

Wonderful! 392: Halloween Spooktacular

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[theme music, "Money Won't Pay (feat. Augustus)" by Bo En plays]

Rachel: Hi, this is Rachel McElroy.

Griffin: Hello! This is Griffin McElroy.

Rachel: And this is Wonderful!

Griffin: *Oooh-oooh!* That's the sound of a scary ghost walking by.

Rachel: It's a little bit chilly.

Griffin: It's a little chilly, the ghost is cold, but he's also spectral, and you should be greatly afeared of him. Because on Wonderful, we talk about things we like, that's good, that we're into. And today, it's a little bit early. We were thinking of just doing the Halloween Spooktacular now, because we figured, if we can get ahead of the rush of Halloween programming, you know, we're gonna get a lot more likes.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: People are gonna smash the like—

Rachel: Well, and give you time, right?

Griffin: And give you time!

Rachel: We know that you make your... [chuckles] decisions based on the content—

Griffin: Us.

Rachel: You hear in this show. And we thought if we put out our Halloween picks now—

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: You'll have time to respond. And you know, make your choices in advance of the holiday itself.

Griffin: Yes, before we get into it, do you have any Small Wonders? I'm very excited for the format of this episode.

Rachel: You're all business today.

Griffin: Well, I have a lot going on in my life, personally and professionally. And spiritually.

Rachel: Oh?

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Well, okay, we should talk about that.

Griffin: Yeah, that's my Small Wonder, is my spiritual walk.

Rachel: Your journey?

Griffin: My journey.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: It's a sort of astral alignment with like some kind of like Eastern stuff thrown in there.

Rachel: Oh?

Griffin: A few crystals, but it's like not even anything worth like worrying about.

Rachel: Are you gonna start wearing more bracelets?

Griffin: Maybe, I don't know. I can't pull off most accessories. I feel silly enough even wearing a watch. Do you have a Small Wonder?

Rachel: Okay, so my Small Wonder will be... so, for years and years, my parents would go to the St. Louis Blues' home opener.

Griffin: Right?

Rachel: Largely because we would arrange that to happen because my dad's birthday is in October, and it would usually align closely with the game. And they would give us the calendar.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And now they live here. And so, that didn't happen. And I was a little bit distressed, because I really love that St. Louis Blues home opener calendar.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Each month has a little picture of a Blues player, which is not my favorite part. My favorite part is that each game is listed on the calendar.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Which makes it easier for me. And I just like having a calendar that I can see my days in front of me.

Griffin: You love a calendar.

Rachel: Anyway, I just found one on eBay. [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, because we weren't able to make it to St. Louis this year.

Rachel: So, now I will have it. Now, I will have it, and I don't have to miss out. And I feel great about that.

Griffin: Yeah. I'm struggling. I was gonna say NyQuil, I'm almost certain I've done—

Rachel: You've definitely done that.

Griffin: A couple of segments based on NyQuil. Because being sick is kind of the pits. I'm gonna say... room refreshes. We've refreshed Henry's bedroom, hung up some shelves, some new shelves, moved some stuff around. And it's just always, I think, really neat to take a room in your house that you interact with a million times, you know, a day, and make it new, vivacious. I remember very clearly every time that like my parents would move around the living room furniture and be like, "And this is the new setup." And always feeling very excited by that.

Rachel: Yeah! That's not something historically we've done a lot of, but now that we live in, you know, our city house—

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: You know, where space is kind of...

Griffin: A little tighter.

Rachel: A little constrained. It's more necessary.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: And I enjoy it too.

Griffin: Here's what we're doing today, folks. We're gonna have two sort of general segments here talking about Halloween stuff. Got lists for you, lists that we're going to go down. And we're going to just sort of give our broad reactions to the items on these lists through a vehicle that the youths call Smash or Pass. And I mentioned this to Rachel, and your response was, "Is this a thing that teens do on TikTok?" And I replied, "I don't think they do it anymore."

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: It is a thing that is so old at this point that I feel like it is way... like they were doing this shit on like Hot Ones back in 2022, and it's like you know that it does not have—

Rachel: So, smash, what did smash mean? Like pass I can figure out, but what did smash mean?

Griffin: Smash means... to have... want to have sex.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, I'm trying to smash.

Rachel: And so on Hot Ones...

Griffin: Yeah. I don't know if they did it on Hot Ones, that's just like the vibe of—that's like the energy. And so, smash, it doesn't have to mean like, "I want to have sex with, you know, this garlic buffalo sauce," right?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Because clearly, that would be... that would be—that would hurt.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: No matter what you've got going on down there, you do not want hot sauce on it. So, it's more like, I like it. And pass means like, I don't, I wouldn't. I don't like it as much, or I wouldn't make love to it.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: But again, we're sort of abstracting it out. And so that's what we'll be doing, and expounding on those sort of judgments as we pass them.

Rachel: Okay. Do I have to say smash or pass?

Griffin: I do think that that is sort of maybe the only integral component of the game, yes.

Rachel: Okay, okay! No, it's good to know the rules. [chuckles]

Griffin: But again, we need to clarify, and we'll do this several times throughout the show, we are not talking about... sexual stuff. It's just like a way—there's no other way to say like, I like it or I don't like it. Do you know what I mean?

Rachel: No, there's no other way. [chuckles]

Griffin: There's no other way. Smash or Pass is very, very efficient.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And you know, we have a lot to get through, and so efficiency is important. You've prepared the first list for us of Halloween items. What are we discussing first, in the first block of our show here today?

Rachel: So, I wanted to talk about Halloween candy.

Griffin: Okay?

Rachel: And when you say that I prepared the list, actually, Thrillist has prepared the list.

Griffin: Thank you, Thrillist, for preparing the list for us.

Rachel: They have Halloween candies ranked.

Griffin: Okay?

Rachel: And they have all the way up to thirty-one, inexplicably?

Griffin: We'll see how many of them we get through.

Rachel: Do you want me to start at thirty-one, or do you want me to start at like twenty or fifteen?

Griffin: How would that work if you started at fifteen? Oh, you mean like work your way up?

Rachel: No, I'm saying I start at the twentieth place candy, or the fifteenth place candy.

Griffin: I think start at number one, and let's go down maybe even.

Rachel: Oh, you don't like the suspense of what is the number one candy?

