: Thank you, Travis, yes. So they're a very famous and loved couple from Love Island. So, sweet... to answer the question of where's Olandria, Sweetgreen responded with a co-created collab bowl that's as extra and iconic as this breakout couple themselves! The Ranchy Baddie Bowl is the perfect mix of heat and crunch, and is available for a limited-time at participating locations nationwide, starting October 6th.

Travis: Can I tell you, Justin, so far, in this press release, I don't know what food is contained within the Ranchy Baddie Bowl.

Griffin: That's okay. You don't need to know that shit. I'm looking at Mr. Nicholas van Steenberg right now, and he looks so much like James Marsden, it's kind of crazy. It's kind of outrageous.

Travis: I think I'm gonna... I'm gonna make a prequel show called Like Isthmus.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And if you—

Griffin: That's cool.

Travis: If you do well on Like Isthmus, then you get to go—

Griffin: Neutral... you start at Neutral Peninsula.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: [titters]

Griffin: You have to climb your way there from minor sort of Dislike Delta.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [sings] But can you escape Hatred Cove?

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: [sings] Everyone's fighting in Hatred Cove!

Travis: You get bummed back down too, if you fuck up.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: You gotta fight your way out of Hatred Cove.

Griffin: The whole time you're on Hatred Cove, it's like so weird, because you're like, "I thought this was the beach that makes you old? I thought this was Old Beach. It's Hate Cove. That's a different—Old Beach is across the... across the pond."

Travis: Yeah, and on Like Isthmus, you are there to make friends. It's important to note.

Justin: The bowl—

Griffin: You are there to make friends.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: The bowl features kale, white rice, blackened chicken, shredded cabbage, tortilla chips, sweet potatoes, jammy tomatoes and crispy onions.

Travis: More shit!

Griffin: There's four—there's four things in there that would run right through me, and I would not—

Justin: [chuckles] Yeah, Griffin! It is sweet, spicey, and a little chaotic.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: In all the right ways, to make sure everyone's heads turn. "This drop celebrates how Sweetgreen and Nicolandria Nation come together around food that tastes amazing and feels even better to eat."

Travis: Oh? Bold. A bold— "Hey, this is for all those people out there who don't like shitty, gross food."

Justin: Listen to this one, Trav. Listen. Olandria and Nick are rallying Nickalondria Nation to help make the Ranchy Baddie Bowl the top-seller at Sweetgreen.

Travis: I should hope so.

Griffin: Yeah, I would hope they'd be putting their back into it, man.

Justin: Yeah, but are you supposed to say that? [chuckles] Like, I don't think you're supposed to say that in it. I don't think you're just say like—

Griffin: In the commercial, "we're trying really—we're giving it our all."

Justin: "Please buy it, please! We're trying to convince them that—"

Travis: "You can throw 'em away if you don't want it, just buy a bunch!"

Griffin: "Just buy it, please! It helps us."

Justin: I wish I could go back later and be like, "Hey, was there a Nickalondria Nation? [chuckles] Did they come to buy your salad? I'd be very interested to know that, iff they bought it or not."

Travis: I mean, it's not Trav Nation, that's for sure.

Justin: Sweet Green has always been about—

Travis: Sweetgreen, if you want to reach out to me, with a Trav Nation salad?

Griffin: He's—it's right there.

Travis: I famously ate salad for many days in a row. Famously.

Griffin: It's true. It's true.

Travis: It's all anyone ever talks about.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "Sweetgreen has always been about listening to our community—"

Travis: Thank you for asking, Justin. What would be in my salad?

Griffin: Yeah, I was like actually dying to know.

Travis: Thank you! Thank you for asking. Peanut butter M&M'S.

Griffin: Crazy, fuckin' awful.

Travis: That's all, though.

Griffin: Juice, you know that the disappointed sort of like lean back drink look doesn't work as good when you are drinking from a Disney cup—

Justin: [chuckles] It's not for you! God damn! I just wanted to enjoy some of my protein coffee!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: In peace!

Griffin: But you're doing it out of a—out of a big child's cup, I will say, and—

Travis: Peanut butter M&M'S—

Justin: That's the only way I have room to mix the coffee—

Griffin: It is not fair, it is—

Justin: In the protein drink!

Griffin: It is not fair—

Travis: Peanut butter M&M'S in a chocolate milkshake, but in a bowl.