Griffin: Oh, that's a good point.

Rachel: Right?

Griffin: All right, start at thirty-one, but we'll do skipsies if it seems like it's dragging.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: But I don't think it'll take us that long to get through thirty-one candies.

Rachel: This one, I don't think you're gonna agree with. Their last place candy is Smarties.

Griffin: Smarties... smash. Huge smash.

Rachel: Yeah, I feel like our boys really like Smarties.

Griffin: I mean, you know what you're getting into. It's like a tart little treat. It's one where—and I don't need a lot of 'em. If I see a roll open and my kids are enjoying 'em, I'll sneak a couple in there. I'll tuck 'em into my cheeks like a chipmunk.

Rachel: Do they taste different? Do different colors taste different?

Griffin: Probably, but I mean, it's... when that—when the flavor is so overwritten by citric acid, like it doesn't really matter.

Rachel: Yeah, I'm a hard pass on Smarties.

Griffin: Hard pass, interesting?

Rachel: I don't like candies like Pez, Smarties, anything that is just...

Griffin: Sugar.

Rachel: Crunchy sugar.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: No, thank you.

Griffin: Again, not a—I couldn't do a whole roll of Smarties. That would make me sick to my tummy. But one or two Smarties? Like yeah, absolutely.

Rachel: [chuckles] The doctor recommended—

Griffin: One or two.

Rachel: One to two Smarties.

Griffin: Why not? Next.

Rachel: Thirty on this list of thirty-one is Airheads.

Griffin: Smash! I do like Airheads a lot. I don't fuck with most taffies in general, but Airheads are the only ones where it feels like they've gotten the flavor kind of really dialed in.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: There's jokes too, right? No, that's LaffyTaffy.

Rachel: That's LaffyTaffy. They're very similar, though.

Griffin: The white Airheads are dope.

Rachel: This is the thing, I feel pretty particular about the flavor.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: But I will probably say pass also.

Griffin: Wow. Okay.

Rachel: Like—

Griffin: The grit, is it the grit you don't like? A lot of people don't like the grit.

Rachel: The stickiness.

Griffin: Well, that's—

Rachel: Just, it's stickiness.

Griffin: I mean, you're in the wrong sort of country.

Rachel: Like, if I've got fifteen candies in front of me, there are probably fourteen I would choose before Airheads.

Griffin: That's crazy.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: That's crazy.

Rachel: Twenty-nine, Jolly Ranchers.

Griffin: Smash. I'm realizing now I might smash most of these.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Jolly Ranchers are huge for me because like, again, like give me a little treat that lasts a while and delivers a strong, good flavor. Hello, that's Jolly Ranchers. I used to—

Rachel: What's your favorite Jolly Rancher?

Griffin: You said that, my mind immediately jumped to grape. There's a lot of—I do like grape candies a lot. I like—honestly, they all kind of fuck, don't they? Blue raspberry. The blue raspberry changes the color of the mouth a little bit too much for my taste.

Rachel: I gotta go watermelon.

Griffin: Watermelon is pretty good, too. Green apple.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: You can't go wrong. Jolly Ranchers absolutely rip ass.

Rachel: I'm gonna pass on that one too. [laughs]

Griffin: That's crazy! Do you like candy?

Rachel: I like... a particular assortment of candy, which will probably become pretty evident as we get further down this list.

Griffin: Yeah, that's true.

Rachel: But if it is a hard candy, the bar is pretty high.

Griffin: Wow, because it's going to be last—it'll last for a while. You're going to be working on it for a while.

Rachel: Well, or you bite into it, and it's gone immediately. And it's like there's, the texture is—

Griffin: I will say—

Rachel: Chalky.

Griffin: I don't enjoy when the Jolly Rancher gets down to a single sliver, a shard, like a sort of ovular shard.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: I don't enjoy that. Sometimes I'll spit that right out like it's the pit.

Rachel: No, that is unpleasant.

Griffin: It's the seed of the Jolly Rancher.

Rachel: Okay, now this, Thrillist has some explaining in to do—

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: And I noticed this on other lists too when I was doing my quote/unquote research—

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: For this segment. Thirty-one candies, number twenty-eight in a ranked list is Sour Patch Kids?

Griffin: Holy shit, smash!

Rachel: Who would put it that—

Griffin: Crazy!

Rachel: Who would put it that low?

Griffin: Let me—and I'm assuming in all of these, we're talking about fun-size. Can we make that assumption?

Rachel: Yeah, yeah, okay, okay.

Griffin: Because like—yeah.

Rachel: I don't think that's really a part of the ranking, but—

Griffin: But I think that there's certain candy deliveries where fun-size is like perfect. I do actually want seven Sour Patch Kids.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: That's great for me. Because I, if you give me a whole big bag, I'll get—I'll get a tummy ache from it.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Seven Sour Patch Kids, a strong, good, powerful flavor delivered quickly.

Rachel: As much as it pains me to say—

Griffin: You're not about to pass on Sour Patch kids, are you?

Rachel: No, I am gonna say smash, I'm just uncomfortable saying smash about a candy.

Griffin: Yeah, well, again, it is...

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Remove it from that.

Rachel: But here's the thing I'm realizing about myself in this conversation, I need—I need multiple variables here. I need flavor and texture.

Griffin: Of course!

Rachel: And you really get that with Sour Patch Kids.

Griffin: And in saying that, you're suggesting that I don't need flavor and texture.

Rachel: I feel like you just need flavor.

Griffin: Not true.

Rachel: I feel like you don't really care—

Griffin: Untrue!

Rachel: Jolly Ranchers, Smarties, texture is like, there's nothing. It's like—

Griffin: I like a Smartie, you suck on it, and it kind of like disintegrates? That's awesome.

Rachel: But there's no like variation, there's no chewiness. It's just hard.

Griffin: We can't cross-examine, we can't relitigate Jolly Ranchers. We have so many candies to get through.

Rachel: Okay, anyway, I love Sour Patch Kids.

Griffin: Fuck yeah.

Rachel: Twenty-seven is garbage. The fact that this is ahead of Sour Patch Kids¹ makes me so angry. Twenty-seven is Runts. [chuckles]

Griffin: Runts!

Rachel: I enjoy that there is so much difference in between like the—you know, and usually in a sugary candy, you don't get a lot of variation in the like different colors. Runts does have like a lot of different flavor, Runt to Runt.

Griffin: There's like two good Runts, and then there's like five bad Runts.

Rachel: When I was in sixth grade, they were still really kind of trying to bridge that transition between elementary and middle.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: And so, they would reward you with candy, and you could go into, as I recall, the principal's office.

Griffin: Awesome.

Rachel: And get a scoop of Runtts. And you would dip your hand into this glass jar—[chuckles]

Griffin: Awesome, fuck yeah! Hey, pass, because of this story. No, thanks.

Rachel: [chuckles] And scoop Runtts. And you would put it into like an envelope.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: That you would like put in the mail.

Griffin: Yeah. All the Runtts could be good, except the banana one, and it would still be a pass for me. That is how foul the banana Runt is.

Rachel: The banana one is—

Griffin: Tell me how I'm supposed to fuckin' eat this arc, this hard arc of candy.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Crazy.

Rachel: Yeah, I will also pass on Runtts. Number twenty-six does kind of satisfy my two variables of texture and flavor, although I don't know that I love it, and that is Blow Pops.

Griffin: Oh, Charms Blow Pops are a huge smash for me.

Rachel: Mm-hm.

Griffin: That was a highlight for me. That is usually the first thing I'll reach for.

Rachel: I enjoy that experience of like the outer shell kind of crumbling into the gum.

Griffin: Love that.

Rachel: The gum is kind of useless.

Griffin: The gum sucks instantly. Yeah, I mean, the gum you get five or six good chews out of, and then you gotta shoot it out. But I like it—I like that grit mixed in with the gum. Are you a pass, it sounds like?

Rachel: Eh... no, I'll smash. I'll smash it.

Griffin: Great.

Rachel: I'll smash it, because it does—my two variables.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Rachel: I'm gonna combine twenty-five and twenty-four, because I feel like, I don't know, in my head, they deserve the same category.

Griffin: Let's see.

Rachel: Twenty-five is Whoppers and twenty-four is Milk Duds. [titters]

Griffin: [sighs] Hah, pass.

Rachel: On both?

Griffin: Yeah, pass on both. I used to like Whoppers. I like malt. I like malt as a flavor, a malted... give me a malted at the soda shop.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: But Milk Duds? Mm-mm, that's way too chewy for me. And Whoppers, honestly, Whoppers are one where it's like each box is a different level of crunch. Some are crunchy, some are like hard, chewy, weird.

Rachel: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Just the quality control is—

Rachel: I haven't gotten enough to really have that differentiating—I will just say that both of them, when I'm eating them, I'm like, do I really want to keep eating this?

Griffin: Lot of work. Lot of work.

Rachel: Like, I don't particularly enjoy either, but it's chocolate, and for me, that's exciting.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: And so I will keep eating, but I don't enjoy the experience. [titters]

Griffin: No, pass.

Rachel: Twenty-three is Milky Way.

Griffin: Oh... ah...

Rachel: This is a complicated one.

Griffin: Can we—can we—let's combine—let's just do all the bars, real fast, okay?

Rachel: Whoa, hey, no.

Griffin: Well, no, because listen!

Rachel: No!

Griffin: A lot of the—a Milky Way is a Snickers without peanuts.

Rachel: *Ah*, no.

Griffin: You don't think so? I do like a Milky Way, it's... In the past, I would have told you that's my favorite candy bar. I have changed, as a man, as an adult, as a father.

Rachel: [laughs] Uh-huh?

Griffin: And now it is like a lot of stuff that is going to not make me feel so great. In a fun-size package, however, I do actually, I will go for a soft pillow of caramel, chocolatey goodness. I'm gonna say smash.

Rachel: Yeah, I'll also say smash. I mean, it's definitely in the bar continuum, not my favorite.

Griffin: Yeah, no.

Rachel: But I mean chocolate and caramel.

Griffin: Yeah. Can't go wrong.

Rachel: Twenty-Two, LaffyTaffy.

Griffin: Pass. Bad flavors. Not Airheads. Jokes, not great.

Rachel: Yeah, jokes, kind of overrated, honestly. Like... not worth it.

Griffin: Not worth it to me.

Rachel: Twenty-one, Nerds. This is an interesting conversation I feel like for me.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Nerds, tiny. You have to eat so many to get anything out of it.

Griffin: Yeah... And can you go ahead and tell me, are we gonna get to Nerds Ropes, or chewy, Gummy Nerds? I do—I do kind of fuck with Gummy Nerds a little bit. Our kids like them.

Rachel: No, there are not varieties of Nerds on this list.

Griffin: I like Nerds as a seasoning to other candy. Yeah, okay, I'll mess around with that.

Rachel: Oh, yeah, I mean—

Griffin: But straight Nerds? Like, I don't think so.

Rachel: Gummy Nerds are incredible.

Griffin: Gummy Nerds are pretty dope.

Rachel: Satisfies, again, my flavor and texture.

Griffin: The texture goes *crazy* on gummy nerds.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Pass.

Rachel: Pass, for sure.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Number twenty, Skittles.

Griffin: Smash. No... don't need to expound. Smash. Hard smash.

Rachel: Yeah, I will also smash, although I won't... [laughs]

Griffin: What? What, babe?

Rachel: It won't be the kind of smash where I will feel... euphoric after.

Griffin: Oh, I see. Right.

Rachel: Like, I'll smash if there's some Skittles there.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: But after, I'm not gonna feel like, oh my god...

Griffin: See, I will.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: I absolutely will.

Rachel: Number nineteen I feel emotional about, because there was a long period in my life when I could not have chocolate, because there was this assumption that I was allergic to it. Number nineteen is the Payday.

Griffin: I'm not even sure, gun to my head, I could tell you what a Payday is.

Rachel: It's... it's like a bar of... caramel. And it's wrapped in peanuts, like full peanuts.

Griffin: Oh, that's a Payday?

Rachel: Full-sized peanuts, yeah.

Griffin: Oh, okay. Huge fuckin' pass, are you kidding me? That is not a candy bar.

Rachel: The peanuts are salted, though, which is what I like about it.

Griffin: Okay, that's cool. Crazy texture. No thanks.

Rachel: I enjoy a Payday.

Griffin: It's like eating a cobblestone road.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Not interested in it. Thank you.