Griffin: Yeah. So no leaves? [titters]

Justin: Sweetgreen has always been about listening to our—

Griffin: No greens! No green, just sweet! [chuckles]

Travis: Chocolate is from a plant, Griffin

Griffin: "Welcome to Sweet. I'm Travis. Here's my sweet bowl."

Justin: "Fans wanted Nickalondria, and we're excited to deliver a bowl that channels their bold—"

Travis: Gummy bears too!

Griffin: All right, finish, Justin!

Travis: Because in that cold milkshake—

Griffin: Travis, I'm done—I'm done with the interruptions. Now I need to know more about this bowl, so I have more to joke about.

Justin: "Fans wanted Nickalondria, and we're decided—we're excited to deliver a bowl that channels their bold energy, while staying true to our ethos."

Griffin: Probably—

Justin: "Food that's fresh, flavorful and rooted in real ingredients from farmers, and partners we know and trust."

Griffin: There's an editor that went over this that saw the usage of the words "bowl" and "bold" one word apart, and were like, "That feels like something we should cut." But then they remembered what they were editing and they were like, "Ah, fuck, what am I doing?"

Justin: "I don't have any time for it."

Travis: How would you guys feel if someone could sum up your personal ethos—

Griffin: With a Ranchy Baddie Bowl?

Travis: With a Ranchy Baddie Bowl salad.

Griffin: Pretty fuckin' good, honestly! It would probably save me a lot in like therapy and... a lot of the work that I have to do would be way easier if I had a self-reflecting salad.

Travis: Oh, you want to get to know what I'm all about? Just eat this salad.

Griffin: Yeah. Eat this salad. Then you'll know.

Justin: This is where I'm trying to keep my spirits up, guys, but—well, hold on. [titters] Let me just— "Working with Sweetgreen on the Ranchy Baddie Bowl has been such a fun ride," said Nick van Steenberg. "We loved creating something together that we can't wait for the fans to try!"

Griffin: I don't think that's what his voice would—he's so handsome, I do not think his voice would sound like that.

Travis: Whoa.

Justin: "The fans asked and Sweetgreen delivered," said Olandria Carthen. "Getting to create this bowl with Nick has been such a blast. The Ranchy Baddie Bowl is spicy, playful and packed with personality, and we can't wait for everyone to taste it." I just feel like you should—this is me now. I just feel like you should be able to go into a fuckin' salad store without having to know the neologism that Instagram has cooked up for the celebrity couple du jour. You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Like can I— "Do you want a Ranchy Baddie Bowl?" What the fuck are you talking about?! "We made it with Nickalondria Nation." Go—stop!

Griffin: Yeah. [titters]

Travis: Give me that—

Justin: "I'm going to McDonald's!"

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: "Give me that bowl of peanut butter M&M's in a milkshake!"

Justin: What does BTS want me to have?!

Griffin: [titters] I mean, you can say "I'm going to McDonald's," but sometimes McDonald's would be like, "Do you want what BTS is having?" They will explicitly be like that sometimes.

Justin: I know! I'm complaining about McDonald's too! I shouldn't have to know who someone is! They should just—if you're gonna—if you're gonna do a food... if you're gonna do a food deal with someone, they should be famous for doing food properly!

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: You know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Kenny Rogers Roasters is where we went wrong!

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Why didn't anybody listen to him about chicken?!

Griffin: Start there.

Justin: He did The Gambler! And Islands in the Stream, you know?

Griffin: Yeah. Absolutely.

Justin: And Michael Richards' Spaghetti Factory!

Griffin: Got to. Did you guys know that that was the first two words of Spaghetti Factory, before they put some distance between themselves and Mr. Richards? Did you know that, listener? It's true! That man loves spaghetti and—

Travis: And making it.

Griffin: And making it, and really going off the chains with some really, really racist, really, really, really—

Justin: My brother used to host a podcast about reality dating shows.

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: And if he doesn't know—

Griffin: I don't know.

Justin: Then you—why are you doing an entire salad about it? It makes me so angry.

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, I... I still probably wouldn't have followed it, Just, Sweetgreen sort of works in... sort of food materials that I don't... that my body sort of does reject, via osmosis, if I—if I go—if I over-indulge.