Rachel: [chuckles] That's beautiful.

Griffin: Pass.

Rachel: Eighteen... gosh, I don't know how to say this, Haribo?

Griffin: Haribo, yeah.

Rachel: Haribo gummies.

Griffin: Oh, gosh! Sour Goldbears, I think those are Haribo, right?

Rachel: Mm-hm.

Griffin: Or is that a different company? Those are good. I like... I don't like a lot of sour delivery methods. I like how a Haribo gummy like requires a little—they're toothsome. It's a toothsome candy.

Rachel: So often I feel like I'm getting old, old ones.

Griffin: Yeah, oh, uh-huh, it's hard to tell, because they are so firm and toothsome.

Rachel: Mm-hm.

Griffin: I'll say pass.

Rachel: I'm gonna pass too on that.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Seventeen, this one... Junior Mints.

Griffin: Wow, man!

Rachel: I feel like it is nice as a refresher from other candies.

Griffin: Sure, it's like the ginger on the sushi platter, yeah.

Rachel: Yeah, exactly. Like if you've got a bag full of candy and you are working your way through, it's nice to have Junior Mints there to just kind of step back, cleanse the palate.

Griffin: And the mint flavor is—I've eaten so many Junior Mints. The mint flavor, I don't have much of an appetite for. I find it a bit synthetic, which... it is. And I don't know, like an Andes Mint is a bit fresher to me. Is the Andes Mint on there?

Rachel: No.

Griffin: Are we gonna get to a York Peppermint Pattie?

Rachel: I don't think so. I don't know why you're pointing at me. [chuckles]

Griffin: I have a one finger, one curved grandpa—

Rachel: [laughs] "Hey, you there."

Griffin: "Hey, you."

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: "Get your damn hands off of her!"

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Pass.

Rachel: I'd smash.

Griffin: Wow?

Rachel: I'd smash. I've definitely gotten like a box of these at a movie theater before and like eaten an alarming number.

Griffin: Sure. How do you feel after that, though?

Rachel: Not great.

Griffin: Eating that much sort of mint goo?

Rachel: It's assertive.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Sixteen, Twizzlers.

Griffin: Pass. They're the only good ones are pull and peel, and like even though sometimes, I don't know...

Rachel: Yeah, licorice, again, it's kind of like Whoppers and Milk Duds. There's a lot of movie candies where I'm like, I don't know if I'm enjoying this.

Griffin: Here's what sucks, though. I love licorice. Twizzlers are not good licorice. They're really not good licorice. There's such a market for like artisanal licorice, and I'm kind of a sucker for it, because that kind of licorice is like really, really good. Filled Twizzlers are dope, also.

Rachel: Mm-hm!

Griffin: I will absolutely get down with those. But you can't guarantee that. If someone says, "I'm going out for Twizzlers, do you want any?" I'd say pass.

Rachel: All right, do we want to skip ahead at this point?

Griffin: Probably, yeah.

Rachel: Okay. If you bring up one, I can tell you where it is on the list. Like, if I get to the top three and you're like, "Wait, where's this?"

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, sure, sure.

Rachel: I can go back and tell you where it is.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Okay, do you want to do top three or top five?

Griffin: Top five.

Rachel: Okay, top five. Number five, Butterfinger.

Griffin: Yeah, smash.

Rachel: Yeah, me too.

Griffin: I had to think about it, because it does, again, it is a toothsome—the way it kind of collapses in on itself and then turns into sort of hard tack, I could take or leave. But—

Rachel: Yeah, the chocolate is kind of like any other—it's unlike any other chocolate.

Griffin: Yes.

Rachel: And the inside is weird.

Griffin: Yeah. It is crispity-crunchity, and I do like that, though.

Rachel: The flavor is nice, though.

Griffin: I don't like the finish, I guess is what I'm saying.

Rachel: Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: But like every other part of it, like I'm actually pretty deeply into. Again, fun-size, a little pillow, a Butterfinger? Yeah, smash. Hard smash.

Rachel: Yeah. It's one of those candies where, if I'm eating a handful of Halloween candy, I won't put Butterfinger at the end.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Because I feel like I need to have a good one after a Butterfinger.
[chuckles]

Griffin: Exactly.

Rachel: Number four, Kit Kat.

Griffin: Smash.

Rachel: Yeah, me too.

Griffin: Crazy. Like, yeah, you got it. That one's almost cheating, because it's like, oh, okay, a wafer-thin cookie covered in chocolate? Like, sure. And the way you've separated it into four—

Rachel: I know!

Griffin: Perfect, lovely—

Rachel: I do like that.

Griffin: Lovely little ingots of chocolate and wafer.

Rachel: [chuckles] Uh-huh.

Griffin: That's awesome. I love that.

Rachel: Yeah, no, I like—I like that experience where it's like they have made your pacing choices for you. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. Also, like, I mean, Japan goes fucking so hard on the Kit Kat scene.

Rachel: Oh my god, I know.

Griffin: One time, we got like one of those Sugoi Crates with like a mix of Kit Kats in it.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: And it was like so dope. And when we did our honeymoon there in 2014, we brought back like two bags of those pumpkin Kit Kats that were so good, and we've never been able to find again.

Rachel: Yeah. Not pumpkin pie, because they sell pumpkin pie Kit Kats in the States.

Griffin: It's different, guys. It's different.

Rachel: This was like pumpkin, and it was incredible.

Griffin: It was very, very unctuous.

Rachel: Number three, Snickers.

Griffin: Smash, forever.

Rachel: yeah, smash, of course.

Griffin: Smash forever! It's maybe the only one that I could do—I will do a full-size candy bar of.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Because it's got so much going on in there, it's so complex. That is a candy bar for a grown up. That's a meal substitute bar.

Rachel: It really is.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: It is a hearty... a hearty snack.

Griffin: A hearty bar.

Rachel: Number two, Twix.

Griffin: Yeah, smash.

Rachel: Yeah, I would say so too.

Griffin: Weird, weird—I would put Snickers and probably Kit Kat above Twix.

Rachel: Yeah. I don't know if I'd put Kit Kat above Twix.

Griffin: But Snickers, for sure, would go above Twix for me.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: I'll tell you, it's the two in a thing that I don't necessarily understand, because it's like—

Rachel: See, the Kit Kat, you enjoy that there's portions?

Griffin: It comes in a fun ingot, though. Like it comes in a raft of Kit Kat, that's awesome. Because then it's up to you, do you snap 'em off and have like a single ingot at a time, or do you chomp into the whole sheet? Like that's cool.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: The Twix is just like, you putting two in there feels a little desperate to me.

Rachel: [chuckles] Well, that's—

Griffin: But smash.

Rachel: When I started that whole campaign about like, "Share with a friend." Because I think they realized people are confused. [chuckles]

Griffin: But Little Debbie makes like the flat, long Twix, like the caramel—I forget what it's called, like a caramel cookie bar or something like that? And it proves that like the form can be improved upon. And it feels like Twix hasn't really explored that much. But still Smash, it's great.

Rachel: Well, I think there's just a lot of candy bars with caramel inside, and I think they had to figure out like how do we differentiate, you know?

Griffin: Can I guess number one?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: M&M's?

Rachel: No, dude! Think about the Halloween—

Griffin: Candy corn?

Rachel: No.

Griffin: Good.

Rachel: No.

Griffin: Good.

Rachel: I don't even know if candy corn is on this list, to be honest.

Griffin: Fuckin' good, it shouldn't be.

Rachel: Think about like when you're thinking about... candies that like gussy themselves up with Halloween-specific—

Griffin: Oh, Reese Cups.

Rachel: Yes.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, man! Yeah, man. They're really, undeniably good. And it speaks to the strength of them that there are seasonal variants of basically every imaginable stripe. You want hearts, you want eggs, you want Santa Clauses?

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: You want straight cups, you want pumpkins? They'll do it all, man.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Can't go wrong. It's crazy.

Rachel: It's amazing, yeah. And I do like the seasonal ones, because the ratio of peanut butter to chocolate is increased.

Griffin: I'll tell you what I don't like, the wrappers. It feels like we should have reached a technology level—

Rachel: There are a lot of... waste materials.

Griffin: There's a lot of waste materials. They used to come in like... the wrapper, and then there would be like a sheet of cardboard, and then like the wax wrapper around that. Like that's so much shit, you guys.

Rachel: Yeah, because especially if you have a few, and then you have this just like landfill in front of you, it's extra—

Griffin: Just temper your shit, guys.

Rachel: Yeah. Extra wasteful.

Griffin: Huge smash.

Rachel: Yeah, I would also... smash that food item.

Griffin: Our judgment has been passed. Let's steal you away, and then we'll come right back.

Rachel: Okay.

[theme music plays]

[ad read]

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Speaker 2: Yeah... but it's exciting too? Our new Max Fun HQ office in downtown LA is actually gonna fit all of us in it!

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[break]

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[break]

Griffin: This one's going to test the limits of what smash or pass is capable of, because today I've prepared a list of horror movie—

Rachel: Oh, so I still have to smash or pass this too?

Griffin: Yes, this is a list of horror movie topics. And we are going to talk smash or pass of these horror movie topics—

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Whether or not like they are still exciting and interesting to us in this day and age.

Rachel: It is gonna feel weird to smash something that involves violence.

Griffin: Zombies. Start. Start with zombies.

[pause]

Rachel: Okay... can you phrase that in a way where I'm not saying that I would smash zombies?

Griffin: Zombie movies.

Rachel: Okay, yes.

Griffin: So, smash or pass? Interesting. See, I'm a pass. I've kind of gotten... I don't really...

Rachel: 28 Days Later?

Griffin: Yeah, no, it's good. I guess I'm thinking of like now. Like, if a new zombie movie—did you see 28 Years Later?

Rachel: Well, no—

Griffin: No.

Rachel: I heard that was bad. [titters]

Griffin: Are you still watching Walking Dead? I feel like I've gotten past—

Rachel: But I believe you can make a good one! Just because they haven't made a good one, doesn't mean that you still couldn't?

Griffin: I don't know, I'm basing mine off of—it's sort of just sort of experiential. I'm happy to change this next time we play this game, if we're getting some fresh new zombie movies out there.

Rachel: True, okay.

Griffin: I love a lot of zombie movies.

Rachel: Interesting. So, that's a parameter that you want me to hold?

Griffin: It's just where you're at now. Like, where are you at now on zombie stuff?

Rachel: Okay, that's a good point.

Griffin: It's not has there ever been a good zombie movie, of course there has been.

Rachel: Okay, okay, okay. That's a good point. I would say yes. Like, if I see a zombie movie is out, I'm more likely to pass based on recent zombie media.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: But I would say, you know, ten years ago, smash.

Griffin: Yeah, of course. But this is today. We have to do it based on today.

Rachel: Okay, okay.

Griffin: Because again, this is an annual celebration.

Rachel: Here's the thing, I don't really watch horror movies anymore, so maybe then a lot of mine will be pass.

Griffin: I guess it's just what would you find interesting. Next one, a guy with a knife movies.

Rachel: [laughs] Pass.

Griffin: Smash for me! Still hard to beat. Like, that can be—that can be scary. A guy with a knife is like—

Rachel: Too scary.

Griffin: Well, yeah, but I like it. I like to be freaked out and like really, really spooked.

Rachel: I think what's tricky with horror movies is I need it to be a little... not real.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: You know, at this point in my life, I needed to feel like, well, that couldn't happen.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: Which is kind of why zombie is more likely for me.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Guy with a knife feels a little too real. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, guy with a knife movies, that could be—that could absolutely be real. All you need for that happen is a guy pick up a knife, and now we're off to the races.

Rachel: I used to like—I used to like those movies.

Griffin: Slashers, they call them.

Rachel: Yeah, I used to—I mean, I used to like the Halloween films. I don't know if Freddy Krueger is exactly guy with a knife, but—

Griffin: He's a guy with like eight knives.

Rachel: But I enjoyed him as well.

Griffin: Yeah. And I think you could also fold in like You're Next, or like any movie where it's just like, you know, rich douche bags try to kill all their friends, or whatever.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Bodies Bodies Bodies could technically, I guess, be guy with a knife. That's sort of its own deal. Demonic possession?

Rachel: Hm... pass.

Griffin: Pass, yeah, it doesn't really... doesn't really do it for me.

Rachel: Yeah, me neither.