Justin: How about we do another question? "Recently, my question—my husband and I were at a restaurant, and overheard another couple talking about the other types of cuisine they enjoy. They described a few dishes that my husband and I knew, but they couldn't remember the name of. We both really wanted to tell them the dish names, but felt too awkward cutting into a private conversation. Is there a graceful way to cut into a conversation with vital information that the other party so desperately needs, without seeming like an eavesdropping creep?" That's from Holly Pruitt, Georgia. Okay, just—

Griffin: Straight up and down, I think, quick one. No.

Justin: No.

Griffin: No, I don't think you can—

Justin: Yeah, you were—

Travis: What?

Justin: It's like... we have a whole thing about that, like listening to other people's—

Travis: No, okay, now hold on.

Justin: Here he goes.

Travis: Here's my question for you guys, to outline the—

Griffin: Is this one included because you knew that you were gonna have the nasty boy argument for it?

Travis: No, no, no! Yes. So, my question is, is there a level of private conversation noise level in public where it becomes a public conversation by default? If you're talking about it loudly enough that I'm a table over—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I know exactly what you're talking about, I don't think that's a private conversation.

Griffin: Let me—let me—

Justin: Travis, I'm an incredible observer of the human condition.

Griffin: Go ahead.

Justin: The idea that I wouldn't perceive everything going on around when you—with perfect clarity, is truly, truly unhinged. Of course, I'm seeing everything. It's courtesy.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: That I'm acting like I'm not observing the entirety of the world around me, at all—at all times.

Griffin: Because you don't want that pressure. You don't want the—we all know when we're out at a restaurant, that everyone is listening to everything that we are saying. But we don't need the pressure of them confirming that for us.

Justin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Okay—

Griffin: I was at a—I was at—Rachel and I went to a dim sum—Michelin Star dim sum restaurant in Hong Kong. And we got in there, and it was just—it was just long lunch table seating. It was just long, unbroken lunch table seating. And we were, you know, elbows to asses with people. Dining next to each other, across from just absolute strangers. And even then, Travis, I do not think it's okay to be like, "I think you mean... cacio e pepe." Like I don't think you're allowed to do that. [chuckles]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't think you can.

Travis: Is there a level of frustration that the people talking about it reach in not being able to think of it, at which point you are doing a service so welcomed that you won't be shunned for it?

Griffin: No.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: No!

Griffin: I don't think there's any daylight here, man. I don't think there's any daylight here.

Justin: The only time—the only time—I will sometimes—here's what I will say. The only move where you can maybe get in there, is sometimes I will be having a conversation with someone, and I will realize that I have said something so loudly, unintentionally, that it has become a more public conversation. And then at that point, I might try to throw out like, I meant to do this the entire time kind of like, "Right, everybody?!" You know what I mean? Like, I was actually trying to bring us all in. [whispers] I wasn't.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: I just start yelling for no reason. But if they're trying to play that off, then maybe you can slide in with like a, "Actually..."

Griffin: You are also robbing them of that great moment. Like thirty minutes later, on the drive home, where one of them just immediate—like it clicks finally and they're like, "Cacio e pepe!" And then they laugh, and they kiss, and they fall in love.

Travis: Oh!

Griffin: Because of that moment.

Justin: If they really wanted the answer, they would google it, right?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: isn't that the implication?

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah. If you do that to me, I will assume you just googled it faster than I did, probably using some wasteful AI. And then I'm gonna be—

Justin: [titters] "Sorry, my mid—my Midjourney glasses tell me that you wanted me to say cacio e pepe."

Griffin: [chuckles]

Justin: "I'm not even sure what that meant, but I got a prompt that said, 'Go say cacio e pepe to those people.' So I'm just coming over to say that."

Griffin: "My Meta Oracles actually heard you before you said out loud what you were saying, and cacio e pepe."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "Cacio e pepe. The spec said so."

Justin: "Zuckerberg asked me to come ask you to review this place on Google Maps, if you wouldn't mind, thank you."

Griffin: "Are they always watching?"
"They're glasses... so I hope so?"

Justin: "Do you want me to close my—I can close my eyes? But they're—"

Griffin: "I could close my eyes? Cover 'em? Good?"

Travis: I guess I just think we're a little too disconnected in this digital era.

Griffin: Absolutely, we are! Fully, Travis! A hundred percent.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: We're not gonna start building bridges by correcting each other at restaurants.