Griffin: Aliens?

Rachel: Oh, interesting... Oh, probably smash.

Griffin: I'd say perennial smash forever.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Forever smash. Can't go wrong.

Rachel: Yeah, it's really interesting to see people speculate as to like what kind of advanced technology the aliens are bringing.

Griffin: Sure!

Rachel: And kind of how our humanity will deal with that.

Griffin: I think my favorite horror movie of the decade is Nope, which is a—which is a really, really, really—

Rachel: Yeah, I think about that a lot.

Griffin: I think about Nope all the time. I think it's the best alien horror movie since like—I don't know, The Thing you would fold in there, right? Because that's technically about aliens, but that's sort of its own... that's its own sort of monster category. And then, of course, Alien, Aliens, all them Alien movies.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Love that shit.

Rachel: Yeah, that's a definite smash.

Griffin: Ghosts?

Rachel: Hm... those tend to be kind of funny, which I enjoy.

Griffin: Do you? A funny ghost movie?

Rachel: Well... [chuckles] I'm thinking of the Christmas film we watched. [laughs]

Griffin: Well, okay, I'm not talking about the ghosts of Christmas Future, Past and Present.

Rachel: No, no, no, I'm talking about that bad—that bad one that we watched, that we made Justin and Sydnee watch? The ghost... lover at the... at the vacation... home, where the woman went, the...

Griffin: The ghost lover—

Rachel: It wasn't a horror movie.

Griffin: At the vacation home where the woman went, and it was a Christmas—

Rachel: It wasn't a horror movie, it was a Christmas movie.

Griffin: I don't remember this movie?!

Rachel: It was a woman, she went to this old property, and there was a ghost there. This is probably not worth getting into. But then she had to like fall in love with the ghost—

Griffin: Oh, yeah! Okay, now I remember! Yeah, holy shit! What was that movie fucking called? God dang it!

Rachel: I don't know, but they did like a How Did This Get Made about it, I think.

Griffin: [chortles] Shit, man, we gotta watch that again this year.

Rachel: Anyway, okay, ghosts, ghosts, yeah, smash.

Griffin: All right, yeah. Okay! I don't find them particularly scary, but it can't—Poltergeist is like classic, great.

Rachel: I kind of want mine to be not that scary.

Griffin: Yeah. Mummies?

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Okay. To me, there's an under representation. Like The Mummy is kind of the only one that's done it.

Rachel: True. I just haven't seen... I have—well, I haven't seen The Mummy.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Period. And yeah, I just haven't, mummies haven't—

Griffin: That's crazy, by the way.

Rachel: I know. Mummies haven't proven themselves to me, I guess.

Griffin: Let's watch Mummy this year, this Halloween.

Rachel: Okay.

Griffin: You'll like it, I bet. Accidents movie, which is really just Final Destination, I guess, unless there's other—

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: Accidents-based—

Rachel: Smash.

Griffin: Smash?

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah. I love seeing what other kind of like silly stuff they're gonna— those freak me out a little bit. I don't like seeing... It freaks me out a little bit when it's like a younger cast.

Rachel: Yeah, the first one was freaky.

Griffin: I mean, a lot of them were pretty, pretty freaky.

Rachel: I didn't see a lot of them, but I remember the first one.

Griffin: I think I've seen all. I didn't see the 3D one, or maybe the 4D one, but I definitely saw one, two and three and five. I don't know why I skipped four? It's crazy.

Rachel: It works... it works powerfully on an anxious brain.

Griffin: Yeah, absolutely, it does.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: And also like, there's a lot—I have the DVD for Final Destination 3, and I remember watching the special features. And I remember my—I think my fascination with like practical effects in horror movies maybe even started there. Because like watching how they did the different squishes and stuff—

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: I found very interesting. Sharks?

Rachel: [sighs] Hah... pass.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: I'm not really scared of sharks. I think growing up in the Midwest—
[chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, you're landlocked, you're not going to get a lot of—

Rachel: My access to beach was so limited.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: That like—I understand maybe if you were a coastal person, why you'd be afraid of sharks, but I just couldn't feel anything about them.

Griffin: I will also pass. I do enjoy how shark movies are forced to get their characters into the water. Sharks is such a—right now, I have a—I have a shark-free guarantee, because I am sitting in our office, and there's no water and there's no sharks. For a shark movie to work, you gotta keep getting back in the water. I love how they continue to do this shit.

Rachel: That was what was so charming about Sharknado.

Griffin: Yeah, no, they bring it to you.

Rachel: Was that they really addressed that problem about like, okay, well, they can stay out of the water. All right, what if we bring the sharks to them? [titters]

Griffin: Other animals?

Rachel: Can you give me an example of that?

Griffin: Any non-sharks. Cujo, Congo...

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Bear, Cocaine Bear.

Rachel: [titters]

Griffin: Cocaine Bear rips.

Rachel: Is that a horror movie?

Griffin: Cocaine Bear?

Rachel: I guess so.

Griffin: It's kind of scary.

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah, all right. I appreciate it!

Rachel: I don't like animals being... mean.

Griffin: Scary? Yeah.

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: Skeletons?

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: This one's pretty out of left field.

Rachel: Eh... pass?

Griffin: See, I say smash. I think it's time, like I think we're ready. It feels like we've really plumbed the depths of every other monster.

Rachel: This, to me, is kind of like sharks, in that it seems like you can work around a skeleton pretty easily.

Griffin: Yeah, they're just bones, right? Like so—

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: The only skeleton-based horror media I can think of is... the third Evil Dead, Army of Darkness.

Rachel: Oh!

Griffin: Lot of skeletons in that one.

Rachel: It's hard for me to believe a skeleton would be strong, I guess.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: No muscle.

Griffin: No muscle at all. Yeah, okay. I think smash, but only for the novelty of it. This is a—this is a potential smash. There's a lot of potential smash energy here.

Rachel: Okay, okay.

Griffin: A guy with a chainsaw?

Rachel: [chuckles] I like that you made a distinction between guy with a knife and guy with a chainsaw.

Griffin: Huge difference.

Rachel: Yeah. Who... who had a chainsaw?

Griffin: Leatherface?

Rachel: Leatherface! Oh, god, that was scary.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Oh, that's really scary.

Griffin: That's really scary, man.