Justin: Yeah, but like—but like, Travis, you're a hundred percent right. But if you walk over and be like, "Cacio e pepe," the person at the table is not gonna be like, "Yes. It starts here."

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles] You know what I mean? Like, "Embrace me."

Travis: Then maybe you guys aren't charming enough!

Justin: "Take me in your arms! Hold me."

Travis: Because I've done this before, and I am a welcomed addition to any table and friend group!

Griffin: I think—

Travis: People love it when I help them remember the names of cuisines that they like.

Griffin: I—that's possible. That's possible. I think it's possible, I think maybe thirty percent of people will receive that and they'll like it. So maybe you've just gotten kind of lucky.

Justin: Yeah, and I will also say, Travis, there's a big difference between getting corrected and getting corrected by a world-famous podcaster.
[chuckles]

Griffin: That's true.

Travis: That's true.

Justin: You know what I mean? Like, of course they're gonna be a little excited!

Travis: Oh, that is true, because usually when I'm like, "Is it cacio e pepe? Hi, I'm Travis McElroy from My Brother, My Brother and Me."

Justin: [chuckles] Right! "Sorry, I got a little glitter on your shoulder. Hi, I'm Travis McElroy."

Griffin: I'm gonna actually—there's a definitive answer to this that we have not even considered yet, and it is abso-fuckin'-lutely no. Because what if you're wrong?

Justin: Ah... chilling.

Griffin: Can you fuckin' imagine you walk over there—

Justin: "No, that wasn't it."

Griffin: And they're like, "What was that dish? It was like a noodles with a white sauce—"

Travis: Are you sure?!

Griffin: And you roll up like, "Cacio e pepe?" And they're like, "No, Fettuccine Alfredo, actually, we were thinking of."

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: "It's crazy I couldn't remember the name of that."

Justin: "You being such a turd reminded us of the right answer. We hate you."

Griffin: "We hate you so much."

Travis: You're welcome.

Griffin: You're welcome.

Justin: Thank you so much for listening to our podcast. Hey, this week we're gonna be in Salt Lake City and San Diego! Will you please come see us?

Travis: Please?

Griffin: It's our last show of the—of the Twenty Thunder Drive Tour.

Justin: We're going to be doing the fiftieth TAZ live show. That's wild. We're going to be going back to Balance for this show. We're going to have Erika Ishii as a special guest, and Griffin McElroy will be GMing that. If you're coming to a MBMBaM show and you've got a question you want answered or fear you want read aloud, email that! MBMBaM@maximumfun.org. Put your

city in the subject line. More info and ticket links are available at bit.ly/mcelroytours.

Travis: But here's the exciting news, it's not our last show of the year.

Griffin: No, it fuckin' isn't, man.

Justin: Griffin lied to you.

Travis: Yeah, because this—

Griffin: Well, I said it was the last show of our Twenty Thunder Drive Tour. I think of what comes next—

Travis: Yes. But it's not the last show of the year.

Griffin: No way.

Travis: Because this year for Candlenights, we're going back to Huntington, doing a live show. But you can still join us, even if you can't make the trip in person, because we're doing the in-person show, December 6th, at 7PM. Tickets on sale this Friday, October 17th, at 12PM Eastern Time. Which includes the virtual stream ticket, because we will be streaming a digital premiere of the recording of the show, with bonus behind the scenes footage, all kinds of stuff.

That premieres on December 19th, at 9PM Eastern Time. We'll be in the chat for the premiere, and there will be video on demand access through January 3rd. Tickets are available now. And all proceeds from the show will be donated to Harmony House, which seeks to end homelessness in the Huntington area through permanent housing and supportive service programs. Tickets for both events are available at bit.ly/candlenights2025. That's bit.ly/candlenights2025.

Griffin: It's gonna be very fun. We've been—we've been really—we've been working on it and coming up with some ideas that I'm just fuckin' stoked about. I'm also stoked about Montaigne for letting us use the theme song, My Life is Better with You. It really is a great album, one of my faves of the

year, getting a lot of rotation on my devices. Hey, also, we have merch over at mcelroymerch.com that you should go check out. Do we have a Fear?

Travis: We do.

Justin: Tell it to me!

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

Justin: I demand it.

Griffin: "This year, I'm going to be faster than my fear of the ceiling fan being at max speed."

Justin: [titters] 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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