Rachel: [chuckles] Yeah, I mean, that's something that those like haunted house—

Griffin: I mean, hey, also, technically, if you want to get into it, Evil Dead, guy with a chainsaw.

Rachel: I know, but he was like the hero.

Griffin: There's also Mandy, with... what's that dude's name? Fuckin'... how to get burn, how to get burn. What's his name? How can I not remember his—Nicholas Cage. Mandy. Big chainsaw fight. That's cool shit.

Rachel: I don't know Mandy.

Griffin: All right, that's okay.

Rachel: Eh... I guess smash.

Griffin: Smash, for sure, yeah.

Rachel: The novelty of it's kind of fun

Griffin: It's fun. It's like not so—like, it's so loud. You're not gonna get me, because it's so loud. Like I hear—

Rachel: I would hear it.

Griffin: I hear *rum-bum-bum-bum*, and I'm out of there, like yesterday. Cults?

Rachel: Whew, this one's tricky.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Because it is really scary.

Griffin: Super scary.

Rachel: Because you're talking about a group of people, and a group of people can be pretty powerful.

Griffin: And what are you guys doing over there? Like, you guys are doing it so wild over there.

Rachel: Like, a lot of something always starts to freak me out.

Griffin: Uh-huh!

Rachel: You know? Because like if it feels, you know, manageable, like if I can see it in front of me, if it could all fit in a bathroom—

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Rachel: Like okay, I can handle that.

Griffin: Cults movies I'll hear about, and hear a lot of buzz about, and I'll be too scared to see 'em. Midsommar, number one.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: I'd love to see Midsommar, I've heard it's really good. I don't want to be terribly frightened by it, because it seems like it would be.

Rachel: Yeah. *Oh...* This is the—Smash or Pass gets hard with this, because like—

Griffin: Conceptually smash, because it's a good topic for this—

Rachel: Exactly.

Griffin: But pass because it's too scary.

Rachel: Exactly. That is the way I feel too.

Griffin: Hey, if you want to pass because it's too scary, that's your... that's—

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Pass, too scary.

Griffin: Pass, too scary! Yeah, pass, too scary. Vampires?

Rachel: Ah... This is where you're like rule about—

Griffin: Vampires movies.

Rachel: This is where your rule about time period—

Griffin: Yeah, now. Vampires movies now!

Rachel: I used—I used to definitely smash.

Griffin: Right.

Rachel: Though I never saw any of the Twilight films, which makes me feel like I'm not a true vampire fan.

Griffin: No, I think you're probably okay.

Rachel: But... but I would say pass now. Like if a vampire movie came out, like I'm probably not gonna go see it or be curious about it.

Griffin: Okay, interesting. I think you can do interesting stuff with it!

Rachel: I feel like I know vampires. Like, what is—what is there left to do with vampires?

Griffin: Well, I like when vampire stuff gets into the meat and potatoes, kind of day to day, like what it's gonna be like to be a vampire.

Rachel: To live forever?

Griffin: There's a... I don't know if you've seen any of the of the Mike Flanagan shows. He's done like a bunch of Netflix shows that have all been pretty good, like The Haunting of Hill House, is that what it's called? I don't know. Anyway, he did one called Midnight Mass about vampires, that was really fucking good and super scary. I say smash. I think you can still do stuff with vampires. Haunted house?

Rachel: Hm... smash.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: I like a haunted house.

Griffin: Me too. Crazy rooms and—

Rachel: Again, it seems like just leave the house, but a lot of times, the house makes it so you can't leave.

Griffin: Yes! I love when the house does that.

Rachel: Yeah, it's pretty good.

Griffin: It's really good.

Rachel: I also like, because there's always this element of like new family, new person comes to the house, and like, "Oh, look at this charming, beautiful house. Why am I able to access this? This is outside of my means."

Griffin: Absolutely.

Rachel: And then the house like starts over again. And usually, like the end of the movie starts with another person being like, "Whoa—"

Griffin: "Whoa, free house!"

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: Love that shit, man.

Rachel: I love it.

Griffin: Witches?

Rachel: Whew, this one's tricky.

Griffin: Controversial.

Rachel: Hasn't been done well a lot of times. I feel like there's a lot of potential there.

Griffin: Yes. Oh my god, yes.

Rachel: But it's been done poorly so many times.

Griffin: Sometimes a movie doesn't start out as a witch's movie, and then it turns out that it's been witches. And that, I kind of, I am into. I don't love the negative PR for witches and witchcraft in general. But when you—man,

The VVitch, the, what is that, Robert Eggers movie? The Witch. Man, that slaps ass. That movie is so terrifyingly scary.

Rachel: I don't think I've seen that one.

Griffin: Oh, man. We should watch some scary movies, man. What's it gonna take for us to start watching scary movie—I guess for our kids to sleep better.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: We can't have our waking hours disturbed in such a way.

Rachel: Yeah, I don't know, man. [chuckles]

Griffin: Where did you land on witches, smash or pass?

Rachel: I'll say smash. If a witch movie came out, I would be curious about it.

Griffin: Very specific one here, beach that makes you old.

Rachel: [laughs] I was curious about that movie, I never saw it.

Griffin: No.

Rachel: But the premise seemed... enticing.

Griffin: I kind of never want to see it, so I can be eternally fascinated by it. So in that way, I will say smash.

Rachel: I like how directly it like plays with the fear people have of getting old.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Rachel: Like how aggressively it like—like, "People are afraid of getting old, how can we make a horror movie around that? Well, let's just have a beach that makes you get old." [chuckles]

Griffin: Let's have a beach. Because you think beach and you're like, hell yeah, relaxation. Nope! This beach makes you old.

Rachel: [chuckles] It's like—it's like they made two lists.

Griffin: Uh-huh.

Rachel: Like, "Here are things people like, here are things people don't like."

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: "Let's find a way to combine one from each list and make a horror movie." [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. I love that. Werewolves?

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Okay, yeah... It's hard to—

Rachel: Werewolves and vampires are hard, right? Because it's been around forever. You've seen a lot of different takes on it. I don't know what you can bring to the table at this point.

Griffin: Yeah. There have been good werewolf movies, I just, I'm not—not my thing right now. Puppets?

Rachel: Pass.

Griffin: Okay.

Rachel: The stuff that's like, it's for kids, but it's scary, doesn't really do a lot for me.

Griffin: Okay, so I'm just gonna scratch out creepy kids from the list, because you know...

Rachel: Yeah, you're not gonna get me with that. I mean, it used to work when I was a teenager, but not now.

Griffin: Yeah. The Boy. There's a movie called The Boy. Creepy kid movie, no thanks. Curses?

Rachel: Hm...

Griffin: Whoa! Really?

Rachel: Eh... it depends. The curse, is like the goal of the movie usually to like undo the curse?

Griffin: Yeah. Before you get killed by it.

Rachel: I do like that. What's the—what's the movie? It Follows.

Griffin: It Follows is a great curse movie.

Rachel: That's a good one.

Griffin: Drag Me to Hell.

Rachel: That is a good one, yeah.

Griffin: Despite its playing on some Romani stereotypes that are deeply problematic.

Rachel: Yeah, I'd smash curses.

Griffin: Smash curses as a concept in general.

Rachel: Because I like both of those movies a lot.

Griffin: Traps!

Rachel: [chuckles] I did like the Saw films.

Griffin: It got too much for me, actually.

Rachel: Yeah, for sure, I—yeah, this is another one of those where like, now, pass, but twenty years ago, smash.

Griffin: The one where it's like—in the first movie, it's like, there's a bunch of candles around, and you're covered in lighter fluid. Better be careful. It's like, that's crazy. And then like by the fifth one it's like, here is a whirling ring of blades, and you gotta get down in—climb on in there, but don't get—

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It's like, that's—here's a—here's a knife tornado. What the fuck are you—how did you build that? Here's a laser collar, and when it activates, it cuts your head into eight pieces.

Rachel: Yeah...

Griffin: That's fucking stupid, dude!

Rachel: Here's the thing, the escape room element is appealing.

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: If it is a trap where you could feasibly get out and not be like... like grievously... is grievously—

Griffin: Yeah, it's a word.

Rachel: Grievously?

Griffin: Grievously—

Rachel: I'm gonna add an H. [chuckles] Anyway, if you could get out and not be super injured?

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: That seems like, oh, okay, I like traps. But if it's like, you're definitely gonna get injured, and that's part of it, no, thank you.

Griffin: Yeah. Like you make one whoopsie, your body explodes? That's fucking ridiculous, Jigsaw.

Rachel: Like, "You have to cut your arm off," I don't love that.

Griffin: One of those movies, all the traps are stupid and unfair, and they kill everyone. And at the end, it turns out that Jigsaw wasn't the one making 'em, it was another guy, and I and the audience was like, "So, you just wasted my fuckin' time?"

Rachel: [chuckles] Not even the guy.

Griffin: Not even the fucking guy! That's crazy.

Rachel: Yeah, I would pass on traps now, although—

Griffin: Pass.

Rachel: I do like traps.

Griffin: I like traps, just... we need a refresh. We need a reboot. They already did reboot. I think they've rebooted Saw a couple times. They just, they... it needs some more... gentle touch.

Rachel: Mm-hm, hammer.

Griffin: A hammer. Doppelgangers? Last one.

Rachel: Oh... smash.

Griffin: Yeah, dude.

Rachel: I like that.

Griffin: So creepy.

Rachel: That is creepy.

Griffin: That's me, but it's not? That's crazy.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: Us? Hell yeah, dude.

Rachel: Yeah!

Griffin: Yeah.

Rachel: Oh, god.

Griffin: Invasion of the Body Snatchers? That—[inhales sharply] fuckin' scary, dude!

Rachel: So scary. [titters]

Griffin: So scary, dude.

Rachel: So scary. I love, I love this. Like this is a familiar thing that is supposed to make you comfortable—

Griffin: Nope.

Rachel: And it is very wrong.

Griffin: It's mega-scary.

Rachel: That's very scary. I'd smash for sure.

Griffin: That's it, folks. Now you know where we stand, and we hope we've helped guide you.

Rachel: Now go out and make the perfect Halloween and the perfect movie for us.

Griffin: Please. It's gonna have skeletons... with a knife. [titters]

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: And there's gonna be two of them that are identical.

Rachel: And we get to eat peanut butter and chocolate and Sour Patch Kids while we watch it.

Griffin: Absolutely. Thank you so much, thanks to Bo En and Augustus for the use of our theme song, Money Won't Pay. You can find a link to that in the episode description. We don't have any more tours for the year. We do have—

Rachel: Candlenights!

Griffin: The upcoming Candlenights show! If you go to bit.ly/candlenights2025, you can find a link where you can grab tickets to our first live Candlenights performance in... many, many moons.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: It's gonna be December 6th, at 7PM Eastern Time, in our hometown of Huntington, West Virginia, at the Keith Albee Theater! Tickets are gonna go on sale—I mean, tickets are on sale now, actually, as you are hearing this. There's also going to be a virtual streaming version of the show that we're going to record and put up on December 19th. You can buy virtual tickets for that as well. We're going to be in the chat during the sort of like VOD launch of that, which you'll be able to watch until January 3rd.

And again, tickets for that are available now. And all the benefits from the show will be donated to Harmony House, which is an amazing organization

in Huntington that seeks to end homelessness in the Huntington area through permanent housing and supportive service programs. We've worked with them so much in the past, and they truly do need a lot of help right now, as many services that they rely on have completely fallen through.

Rachel: Yeah.

Griffin: So—

Rachel: You may be aware of certain federal funding situations that have—

Griffin: Yeah, are a fuckin' nightmare.

Rachel: Impacted services.

Griffin: So, yeah, we'll be doing the show in-person, December 6th, in Huntington. Come see us. [Bit.ly/candlenights2025](https://bit.ly/candlenights2025). And we got some new merch up in the Merch Store, over at mcelroymerch.com. Thanks so much for listening. Have a spooky—I mean, we'll have another episode up before Halloween.

Rachel: [laughs]

Griffin: What are we even gonna do next time? This like weird lame duck Halloween episode we're gonna have next week.

Rachel: Thanksgiving.

Griffin: Yeah, I guess. I don't know that I wanna...

Rachel: [chuckles]

Griffin: All right, bye!

Rachel: Bye!

[theme music, "Money Won't Pay (feat. Augustus)" by Bo En plays]

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